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# The $\mathbb{C}$ madiam Independent. 

"ONE IS YOUR MASTER, EVEN CHRIST, AND ALL YE ARE BRETHREN."

Vol. 26.
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## THE CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.

## Published by the Congregational Publishing Company

REV. J. B. SILCOX, Afanaging Editor
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$\left.\begin{array}{l}\text { JOHN WOOD. } \\ \text { R. W. WALLACE, M.A., } \\ \text { JOSEPE GRIFFITH. }\end{array}\right\}$ Assaciate Eidicors. JOSEPH GRIFEITH.

## EDITORIAT DERARTMENT.

All communicationsfor the Editorial. News of Churches, and Corres. communicationsfor the Editorial, News of Churches, and Corres-
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No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. The name and aduress of the whiter mavst accompany the articie, not neces sarily for pablication, but as a guaranty of good raith.
We do not hold ourselves responsible for any views or opiaions expressed in the communications of our correspondents.
Pastors and church officers are particularly requested to forward items for "News of the Cburches" column.

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As interesting meeting of the, Directors, Shareholders and friends of the Canadian Independent was held in this city on Tuesday evening last. Representatives of all the city churches were present. All were agreed that the weekly could be more useful to the churches than a monthly, and it was resolved by those present to push this part of our denominational work forward and make it a still greater success. The Directors are glad to announce that Mr. H. J. Clark of the city has consented to take the Editorship of the paper at the beginning of the new year. The Directors are confident that a vigorous canvass will be made in all the churches, and made now. Remember that all new subscribers will get the paper free for the remainder of the year.

Thf Duke of Norfolk is a Romanist. In gratitude for the birth of a son he engaged to build ten churches, and actually laid the foundation stonns of four before the child was ten days old. His example may well be emulated by those who possess a true Christian faith.

Dr. Somerville met with the same success in Marseilles as he had in Nimes and other places in France during his evangelistic tour. It is said that his work in Nimes has led the Christians of that city to begin a sett!ed mission for the people. The same has occurred in other towns of France where Dr. Somerville has preached.

The Joers of the Transvaal are threatening to resist the re-establishment of Gritish authority in that country. In one place they have formed an immense laager and are preparing for a desperate resistance. Chief Moriosi has also refuscd to submit to British authority. There may, as a consequence, be some fighting, but the result cannot be doubtful.

Here is a paiagraph that ought to be copied by every religious paper in the land. The Western Michigan Methodist Conference at its recent mecting expressed its sentiments on the use of tobacco by the unanimous adoption of the following resolutions: 1 . That hereafter no young man using tobacco in any form, coming as a candidate for the ministry, shall be received into this Conference; 2. That those mem ber of this Conference already addicted to the use of
tubacco are exhorted to desist from it in public and when in the company of persons who do not use it ; 3 . That all circuits and missions are advised not to send, delegates to this Conference herealter who are users of tobaceo; 4. That no local preacher will be ordained an elder who uses tobacco.

A correspondent of "The English Independent" writes of what he calls "A new departure in church membership." A Baptist church was recently opened in Bowdon, Manchester, Dr. Maclaren preaching on the occasion. By a clause in the trust deed, provision is made for the admission into fellowship of persons belonging to various denominations; but they are not permitted to vote at church meetings unless they are Baptists. The purpose is to make certain of the continuance of the church as a Baptist one, and yet give all Christians the privileges, or some of the privileges of membership. The method is not a bad one. We can suggest a better one, however; only that denominationalism will not stand in its presence. That is, to admit all who give credible evidence of faith in Christ to all the advantages and benefits as well as responsibilities, that any church can present to them.

That Independent of the Independents, Rev. I. Baldwin Brown, is protesting again. The Congregational Unior: of Ergland and Wales, at its recent meeting, referting to the difficulties attending the removal and re-settlement of ministers, passed a resolution recommending the County Unions "to appoint Confidential Committees, with which vacant churches and movable ministers may correspond." Mr. Brown objected to the scheme. He insists on leaving the churches and ministers alone to do their own business, and he has a terrible dread of committees in general, and confidential committees in particular. Mr. Hannay, the Secretary of the Union, said that he had been doing the kind of work mentioned for a long time, and wanted to get rid of it. It is difficult to deal satisfactorily with the matter, there is no doubt. We have no faith in committee management, and it looks as if congregational affairs in England were suffering from such management. But what are you going to do? After all, the mass of the members of our churches in England will take care of themselves. They are not likely to become willing glaves to com-mittce-men or anybody else.

The Rev. A. J. Bray, in the "Spectator," referring to the resolution passed by the Y.M.C.A. Convention requesting ministers to preach a sermon to young men on the text "The moral young man weighed in the balance and found wanting," says, "I wonder where they found that text or that sentianent. Certainly they did not find it in the Bible. They seem to have forgotten that it was Belshazzar, the young rour, that was thus "weighed and found wanting," or, rather " numbered, wcighed, and divided." $\mathrm{H} \approx$ was in no way a " moral young man," and I confess I do not see where the analogy comes in. The subject as announced is simply a travesty of Scripture. We cannot afford to denounce, or sncer at, or undervalue morality in these days. We have achieved a fatal success in our effort $t 0$ divorce morals and relinion-and in this age of avarice and debauchery, and scepticism, the racre announcement that moral young men, when, "weighed in the balances," are found wanting, can de nothing but harm. We have work cnoug'e on our hands to preatit to those who are not moral, and it is evident that a litue more practical common : ense imposted into Y.MS.C.A. Conventions would be a clear zain to the communty." We are + . onaded tats shere is a gooid dal of force in Brother 1Jray's remarks.

The week of prayer on behalf uf young men was, we are gind to understand, very generally observed with services both appropriate and instructive. In Turunto the work was greally assisted by the presence and the very acceptable labours of the Rev. George Muller of Bristol. In the course of the services the following report was presented, giving a view of the Y. M. C. Association work throughout the world :-Thirty-nive years have passed since the first Young Men's Christian Association was formed in the city of London. S ace then organizations have multiplied, until to-day they exis* in all quarters of the world. They are distributed as follows.

Total. ............... . . ......................... 2,400

A significant feature of the above statistics is that the work is not confined to nominally Christian countries. Already we have reports of Associations in Cairo. Beyrout, Smyrna, Damascus, Jerusalem, Nazareth, Calcutta, Hong 'Kong, and Yokohama. The m. embership of these Associations approximates 200,$\infty$. Every three years a World's Convention is held. The last Tnermial Conference met at Geneva, Switzcrland, in August, 1878 . Eleven nations were represenied by 207 delegates. The American deleganon numbers fo.ty-one persons. The Conference appointed an international Central Committee, with a quorum at: Geneva, and one member from each country represented.

Sune of the bishops and other dignmanies of the Enghsh Established Churcn are turning their attention to ther Nonconformist brethren, and not in the way of denunciation and abuse ether. The Bishop of Manchester is "a character," and at a recent diocesan conference, he suggested a resolution in the following terms. "That this Conference desires to promote a friendly recogntion of those of our dissentang brethren who will consent to meet us on the ground of our common Christanity, and expresses an earnest wish to cultuvate friendly relations with them and to co-operate with them on any possible platform of Christian work : that in the opinion of this Conference it is desirable that the Convocation of this province (of York) should consider the question of the comprehension of Nonconformists with a view to devising the best means of terminating our dissensions, and establishing unity and working harmony between all sections of earnest Christian people in the land." The Convention of the Diocese of Petcrborough does not go quite so far. The Dean of Peterborough proposed a resolution invitung delegates trom the orthodox dissenting bodies to a conference with a view to the consideration of terms of re-union with the Established Church. An amendment was offered and carricd. It is as follows: "That in full recognition of the sin and scandal of divisions among Christians, and in humble consciousness that they have been fomented and encouraged by many short-comings on the part of the English Church, this Conference would hail with the utmost satisfaction any proposals tending toward home re-union whout compromising scriptural truth and apostolic order; and that, while unable to perceive that the time has arrived for formal commumeation be:ween the authorities of the Church and delegates from Nonconformists, it is of opinion that special attention should be directed to a possible concordat with Wesleyan Methodists."

## A PASTORAL CALL.

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\text { or } 2, \times ., \text { nowrxase }
$$

The village of $\mathrm{P}-$, on the River $\mathrm{O}-$, was, in the year 18 -m, a poor scattered hamlet inhabited chiefly lsy lixh llaman Catholir labourers on what was to de the "O-m ship canal." No Protestant Clurch was there; and the large, unpainted, wooden one used by the llomanists had been lastily buill upon the site of one which an Orangeman, zealous for the iruth and God and brotherly love, had burned down. I haboured there for two vears, and preached there just twice in that time; for no protestant congregation dared to assemble in the face of the outraged Catholic multitude. All the intercourse I had with tite people was in visiting their houses.

Once, 1 took the liberty, as the only Protessant minister who regularly went to the viliage, of calling on a family from the town of 1 - in the State of Vermont. It was my Erst visit. Only the lauly of the house was at home. How refreshing it was, amid the roughness of that then unpolished place, to find a lady, cducated beyond all her "environment," neat and tasteful in her apparel, gent!e and refined in her bearing I Well, before leaving I spoke to her of religion, and prayed with her, not thinking but that, as in many other cases, I should find no better result than the respectial and almost timid recention of my mes sage.

About two af three weeks afterward, as I was about to mount my horsc, to go to a distant place to preach on the Sollowing marning, a better was put into my hand. It had been opened, rlosed with paste hastily made of flour and cold water, and corried aboout ti3l it lad become soiled and crumpled. It contaised the information that my visit to young Mrs. M. had resulted in her conversion. She had given her heart to Chrost, nod han foumd the secre? of being at "peace with God." But, was there ever a blessing given without $a$ "bus "coming into the account of it? A geoliggst laving in the village, an inidel they said he was, had endeavoured to convince her that her new experience was a delusion, and she lost her confidence and peace. She wanted nut to see her immediately ; and this request had been wrilten nearly three weeks before. To comply with it then might be too late, in any case it would increase my ride on Sunday morning to fifteen miles before ten o'clock. Yet, go 1 must, and go 1 did. During the evening 1 was surprised not to see Mrs. At. The stst of ihe household conversed with me, amongst other things, about the delay of ene letter. The geologist had intercepted it and had procured its delay until it should be useless. Science does not necessarily make men honourable.

During the evening I noticed a peculiar sound comiug from an adjoining room. "Do you know what that sound is?" said Miss M., the sister-in-law of the Iady I wanked to see. "It is Mrs. Mi She is praying ; and she says she will not cease until she regains her fiith and peace of mind."

Being late I proposed that she should come with the rest of the household to family prayer. She came. Ia prayer I asked earnestly that, thengand there, she mught be blessed again. No emotion of encoumgearent assured me of any success. 1 arose, leaned my hend, in great distress, on my hands upon the table. Could it be that God would not answer? A stminge silence followed. Presenuly i heard a sweet, soft voice repeating slowly, "Blessed Jesus " hast thou heand his prajer? Mlessed Jesus ! hast thou heard his prayer ?" I turned. She had not moved from her knees, but stayed there, with eyes uplified, and hands clasped, calmly, but as in the tpresence of One unseen, repeating the same words. Then she arose, palked over to let husband, clasped him about the nect, and saís sill in sears he answerd "yas," " B dear, won' you give your heart to Jesus? ${ }^{0}$
Shorly afterward she lef for ber former home in Vermont. I heard that she coanectedl herself with "the Church" there. I neter bound out what church it was. I think it was the Congregational Church.
What has berome of her? i cannot tell. All I can 5 as is lhat, many a time, in doubts and dificulties, in misunderstandings and perxecution, my heart goes
back to that scene amid the barren loneliness of the now almost fortaken village; and the thought of a God that answers prayer gives me comfort.

## MR. GEURGE MULLEER.

Toronto has been favoured during the past wetk by a visit from the widely known and greatly loyed George Müller, of the Orphanage, Bristol, Eingland. He has baboured in connection with the Young Men's Cliristian Assaciation in this city during these past days of united prayer, and has done so with great power and universal acceptance. As is well known, Mr. Müller has for a very long period carried on a system of enlightened and most successful Christian benevolence on behalf of orphan chitdren of both sexes. He has systematically, and on principle, repadinted all solicitation for funds, whether by direct appenl or indirect manipulation. His plan has been to make his own and his prologes' needs the subject of earnest and persevering prayer 10 God, and as the result of more than forty years' experience, he dechares that he has found it the best, most efficiens and most satisfactary o! any. He has never, he says, really needed money or other help, but he has got it, "good measure, pressed down and rubning over." In this way he has been enabled to spend more than half a million of pounds sterling on his schemes of berevolence, has educated, fed and ciothed thousands of orphans, and has had the satisfaction of seeing very many of these leadiag prosperous, honourabie and Christian lives. In old age, he is as cager, energetic and successful in his work as ever, and is stili as abundantly bringing forth fruit to the honour and glory of that Master whom he has served solong and whom he loves so well. His addresses in Toronto have been chararacierized by great simplicity, marked directness, occasional pathos, uniform seriousaess and unobtrusive spirituality. It would be toa much to expect that every one should have been satisfied with every word he spoke or with all his views of truth and duty. Ilut his quiet words of earnest appeal, tender affection, and honest admonimun and entrealy will have power in the bearts of not a few in thls locality, for a far longer period and with far mose beneficial results than ever had the boisterous declamation and the somewhat turgid and bizarre eloquence of much more pretentious revivalists. Amid the great outcry about the want of funds to carry on relifious and benevolent enterprises, it might atmost be worth while to inquire if Alüler's plan had been honestly, zarnestly and perseveringly put to the trial, and if, afterall, it has been so far found wanting that God's people have been fain to fall back upon churck soirees and bazaars, to say nothing of concerts, oratorios, rafiles, and other instrumentalities even mare grotesque and equalis equivocal.

## IN THE FOGS.

"Is it afunas forgsy here?" inquired a lady passen. ger of a Clinard steamer's captain, when they were groping their way across the Banks of Newfoundland. "How should I know?" replied the captain gruffy"I do not Iive here" But there are some of Christ's professed followers who do manage to live in the chilling regions of spiritual fog for a great part of their unisappy lives. They spend much of their time under a cloud, and but few streats of sunshine brighten their leaden sky, Worse still, they seem most perversely ta anchor themselves in those latitudes where the fogs prevail.

These sun-hiding mists generally are bred from their own bearts; they are the direct xesult of unbelief. The cloudy Cliristians are the doubting Christians. They manage to give houseroom to every doubt thas comes along. Instead of shutting the door in the face of these tormentors, as John Newton did when be sung " Begone unbelief! my Savout is near ${ }^{n}$-hhey invite them in and farbour them. And never will these desponding disciples get rid of their doubts until they deal with them as the tippler must deal with the botile, if he desires so reform. You must break up your sinful habit, cost what it may. When a doubt begins to crecp ovet yous, resist it Pray to be delivered from it. Grasp the sword of the

Spirit which is the Word of God, and perry of the enemy by the dexierous use or God's promices. Study these, and keep them always within your reach. You did not issue those promises, but God did; you are not responsible for them, but Cod is. The setting of your awn igaorance above His knowledge, and of your own weakness above his might, and of your own fears above Ris everlasting faithfulatest is an insult and a crime Say to yourself emphatically-"This devil of doubt shall no: torment me any longer. If I go on in this way I shall become an infuel and ass outcast. I will not trifte with my Almighty Saviour again. I will cling to Him if I perish Lord! I believe; help Thou my wicked unbelief!"
A posisive act, and course of action on your part, will break up and scatier the fogs, just as heat vanguishes cold, and sunlight dispels darkness. During his carlicr hife Dr. Merie D'Aubigne, the Swiss historian of the Reformation, was gritrously vexed with depressing donists. He went to his old teaciker for help. The shrewid old van refused to answer the young man's perplexities, saying," Were I to get you rid of these doubts, others would come. There is a shorter way of destroying them. Let Christ be really to you the Son of Cod, the Saviour. Do His will. His light will dispel the clouds, and His Spinit will lead you into all truth." The old man was right, and the young D'Aubigne was wise enough to adopt his counsel. He hoisted anchor, and moved out of the region of fogs, and quietly anchored himself smder the sunshine of Christ's countenance.
Active devotion to Christ's service is another cure for spinitual despondency. The faith faculty gets numb by long inaction, just as a limb becomes numb and useless if it is not exercised. The love power grows cold if it is not kept ficed up. When faith and love both run low, the soul easily falls into an ague fit. What you need is to get out of yourself into 2 sympathy whih, and dowsright efforts for, the good of others. When a demponding Christian catae to old Dr. Alexander for reliel, the Doctor urged him to prayer. "1 to pray continually," "What do you pray for?" The young student said, "I pray that the Lord would lift upon me the lighi of His countenance" Then, replied the sagacious veteran, "go now and pray that He will use you for the conversion of souls." This was on the principle that a man who is in danger of freezing, will keep himself warm by pulling others out of the snow. Zealous workers for Christ seldona drift into the region of fogs. Théy are too busy to aurse doubts, and the exercise of their graces ikeeps them in a glow.
The worst of all despondency is that which arises from wilful sin and wandering from Christ. A backslider's sins" like a thick cloud" separate bim from Christ; a chilling eclipse comes on, and the countenance of jesus is kidden from him. No church member who neglects prayer, who pursues crooked practices in business, who isdulges sencual appetites, and who violates his yows, can expect to be happy: For him, while anchored on those "fishing-banks" of Satan, there can be no assurance of bope and no joy in the Lord. Secres sin is at the bottom of ninetenths of the misery which Clurist's professing people suffer. When sia is put away by repentance, the cloud moves off, and the blessed beams of the pardoning Saviour burst upon the soul. But while 2 Christian is steering away from the straight track of obedience and godly living, he is very sure to find himself in she fogs.-Rev. Theodore Lu, Cwylar, in N. Y. Evargetist.

## WHOLESOME PIETY.

Naturalness in religion is what makes its appearance perfect and its influence tealthy. The office of piety is simply to restore the soul. Melancholy and moroseness are symptons of disease. And our whole nafure is cornvpt and sick. Chist is a phytician, and the gospel is His specific cure for all our morbid bumours. Hence to astert that a Chriatian is more useful by being happy-hearted, is nothing more than to say any man is more efficient in all that maker him a raxa in proportion as he is in perfect healk. Spiria rama in proportion as he ss in perfect health.
tanl bealich brings the whole man into exercise.

Let us get at this with all simplicity. Call before your recolisection now for a moment one of those oc. casions which occur in everybody's experience. You are at a lithle family party, let us say. But some incubus or dulliness lies over the guesis. Everything goes decorously but solemsly on. There is no use in trying to disguise the fact; it is stiff and uncomlortable. You are all mortifed and fatigued with the vain attempt to le interested and become interesting. Just now the door opens, and in comes a new arrival -ne of those individuads we sometimes meet in a world like curs, which really has too fely of them.
His face is radiant with good cheer, and every other face is radiant in an instant with welcome. Right band goes to this acquaintance, heartily goes the ith fand over to that, so the whole room is alive with greeting and answer. A sally of pleasantry fies over across to one filend, and a gentle wish to another. He finds his way with perfect good-breeding to the lady of the house, and bends gracefully, acknowiedg. ing her as its head. But his voice hushes inetinctively, and his manner softens, as he tranquilly gives a greeting to a pale invalid in the comer. Down he sits in the very midst of the throng, and happy is the one who sits next to him. There he is the centre of unconscious attraction. You seem to think that up to this moment you had been wailing for him.
Yet observe; he says nothing others mignt not say, does nothing others might not da. But there is an indescribable charm-an irresistable force in his presence. His very look xindles the company he has entertainec. Watch him for a hall hour. Now he is at a quaint storys with funny episodes, that are met all around with pleasant laughter. Now he is cescribing some pathetic adventure which fills your eyes with tears. Again he is listening to a comrade whose wit he bas started, or mome abashed maiden whose diffidence he has mysteriously wiled away.
"Oh, yes," says some croaker, rat a little jealous; "a lady's man; a society assistant on call; a dion with a popuiar mane or a new stripe in his colour; a urifer, worldy and volutile" Well, ere long you notice he is sitting by the side of one of the awkward boys, inquiring with a whole heart full of sympatiby after his brother sick at home. That boy soljeves in him with all his soul, for he remembers how many times ine bas watched by the bedside in the midnight, with hand frm as the doctors, and footfall light as a mosier's. And one evening, perhaps, he overheard this man-this one now telling the anecdote-wrestling for his brother in prayer for comfort and recovery.

Go on ; croak 25 you will; call him shallow, because he sings a song fill of wise nonsense. Bus mind you, for you miss him just now, he slipped unnoticed up staiss to see the old folks. There he sits now talking sober words of reverent regard to the old patriarch who keeps out of company hereafter, waiting at the quitt fireside with his Bible.
So this happy-hearted, earnest-hearted man glides along, from gayety and gladness into that which is more thoughiful, like a sleigh over snow. And on the whole, his life is as full of meaning as the best life amongst us. He is popular, and why? Because he possesses a contented, hanly health. He is nasural, and so his companionship is wholesome and inspiriting. He is what you would call genuine ; oh, word of unmistakeable meaning! He is a true man, because he is a new man in Christ Jesus. He sees the bright side wherever:. $2 n$; he sees the dark side, too, and tries all he can to leave it at least a liule brighter.
The main question is, Where did he get all this? You might as well ask the dairy-maid, out on the free hills among the cows, where she got the ruddy bloom on ber cheeks; she never had anything else. Heallhiness is not the thing ts be got; it is the sallow countenance, the thin wisage, the weak step, which has to be got. So here, this glow of cheerful piety is ratural and belongs there. It is the habit of carping and the disposition of croaking which has to be acquired. Cbeerfuiness, like heallh, comes of itself. It is sickness and disease that are what lonesome men and companionabie devils toil togeiber to accomplish on earth.
A Christian man is a gexial, happy, manly man; a

Christian woman is a contented, cheefful, womanly woman, unless some warping, injurious influence has destroyed the first and fitting balance of nature te stored by divine grace. A warm heart, a considerme thougitfulness, a free conscience, a oble purpose, an informed mind, a cultivated taste, an appreciative intelligence, and a charisable judgment of others these are elements of a truly religious character; they belong immediately to one who has been regenemted by the wonderfal power of celestial lave. The one ineffable, unparalliled benediction of the gospel is, to every soul which has been cecated anew by it, just this, "Be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee." -C. S. Robinson, D.D., is S. S. World.

## THE GREAT HELPER.

Every person is conscious of laciing something in his daily effort to live well. It may be an uneasiness as to the future in view of the past. It may be a spirit of doubt that disturbs every effort toward faith. It may be practical ignorance of the real duties of daily life. It may be the want of some example such as we have never seen in out fellow-men to passern jife after, or the lack of a positive assurance that religion is real, that Cod is real, that etcrnity is real.
Now if one or all of these longings of humanity can be met and satisfind by any being, that one is the Great Helper. In Christ the world has one that answers to this human call. His grace is oll-sufficient to lift any man up out of the dreadful past and the anxions present to full assurance of the better future The fact that suck a being as Chrsst ever lived. on earth, a mystery to those who lived with Him, yet a blessing to them for good,-something of a mystery to all who have rend His life and death in the gospel since He passed away from earth, yet a greater powes in the world to-day than ever,-this fact ought to satisfy any sane man that religion is a reality, for Christ lived religion; that God is real, for Christ was so much above the bighest conception of a man, He reflected the best idea that man has of what God is; that eternity is also real, for Christ talked as familiarly of eternity as He did of time. The only explamation that can be given of such a being is the solution of these great disturbing questions.
His practical life likewise enlightens our ignorance of the duties of living. His life, so pure, so true, so perfect, is the outline for our life, and the infallible guide in jife. What He said and did under the vary ing circumstances of His earthly being, as far as they touch our lives, we may say and do. The way Christ acted among men we may safely act. And as He came from God and was of God, we may know that Christ's life is the life God wants man to live.

Chnst, then, is the Great Helper, and not to any one class or race of men alone, nor to aty one con dition of life He is the universal friend, brother, Saviour. Why will any one try to live without seek ing help from Christ?
"I am the way, the truth, the life."-Golken Ruke.

## PRACTICAL SYMPATHY.

In one of our sleeping cars in America there was an old bacielor who was annoyed by the continued crying of a child, and the ineffectual attempts of the father to quiet it. Pulling aside the curtain, and putting out his head, he said, "Where is the mother of that chibd? Why doesn't she stop this muisance?" The father said very quitlly, "The mother is in the baggage-car in her coffin; I am travelling home with the baby. This is the second night I have been with the child, and the little creature is wearying for is mother. I am sorry if ats plaintive crics disturb any one in this car." "Wait a minute," said the old bacheior. The old man got up and dressed himself, and compelled the father to lie down and steep, while he took the babe himself. That old bachelor stilling the cry of the babe all night was a hero. And the man who, for the sake of others, gives up a lawfu! gratification in his own house or in the social circite, is as great a hero as though he stood upon the batticfieid. -F. B. Gough.

## WHAT I HAVE SEEN.

An old man of experience says. I have seen a young man sell a good farm, turn merchant and dic on the insane asylum: 1 bave seen a farmer travel about so much that there was nothing at home worth looking at; I have sten a man spend more money in folly than would support his famby in comfort and independence: I linve seen a joung girl marry a man of dissolute habsts, and repent of it as long as she lived; I have scen a young man depart from truth where candour and veracity would have served hum to a much beter purpose; 1 have seen the extravagance and felly of chikdren bring their parentsto poverty and want, and themselves to disgrace; 1 have seen a prudent and mdustrious wife retrieve the fortone of a funily when the husband pulled at the otber end of the rope.

## YESTERDAY, TO.DAY, AND FOREVER.

Blue, dim, and solitary, in the wide offing, as one sails over the Agein Sea, rises the iste of Patmos suldienly, out in the distance. There ano reason specially for a visit. Lutie or nothung semams to be seca ashute
But the Chrssian soutist sists thoughtfully on the deck, and cecalls from his familiar reading that here John, the last of the apostolic hand, and the lonclicst, was once worshrpping and heard a trumpet; he looked, nand sasy a visior; ho losiened, and reveivel an encuuragement; he was obedient, and wrole the Apocalypse.
What did the inumpes aniculate?
For is sttered words. Its slast rang out in teras and tones of human speech. Un that sulemn Sunday no sming, while this spuritually minded man was to the a, it cumaunion with God, the heavens ovethead became yocal. 1le telis the story in his own sipple way:
I was in the spirit on the Lord's day, apd heard behind ne a grete vulce, as of a trumpel, sayting I am Aigha and Omega, the furst and the lost, the boginning and the cnding, saish the Lord which is nad which was, and which is to come, the Almighty."
Inere is, so scientific peaple tell us, one point, cven in a whirling wheel, which is al rest. One line of nums at the axis, around which all the uthers revolve, is stim. When we concerve of providence, intricate and confused as it 13 , well typel by the prophet as " $a$ in whect the module of 2 wheed, we are stways to remember chas God Himaself is silling an moved at the cenize of the universe, the Father of lights, from wham cometh down every good and zvery perfect gith, and with whom there is no variablemess, neither shadow of turang. And thare is relief and romfort in this.
Shocked and shifed as we are in this life, out minds be. come impressed with a senss of insecurity. We are agitated with a ihousand distuiets. No lot in the world is safe Aflaits fluctuate. Individual experience fits and plays with Athaits nuetuate. indiviunal experience fits and plays with
the phases of the moon, Insumuons are not fixed. Even the gerpetual hills to bow, and the ctesial scas du change the gerperual halls bounds. Stability seems hus an emply fiction or adream
the Versatilities mock out expectation: vicissitude is the nute of Versatilities mock
earthly existence

## arihly existence.

Over all sts God calmly. His throne never moves. His eye never slecps. His patience never wearies. He wills and waits al His own pleasure. We look up and Gimd Him watch ing: we know were a find Elim aiways. And the leauty and glory and weicome of this thoughes ss centred in ujun the one revelation that the Gout whum we see is the Sayour whom we love; "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and to thays and rorever.
The edea of our divine Lord as a person is 10 many minns excecingly madefine. He seems a acere historin charactec, bora, living, "ying, like any othet being among the generations of men. We accept his deity as a mysterious doctrine oi revelation, essential, of course, io liss ofite and work; but our underslanding of the ineffable meanang it bears is very ungue and urcicrant. And that stratge hife, which hegan at the manger in Beilichem, san shrough some sorrowfol years in Galilec, and then cnded on the cross as Jerusalem. hiasno real signficance as a mistion of Immanuel. "God with us." He hardly know how to deal with it. Keaily he wenhress of many beltevers is orsing to theis absuiuie nakiinty tu mane ihas per
rience.

Such confusion is perfectly naturat. It is the neeessary sequence of a maseraule mistake. How chahdishy majery uate asthe conception of an inimite Son of Gex, which hamis Mima consciousig or unconsciousiy to an carthly hist ry endiag in a
fallure? Now the Scripture inssas that fceus' burth was not His le gonnigg nor was His death lise end. The thuty-three His lec tion to the real duration of his tik IIe was living fur an ton to kie real duration ut his hik ie was living tor an
elemity previous to hery commencmg; He ts bing now in an eternity as unbroken and as boundiess as ever. The in-
 His work ul relempun, a neessay tiss, a nuble pass, hat not the whole. lis bingayphy would have to be written with an alphaber, the Alpba of wheh no human voice cect repeated, the Umejzof whach no morral congue wuld knuw how to speah, -Charles S. Rudusous, D.D. in S.S Times.

Turar are two Baptist Churches in South Amenca; one at Santa Barbara, Braill, and the other at Demerasa, Guiana,

## THE

CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.
TORONTO, THURSNAY. NOVEMDEH 20in, 1590

## b'E』RING FOR THE TRUTH

GRAVE fears are ofton oxprossed by timid snuls in regarl to the sprapl of serp.ticism and infidelity. $r^{r}$ nomlief, in the various forms of Deism, Cantheism, and Positivism, it is alleged, is mpidly undormining tha very foundations of tho Christion Chimen, and "if the foundations lo deatroyed, what shall the righteous do ?"
It is unhappily true that many of nur savans have, of lato years, ranged themselves on the side of unbolief, and are throwing the weight of thoir great induenco with the elucated elasses into the scals of arror, and even of atheism, It is also true that hese men have numerous disciples who sotail their sceptical utterances, and without a titho of their ability or attninments, surpass the boldest of them in the recklessmess of their assertious, as "fools rush in where angols fear to tread."
The tido is undoubtedly sotting vary strongly just now in that direction. But thare aro moral corsidorations which may tond to re-assure ou: fearful friends in regard to the ultimate issta of the conflict between truth and huanan upinion now going oll And first of all, wo havo Cow on our side, and greater is He that is with us than all that can be against us. Our roliance snust be, not on truth so much as upon the God of truth, for without His aid we have no faith in the old adage about the greatness and ultimate provalonce of truth over error.

Then we have conecience on our side-God's vicegerent in the human breast Every zuan who allows consciencs to be heard-and there aro times whon it will be heard, whether men choose or refuse to listen-knows there is a God, and a law which condomens him for his $\sin _{,}$and a judgment seat in some form, before which he must one dey stand. And hence, howevor many may live as infidels, very few die such.

And thirdly, repart altogether from the value we may attach to the Christian evidances, which to the sincere secker after truth, will seldoms fail to convinco tho doubting, swere is the jolt unent of tho human soul for something which infidelity can never supply. Unbelief is a negation, and no mene negation can ever satisfy a nature which is ever reaching out its hands niter the spiritual and etermal. And therefore, as a mere negation, unbelief nover has long prevailed over a people, and from the very nature of the case, never can. The soul, conscious of its relations to the unseen and the eternal, rovolts at the impiety that would deprivo it of its inheritnnce, and of its fellowsinip with the Father of spirits, and celooss the declaration of the Divine Word, "the fool saith in his heart, thero is no Gou."

Un theso grounds, thercfore, wo have no fear of nay genernl spread, or at least of any
long provalenco of infldelity. What there is tional churches alone would sacrifice the value of one of it lot us contons with not so much with gair of kid gloves per year for this object \{missionary the weapons of plilosophy, or of the Chrigtinn evidences, as by a more carnest and fearless assertion and utternnce of God's Word. "Preach the Word," snid Yaul. Keep your doubts, if you are ever tempted to them, to yourself. You can never convart men by tolling them of your doubts, even after you have conguered whem. But keap before them the convictions whemunto yon havo attained. Emphasizo with all your might the tronth of the Goupel. and by God's blessing, your faith shall beget faith in thoso who hear you.

## THE MISSIUN FIELD.

The contributions of the Congregational churches of Aruerica last year to their three leading missionary organizations amounted to nearly one million dollars, exclusive of the gith of one million made by Dea. con Otis. Exccpting the Moravians, no Church has a better record.

The Home at Constantinopic, under the charge of the American Board of Commissioners for Forcign Missions, is overrun with applications to such an extent that the teachers have given up one of their parlours for a dormitory. This year for the first time Turkish girls have entered the institution, a step which marks a new era in its history. Last year there were two Bulgarian girls at the Home, now there are seven. The Turks are beginning in various places in jurkey to attend Christian service.
The New York "Evangelist' thinks that in the United States there has been a diminution of interest in foreign missions of late. That is quite probable. We wish that any diminution were possible in our churches in Canada. There is no doubt that we have lost much in missionary fervour because our churches here have had nothing to do direcily with work in heathen lands. The missionary fervour and zeal have not been aroused as they might and should have been. It is well enough to sneer at "felescopic philanthropy." But, after all, in Christian service we need the stimulas which wa can get from the thought that we are toiling for the redemption of the world-nat for this country or that, but for the world.
In reply to the charge of failure of Foreign Missions, the "St. Louis Presbyterian" gives the following striking facts: "I. During the last year the Gospel was preached in one thousand towns and cities in China where it had not been previously heard. 2. In China there are i4,000 native church menbers. 3 . The missionaries of the American Baptist Church baptized last year 18,000 canverts from heathenism. 4. In Madagascar the idols have been burned, and the London Missionary Society reports 1,000 churches and 67,726 church members. 5 . The British Wesleyan Missionary Society reports 170,000 communicints. 6. Not less than 60,000 idolaters in Southern Indta cast away their idols and embraced Christianity in the year 1878 ."

Dr. Chark, the foreign secretary of the A. B. C. F. M. gives the following interesting facts concerning the work in Japan: The first evangelical sermon in the Isganese language was preached by a missionary of this Boand at Kobe, seven years ago, to a native audience consisting of one person, besides the domestics in the missionary's family; and the first native pastor was ordained in January, $187 \%$, over a church in Osaka. There are now Gouricen churches comnected with this Board zlone, with a membership of between four and five bundred, while the entire number of evangelical churches connected with different missionary bodies is not less than fify, and more than a huadred native preachers are proclaiming salvation by Christ to cheir countrymen. In view of such result, unparalleled in the fistory of modem missions, we might well exclaim, "What hath God srought?"

This is well put: "If cach of the two hundred and
work) they could easily send into the field a thousand work) they could easily send into the feld a thousand
teachers." - Secretary Auterican Afisstonary Assoria. tion. "Let me suggest that while the female portion of society sacrifice one pair of kidgloves, the male portion might be incited to sacrifice the value of one week's tobacco."-Prof. H. .S. Demnett. In like manner Hoa. W. E. Dodge, in an address at Syracuse, ask= ed the women to wear the one bonnet all the year lirough and devote the price of the new one to the foreign mussion work. And he asked, the men to do the same whith ther new hat. This is getting back to primitive tumes. "And they came, both men and women, as many as were willing-hearted, and brought bracelets, and car-rings, and rings, and tablets, all jewels of gold, and every man that offered, offered an offering of gold umo the Lord; and all the women that were wase-hearted did spin with their hands and brought that which they had spum."
John Dunn, whose name has conce up so often in connection with the Zulu war and who has been rewarded for his services by being made a chief under the new order of things, has a bitter hatted to all missionaries and mission work. His first act as a Zulu chief bas been to \{orbid the entrance of all Christian missionaries into his dominions. We don't wonder at this in the slightest. The great mass of the white peo. ple in these border lands of South Africa with whom, no doubt, Jolin Dunn has spent most of his life have exactly the same feelings. It is not the first time in which, in those regions, missionaries have been ordered off, and for the same reasons. The very presence of these missionaries is a protest against the iniquitous courses which too many of the white colonists follow It makes them uncomfortable, and they therefore prefer to have none of it. The Dutch Boers some quarm ter of a century ago ordered all missionariet out of the Transvaal because they protested against the enslavement of the native chilidren. John Duan and athers are only following suit. And they are wise in their generation. Some men have always hated the light because their deeds were evil.
The anniversary of the American Missionary Association (Congregational), just held at Chicago, marks an important period in the history of that institution. A third of a century has passed since its organization. This Society has missions among the Africans, Chinese and Incians of America. Its field of operations has greatly enlarged since the emancipation of the slaves. It supports twenty collegiate and normal instilutions for the education of teachers and minisu ters from and for the coloured people of the South. It has organized 67 Congregational churches in the South with a membership of 4,600 , of whom 745 were added last year. In its 8 chartered colleges, 12 normal and 24 other schools, are 190 teachers, 7,207 scholars, 86 being students in theology. The schools are growing in favour with both races at the South. A donation of $\$ 150,000$ by Mrs. Stone will be used for the erection of buidings at Nashville, Allanta, New Orleans and Talladega. The work among the Chinese and Indians appears to be in good condition, as is also the mission in Africa. T'he annual sermon was praached by Dr. Storrs of Brookiyn from the text, "This is the Lodd's doing", etc papers were read on such significant topics as "The Providential meaning of the Negro in America;" "Protection of Law for Indians;" "The Clinese in America." Ju Gaw, a Chinaman from California, Big Elk, an Indian, and Rev. Mr. Sanders, a negro-representatives of three despised races-addressed the meeting and told what the Lord had done for them. The presence of these three men on the platiom is said to have been one of the most impressive spectacies of the entire meetings. The meetings throughout were most successful. The attendance of ministers and laymen from all parts of the country was large. The announcement that in these three years of commercial depression the debt of $\$ 93,000$ has been wholly extinguished was received with great enthusiasm: and the fact that over $\$ 37,000$ had been paid on the debt, the year's expenses met, and a small surplus in hand was surely a sufficient excuse for thankegiving.

## © $C$ orrespondence.

## THE AMISSION IN MHNHTOBA.

This mission, so hagpily begun, must not be lef to discouragement for want of promgt and vigorous help. The Colonial Alissionary Socicty grants for two or three years 6 too per annün. A friend has sent through me to Winnipeg $\$ 50$, and Afr. Ewing reports that he has received from various quatters \$37. Now the first need is a District Commitiee to take charge of this matter until the next unnual mecting of the Society. I believe the Lhome Secretary as corresponding on this subject. The second need is a strong ap. peal at the coming meetings throughout the country for greatly enlarged comtributions that while exisung spheres may be well occupied in Ontario and Guebec, Manitoba may share in our efforts. The third need is the occupancy ty suitable brethren of the two places Rapid City and Pembina Mountain District. The Colonial Missionary Society asks if we cannot send men thither and for the moment sustain them. It cannot do more than the $\{100$ at present, but with revived trade, etc., it hopes to afford firther help in this important movement. The fourth requirement is some pecuniary aid to our friends at Winnipeg to erect a church building. This the society cannot render, hence the sppeal comes home to individuals, at least we may hope it will do so.
I cannot undertake organization, nor to attend to details of the work. I hope the anticipated District Committee will appoint a good secretary. But I shall be happy to receive and to transmit money whenever such intervention is iequired. Mr. Ewing naturally feels anxious to have a building fund in progress as the congregation does not know when they may be called upon to give up the use of the City Hall.
H. Wilxes.

Montreal, Novembier sitk, 1879 .

## KKSSIONARY ENTERPRISE.

Mr azv, mimAcxAx, kiscrton.

We have entered upon the season of the year when it is usual to make arrangements for missionary meetings throughout the country. There are important considerations that force themselves upon us in consequence. Among other questions the following have suggested themselves to the mind ofthe writer :
ust. Are we to lag hehind?
and. Are we to stand still?
3rd. Or are we to initiate a more aggressive policy in the prosecution of our missionary enterprise?

It is generally conceded by brethren all over the country, that we are not making much progress as a denomination. If this is true, there must be some reason for it; we ought to try and find out the cause and address ourselves to a remedy.
We are not without influence, we are respected as a denomination, the Gospel is preachea in our pulpits, and our theology and polity are sound because they are scriptural. The membership of our churches will bear favourable compatison with those around us, for spiritual living, and Christian and benevolent activity. Our prayer-meetings and Sunday schools axe well attended, and many of our pecple axe in comfortable, if not in affuent circumstances. Why is it then that so little progress has been made in the past? Have we not been living too mich to ourschues, and weithin ourselves? We need broader views-not Eroad in the hatudinarian sease, but in, the way of embracing all for Chyist; we need wider sympathies, and a more abounding realization that the churches are onei, notwithstanding the independency of our principles.

Are we not lacking in zeaj; and organization? This is the opinion of some, but thank God, we may possess broth-the first by waiting upon Gad for it"Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you, and ye shall be witnesses unto me, both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the utarmost parts of the earth." We may enjoy that power; our ministers and people may have it ; then there will be a desire and earnest effort to extend
the cause of Christ everywhere. Have we made mis takes in the past? This is not meant as a reflection upon anyone, there are noble brethren among us who have borne the burthen and heat of the day and have done a gmad work-Cod bless and spare them long to render still their valuable assistance and direction in this great work.
Would we be aggressive? We must be evangelistic as well as evangelical, there is such a thing as dead arthoduxy. From suck "good Lord deliver us." What we want is life, more abundant hife. Where there is hife, there will be activity, power, and success. The surest and most powerful proof to the world that Jesus Christ lived on earth more than 1800 years ago is, that He lives on earth now, in His church, sustaining iffe, and constraning to deeds of mercy and words of grace, whereby trophies of rerieeming love are won to Himself.
Many chatches are languishing becnuse they are not doing anything aud are not trained to give for Christ. On one occasion the writer addressed a menting in support of the claims of the Missionary Sociely. The missionary pastor presided. The assonishment produced upon hearing him apologize to his people on account of so much having been said about finances may well be imagined. This is not as it ought to be. The pastors should not fear to bring the claims of the cause of Christ before their people. It will do them good to give. No class of the communty are better able to give than our farmers, and no class are less trained to give.

No one will question the need of this Home Mission work, "The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few." Did we say Howe Mission? Some ngard part of the field as foreige, and grudge even 10 Manitoba the one solitary brother who labcurs there. The sooner we acknowledge that Manimoba and the North. West Teritory are part of Canada, the betier for our churches, as well as the country itself. Were we prepared to send some of our very best men there even now, it would sonn pay us back a thousand foldif not in money, in intercst and blessing. If the great object of our wnrk is to testily the Gospel of the grace of God to every creature, there are thousands of them there, who need the Gospel, and are ready to receive it.
Think of is-in the State of Minnesota alone there are 335 churches, more than in all this Dominion, although it is little more than twenty years since it was formed. In a recent number of the Canadian Inderendent there appeared a stirring letter from the Superintendent, Rev. Mr. Cobb, by whom many of the churcies have been formed. We need a man like him to take the oversight of this work. Could we secure the services of a man like Rev. Mr. Hall of Newfoundlans, it would be a great blessing to the churches, and the missionary cause in particular. May we not pray that such an oneimay be given, and that all in authority, as well as the churches, may be disposed to look upon the matter with favour.

From the last number of the Independent it will be seen that five lots in Rapid Cizy have been deeded to trustees, on condition that a church be erected there within one year and a parsonage within two years. Who is going to help in this Christ-like work? Rapid City will, in the course of a few years, be a yery ithportant place, as it is the capital of the fertile Lituc Saskatchewan Valley and on the great bighway to the west.
Nelsonville, in the Pembina Mountain district, is also ripe for occupation. "Whom shall I send and who will go \{or us?" May some one say, "Herc am I, send me."
The writer has also got the promise, for the denomination, of building*ㅇots for churches, etc., at Euterson and Morris.
Bozh of these places are pretty well supplied with ciurches fur the present, and need not be occupied for some time to come.
The progress of the cause in Manitoba and the North-west will depend very much upon the success, or otherwise, of the church in Winnipeg. We look for success. The cause, under Cod, is in good hands.
ugon him, and is surrounded with good and true men, who will not casily be pus to night.
They need our psajers, and will also need substantinl assistance tuwards the etection of their charch bulding. Meanwhite if thes know we are priying for them, they will be chluthaged in their work for tho Master.

Wo ought to have a monthly concert of prayer for missums in wonnection with ail our churches, when brief regarts of the work in differen' parts of the field wald be has s'ore the people. Quarterly collections might aiso bes sen up. Alarge amoune would thus be collected in shall sums, that nigig have been other. wise lost to the cause. May our notto be "forward to greater victories for Christ and His cause."

## Kaews of the erhurches.

Rev. James Howslle, belreiary of the Congregational Indian Missionary Society, has removed to Orangeville and desires correspondents to address him there.
BURFORD.-A donation was given by the friends of Rev. William Hay, at the residence of Mr. Kenry Cox, on Tuesday, the ath inst. At the close of the proceedings, the Treasurer, Mr. John Chatles, presented to the pastur, as the result of the gathering, $\$ 60$.
Toronto,-Rev. George Strasenburgh of New York State, formerly a student in our College, pieached in the Westers. Church on Sunday morning last. Rev. T. W. Handiord delivered his Jecture, "John Milton," to a large audience in Bond strett church, on Thursday, 13 th inst
Kingston. - The annual collection for the Congregatuonal College has been made by the First Church, and the amount remited to the Treasurer. The attount sent was $\$ 3 \neq 9.25$, an tacrease on last year's subscription of $\$ 25.4^{\circ}$ The lades' annual bazaar is to be held during the first week in December.
Montrkal.--A sacred concert was hald in Wesicy Congregational Church, on Thursday, 6th inst. The choicest church music was selected, and its execution was such as to give it ut highest ad most effectual inferpretanor. The choms of forty voices was composed of the choirs of this church and St. Andrew's. The audience was large, the church being crowded to the doors. After the concert a pleasant hour was spent at the refreshment tables in the lecture hall of the church.
Winnipsc. - The following is an extract from a communication received from a young friend who recently visited the caty of Winnipeg: "I went to the City Hall on Sunday morning and was wammly welcomed by swo dearons, who spoke very highly of Mr. Ewing and hopefully of the future church they hoped to build. Mr. Ewing was absent, attending some meetings in the country, and a stranger preached. The congregation was small, but they were all so earnest; and it was indeed a house of prayer. It seemed more like a place of worship than many a fine church. I think they will succeed, for they have the reght spirit."

## KReligious 12 ews.

 mons.
Tue "Indian Dally News" wants the Government to atrohsh the ecclestastual establishment of that country.
Telese is a muvement among the lany of the charch England is secure lay sepresentation m the Conbutatons, a reform much needed to make those bodies progressive or usclus.
Tue 3terropolitan of slowaw lately preached on the infallibilty or the caar, a doctume formetly hell by the orthodux Creek Church but of dale yous, suffatal to fall thes abeyance.
Tins Old Cathoh manement has crossed the Milantic. The Rev. T. A. Vaudry, once a Roman Catholic prest, inThe Rev. A. Ar laudry, once athoman Catholic purst, in-
tends to labour in connctuon whit in New Oricons. That tends to labour in connction 4
city will ofter hma a hne teld.
In New Hampshime bere is one Congregamonal chureh to every 1,000 of the onhatitatas. In fifty years there bas
 [24,047 namis, with an average attendame of $14,9{ }^{6} 6$.

## Whe Sunday School.

## INTERNATIONAL LESSONS. LజSSONXLVIIt.

## 

Golven Tuxt., "Hoid tha. fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown."-Rev iii. 12.
M.
T.
W.
W.
Th.
F.
S.
Sab.
$\qquad$ ouk stubies
18. Rer 1418

Skruls.
T. Rev. iii, 7.13
W. ZRer. ili. $14-2$

Phlladelphia. Laodicea.
Math. xxiry. 42.51 .... Watchfuliness enjuined.
Matt. x. 32-42. Confessing Chriss. White robes.
Rev, vi. 2-17.
Rer, xix. 1-16. The righteousnesz of alinte. uxles to stupy.
In the last lesson we found that John was commissioned to wite this blook of Revelation, including a message to cr-lis of the seven churches of Asia, silualed respectively at E it enus, Smyrna, Perga
phia, and LaodiceR.
These messages are contained in the second and third chapters. They describe the spiritual condtion of the varlous churches and convey to them admonlions, rebukes, wamings, threatenings, commendations, encouragements aral promises, suitable and profitable to them and to other churches and individuals.
Our lesson is linited to two of these messages-that to Sasois and that to l hiladelphin-but the endeavours of leachers and scheclars to understand these two will be much added by a careful stury of the whole sevea.

There are four thid ${ }^{3}$ comanon to the seven messages :1. Esch message is introduced by a description of the Sender-the Saviour - -spechying some of Itis characteristics. 2. Seven times--once in each message-are the words repeated, "I know thy works."
3. Seven tines also, we meet with the word, "He that hurches," rendering gearh wartit the Spirit saith unto the all churches, and to all individuals, situaled in cirromstances similar to those of the church primarily addressed.
4. Seven promises, or clusiers of promises-one in each mesuage-are made to "him that overcometh."
The two massages which form the subject of our present lesson present a striking contrast, alggesting the following
division: (f) Nominal Christionty Piofession weithous Prastice, (a) Real Christiamily-Profession and Practice. pactice-rers. i-6. The stern rebuke contained in the practice.-Trera. 1-6. The stern rebuke contained in the mesagge to the Church of Sardis is prompled, not by hatred or ill-will, but by lope. To the Church of the Laodiceans, rebuked with at lenst equal severity; the Saviour says (ver. 19). "As many as I love I rebuke and chasten."

Even the false professor of religion, insterd of being stripped ci his borroued parb and told to be a worldling in name to Chist, and be a Christian io reality ae beisin name. The cracious invilations of the Gospel are extended even to the hypocrites, the formalists and the phansees of Sardis and Laodicen.
And unto the angel in the church of Sardis writo: Each message is audressed to the minister of the church for which it is intended, in order that he may read it to his concregation. "Angel" means mescenger, and miaisters ano the messengers or ambessadurs of Christ.
These things saith K-e that hath the seven Spirits the one Spitit, the number seven being introduced it means the comnleterese and all. sufficiencyg introduced to indicate the completeness and all.sufliciency of the powers of that
Spirit. The geven stars: ministers again (See last lesson):
I know thy works: There is no harshness in the lanquage. It is guilt that gives the sharp edge to the words. Sardis, bring comfort so other churches. The world knows our profession ; Christ has more than that to judfe by; He knows our works-knotws their true character and
knows whether or not they spring from living faith.
dead: It would seem ihame the church of Sardis had fallen into formalism, accepted a mere profession as sufficient qualificalion on the part of lis mermbers, and did not insist on
their life leing conformed to that profession; hence, with their life leilag conformed to that profession; hence, with
the exceptions reterred to atterwards, its religioa was vain its works were nol works of faith, its labours were not la: bours oflove, it was spiritually dead.
There ts no harm in having a mance to live; the whole evil is in being dead. We ought to be Chriatians in name, and we orght to be Christians in reality also. No one can sistercy is in many cises not much of "a jerel." There is no ment in being consistently bed.
Be watchful: a rousing comarand, difficult to translate vithout diminution of force-"become watching," or wake up and watch.
Sirengthen the shings which remain: There was al least the framewrork of religion. That was not to be cast aude, but sticngthcned by fath, prayer, activity, and watch-
fulness over the membership. Works not perfect: not springing from faith and lore-worthles.
Remember how thou hast rectived and heard; Perhajemember how thou hast rectived and heard; Per-
"wh joy" (See Parable of the Sower, Luke viii. 13).
Hold fast : the truth which rou recall to memory. Re pent: turn from your sin to God with full purpone of mew pent: turn from your sin to God with full purpose of new
obedience. i will come on thee : for the inniction of judgment. As a thief: suddenly and willoul further warn-- ${ }^{3}$

Thou hast a few namex even in Sardis, ete. Compare I Kings xix. 18. In white: denoting purity-the righteousness of Christ. For they are worthy: not in themselves, but in Cliritit.
He that overcemeth : no maller what he may be now -saint or sinner; hypocrite or open, unabashed evil-doer, inconsistent with a good profession, or consistent with a bad profession-if, by faith in Christ he gains the victory over his
sinful uature, the same hall be clothed in white raí sinful nature, the same ahall be clothed in white rat Teacher" says, "Christ does not either say or imply here that names once entered in the 'Book of Life' will ever be actually blotted oul. It is implied that they will be, if those ahe seear then do not get the vietory over sin. But the very ahn suin
warning may be a part of the means by which the Lord makes watning may be a parto lie means by, "I
the victory surce and the loss impossible."
II. Rkal Ciliristianity-l Roprssion and Practice -vers, $7-13$. Our lesson, after dealing with the message to one of the worst of the seven churches, now brings before us the message to one of the best. Of the seven, the church of Smyrna and that of Philadelphia only are spoken of with entire approval. To the laller Chist reveals himself as
He that is Holy, He sat is true: In claiming abso lute holiness, Christ proclaims Himeelf to be God. King of David: Christ is the promised Messiah-the King that was to occupy the throne of David forever
$t$ know thy works: Terrible words to the people of Sardis, but a messaxe of jcy to those of Philadelphia. Whoever may mistake molives, Christ cannot do so.
An openf door: a prospect of usefulness and extension. Thou hast a little strength : more literally thon hasf lit the strength-weak in numbers and resources. The Church is commended, not for being atrong, but for making a good use of the little strength it had.
proved faithful even in weaknets.
Synagogue of satan: The adverary has his own places of worthip and his worshippers in this world. The name spccially applies to anti-Christian organizations. Say they are Jewa but are not : not of lisrael in tke spiritual sence, though Jews by birth. Worship before Thy feet: The church would be enabled to wield auch an infuence that op-
posers would be compelled to acknowledge that the Lord was with her.
I come quickiy : As used here the word does not necessarily mean suon, bet swddenly-without warning.

Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the Are we of my God, and he shall go no more out : Are we saubath school scholars, teachers, writers of lessons, ing in course of erection, destined to be removed before the ing in course of erection, destined to be removed before the
building is completed; or are we to be pillars that "shall go no more out ". If Noxh employed any cappenters to assis himself and his three sons in building the ark, theirs was a peculiarly sad fate.

## THE BOOK OF REVELATION.

This book, with wheh the canon of the New Testament cioses, stands in very striking contrast with all that have gone before it. Its glowing, and gurgeous imagery, its symbolic visions of the coming history of the world, are, as far as that
volume is concerned, absolutely unique. Ans yet if the volume is concerned, absolutely unique. And yet if the
method of education which had been begun under the old convenant was to reach its completion in the new, if men were $t 0$ have stanped with divine authority what their yeaning expectations night otherwise fashion for themselves, it was to be expected a priori, that it would not close without embracing that aspect of the truth which took the form of an apocaljpse. The later prophets of the Oid Testament, arkie and Daniel, in some measare even Isaiah and Jeremiah, had seen such visions, shadowing forth the history or Megreat kingdoms of the world, and the coming of the their prophetic writings, to the coming of the Son of mali in the clouds of heaven (Dan. 7: 13; Matt. 26; 64), to "the abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel the prophet" Dan. 9: 27; Matt. 24 : 15), would be led, we may well beliere, 10 desire camestly that he too miphat be blest with like. manifestations of the divine glory, with like foreshadowings of the future triumphs of the divine kingdom. The pen-
tecostal git itself was connected with seeing visions tecostal gith itself was connected with seeting visions and
dreaming dreans (Acts z: 17). St. Petrr, his friend and comparion, had (ncts 2: ${ }^{17}$ ). St. Petrs, his friend and he was to call no man common or unclean. St. Paul, though he wrote no Book of Revelation, had yet been the recipient of "visions and revelations of the Lord" without number. and had been cauglt up to the third heaved, and to the paradise of God....It was, if ose may so speek, the natural and least consummation of these scalterevi izachings, that one, at receive and transmit an apocalypse of this nature: and if divine gifts are adapted, aceurding to the wisclom of the Eteraal Spirit, to the character and powers of those to whom they are given, we may be bold to say that there was no one on
whom this gin was so iikely to be bestowed as on the bei loved discuple, who had eharec ac secretis of his Master's beart; who had been able to receive and record the highes
liste. The idealizing mytic temperament whichliwes in what to others seem abstract terms, light and darkness, life and death, love and wrath, is also thal which is most readify led to clothe its thoughts in symbols, and te shadow forth the future, not in the form of an anticipated clironicle of things future, not in the form of an anticipated cironicle of things derstood. It whs fit that the beioved disciple should be tanght in the same way as Daniel, the "man greatly be langlat in the same way as Daniel, the "man greatly be-
lored," had been of old, and that he whote scnse of the love ored, had been of old, and that he whote scnse on the love
of God and Christ was clearer and deeper than that of most others, should sec that love revealed, Eoth in the clear light of unmingled truth, and in the rainbow hues that encircled the everlaintug throne..
Yet the chief value of the book practically is, after all, inacpendent of its prediclive clement It has enriched the devotion and the poetry of Christendom with the most glowing imayery, with symbols of proloundest meaning. All that is noblest and must beautiful in the writings of Isaiah, Daniel, Ezekiet, in the ritual of Tabernacle and Tempie, is brought together by the writer into what has well been called a gorgeous "mosaic" of gems, in which all that was most preciocs polpal to rsise the thoughts and imacinations of tic perar above their common life, and to make them, more or less, unconscious poets. The hymns of Christendom wduld loice a lange portion of their beauty and their pıw-ra if we were to strike out from them all that flows direcily and indirectly
from the Revelation of St. John, -The Koi. Dr. E. $H_{1}$. from the Revelation of St. John,
Plumptre, in The Bible Edscator.

Tuix "Baptist Teacher," makes use of the following beautiful and impressive illustrations: "The work of the teacher is not unlike that of the photographer, who employs en-fold more time to prepare the surface which receives the impression than he takea to secure the impression itself. The mpression is the work of a moment. And so with the eacher. A half-hour is allotted in which the impreasion must
be made. Of how much importance, then, is the preparation, be made. Of how much importance, then, is the
when this impression must be made to andure!

Ir is a good thing for every teacher to keep a faithful recond or every one of his scholars. It is a great satisfaction for a ceacher to be able to give one so approximately complete as is the following, which is taken from the private fecord of ${ }^{2}$ teaches in the St. John's M. E. School, of Newburgh, N. Y.; "I hica was pubaried in the "suaday years. Have taught one bundred and thirty-nine scholars, ninety-ore of whom are now Christians, twenty are in the Sunday school work, one in the ministry, four have beed called home, and twenty-one have moved away, of whom I can give no aecount."

## CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegelable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure or Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthran, and.all Throel and Lung Affections, also 2 positive and raciical cure fo Nesvous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having ested its wonderful rurative powers in thousunds of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suf fering, I will send free of charge to all who desire it, this re cipe, in German, French, or Englinh, with full direcion for preparing and using. Sent by mail hy addrecsing with
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Block, Rochester; N. Y.

THe Established Church of Scotland received, last year aboul $\$ 90,000$, with which they sustained sixty-three mission stations, having 1,956 communicants and 7,905 attendance also ninety mission churches, having $\mathbf{x} 2,295$ commanicants ard 22,000 atteadance, and aided in the erection of twentytwo churches with $9,89 \mathrm{r}$ sittings.

## (4) fficial (2)

Missionary Meftings-Middie Distaict.-The fol lowing arrangements have been made for the annual meeting or the C.C.M S.:-Whitby, Monday, Dec- 8 st ; Bowmanville Tuexday, Dec. and. Depatation : Revs. H. D. Powis and John Burton.-Newmarket, Monday; Dec. 8th; Vespram Tuesday; Dec. 9th; 1ethesda, Wednesday, Dee. 1oih; Rugby, Thursday, Dec. 1ith. Deputation: Revs. J. I Hindiey, W. H. Waniner and H. D. Hunter.-George Sown, Monday, Dec. Sth; Acton, Tuesday, Dec. 9 gh South Caledon, Wednesday, Dec, 1oth; Churchill, Thurs-
day; Dec. rith. Deputation : Revs. J. B. Silcox, D. McKinnon and J. Unsworth.-- Pinegrove, Mondsy, Dec. Sth North Enne, Iaesday, Dec. 9ih; Bolton, Wednealay, Dec roth. Deputation: Rees. Robt. Hay, and E. D. Sitcox. Owen Sound, Sunday, Dec. 14 th ; (preaching at Wiario.s Surday $84(\mathrm{~h})$; Wiartoo, Monday, Dec. 15 th : North Derby Tuesday. Der. 16th; South Keppel, Wednesday, Dec. 17 th Silcux and 5 Wr Dec. Inionville Monday Jan. Stouffille, Tuesday, Jan. 14th; Manilla, Wednesday, Jan 3 shin. Deputation : Revs. H. D. Powis, J. Unsporth and J. Burton. It is eamestly to be hoped that these meeting will be well announced from th: pulpit and througle the press. This sil' devolve upon she papors or dencoas. The Deputatio ate expected to fill their appointment
wishous fail.
E. D. SILCox, Secrelafy M. $\mathrm{D}_{4}$


## 

## IF THE IOE BREAKS.

THERE is alwaye a deal of thin ico about in the beginning of winter, and "no end" of boys and girls who want to have "just one skate." One can hardly read a paper without sering an accou . of some ducking or drowning accident. I wonder if the littlo skaters who will ra:d this have ever thought what they would do if the ice should brenk under tnem, or they should, by any mishap, fall into the water?
The beat why is to keep out, and then you rvon't havo any trouble about gelting out. Never venturc on ice over swift or deep water, that hasn't been well tested by somo older person. Never go near air-holes or shaky places, just to show how smart you are. The safest place on the ice is good enough for a boy who has sense enough to make it worth while for him to grow up. Remember the old story of the coachman who got a fat job, not by showing how near he could drive to the edge of $n$ precipice, but how far he could keep from it. It is not cowardly to avoid danger, when it can be honourably shunued. Foolhardiness is not bravery.

But if you do go through the ice, the first thing is to keep as cool in your head as you will be in body. Wits, pluck, and breath, are the three life-preservers. If you find you are "going under" once, shut your mouth, and hold your nose if you think of it. Come up as quick as you can, and throw your arms well out over the solid edge of the ice, if within rer :h, or across any floating cake, and hang on!-hang on for dear life ! "Holler," if you can; but don't cry-till you are out of the water. Crying is bad for all three of your life-preservers. It scatters the wits, scares away the pluck, and uses up the breath. Don't cry. Shout, if help is near, and hang on. If the ice is firm enough, perhaps you can lift yourself out by your arms, by getting a little help from your knee. If you are so fortunate, don't try to get on to your feet at once, but roll over until you are well beyond the cracks, and free from all danger of slipping in. Your weight is thus distributed over more surface, and with your wet clothing it is easier to roll than to walk.

If you are out of the water, and some poor fellow is in, use your wits sharply to savo him. If a rail, or a board, can be had at once, shove it out to him, and tell him to grab it. Speak bravely and hopefully to him, and direct him what to do. When he ges a good hold, pull steadily, so as not to jerk it away, but swiftly, so as to make sure of him. Jf the ice will warrant it,-as it will around a hole that has been cut out of solid ice, -and there are boys enough, form a line, take hold of hands, and let the strongest take the lead and pull him out, while the line draws them both safely beck. When there is nothing better, tie two or three cornforters together to make a ropo,
or pass one end of $a$ long cont to the poor fellow: I have seen a lad savel in this way, when thero would have been no time to go for othor help. Dosomething,-do anything that isn't hopolessly reckless,-rather than seo a mato drown beforo your oyes whilo you stand gaping and holpless by.
And when he is out, let him run to the nearest house for care, if strong enough. The oxerciso will do him good. If too weak for this, bundle him in your own warm coat and carry him there on the double-quick.
The sagest advice of all I have saved to the last: Go to a rink, or slide instead of skate, and you will nover "got in."-Unclo Zack, in the Goldenc Rule.

A LITTLE BOYS TROUBLES.
I thought when I'd learned my letters,
That all of nyy croubles were done;
But 1 find myself much mistaken-
They only have just begun
Learning to read was awful,
Dut nothing like learning to write;
I'd be sorry to have you tell it,
But my copy-book is a sight!
The ink gets over my fingers;
The pen cuts all sorts of shines,
Ard won't do at all as I bid it;
The letters won't stay on the lines
But go up and down and all over
As thuth they were dancl g a jigThey are there in all shapes and sizes, Medium, little and big.

The tails of the g's are so contrary, The handless get on the wrong side Of the d's and the $k$ 's and the $h$ 's, Though I've certainly tiied and tried To make them just right; it is dreadful, I really don't know what to do, I'm getting almost distractedMy teacher says she is tod.
There'd be some comfort in learning If one could get through ; instead Or that, there are books awaiting, Quite cnough to craze my head
There's the ninltiplication table, And grammar, and -oh, dear me,
There's no good place for stopping,
When one has begun, I see.
M) teacher says, little by little To the mountain tops we climb,
It isn't all done in a minute, But only a step at a time;
She says that all the scholars,
All the wise and learned men,
Had each to begin as I do ;
If that's so-where's my pen?
-Carlotta Perry; in Nouenber Wide Aomke.

## BOYS, DON'T BE CRUEL.

THE following story comes all the way from Copeuhagen, Denmark. The writer says that, noticing it, in the Copenhagen papers, he made inquicies and found it to be
true :-
"A boy, some weeks since, while walking beside a pond near Coponhagen saw a frog before him, and sharpering a stick he chanced to have in his hand, ho cruelly inserted it through the flesh of the animal into the mud, thus pinning him to the earth, and went his way, supposing the frog would soon die.
" Happening to pass the same way twelve days afterwards, he was surprised and shock. ed to find the frog still alive; and its emaciated form and glaring oyes wid plainly the story of its suffering.
"This so impressed the boy with his own
sleep. The eyes of tho frog seemed to follow him wherover he went; and notwithstanding all offorts to divert his mind, 00 worked upon him that he was finally thrown into a fover, from which in less than two weoks ho diod."

## TIIE BED OF PINKS.

OH: mothor, dear, give us each a little flower-bed for ourselves-one for mo, and one for Gustav, and one for Alwina,-and each will tako caro of his own."
So spake tho littlo Fritz to his mothor, and his mothor gra, ated him his request, and gave each chnld a flower-bed full of beautiful pinks; and the children wero overjoyed and said, "How glorious it will bo when the pinks are in flower!"-for it was not yot the time for pinks, but they had just put forth their first buds.

But little Fritz was of an impntient spirit, and he could not wait for the flowers, and besides, ho wished his flowers to be in bloom before all the others.

So he went and took the buds in his hands and looked into their closo coverings, and was much delighted to s.e tho littlo red and yellow leaves peeping forth from thoir green sholl.

But even this was too slow; so Fritz broke open the buds and lousened the littlo leaves entialy from one another. Then he cried out with a loud voice, "See, my pinks are in flower!" But when the sun eppeared tho flowers bowed thoir heads and wept, and wero withered before it was noon. Thon the child wept over them.

But his mother said: "Impatient child! may tho greatest joys of thy life be those which thou by thine own folly destroyest for thyself; then mayest thou not too dearly learn the great and difficult lesson-to wait!"

There is no such thing as luck. It's a fancy name for being always at our duty, and so sure to be ready when the good times come.

As a cross woru begets a word that is cross, so will a kind one beget its own likeness. If people only knew the power they possess in being kind, how much good would they achieve for themselves, how much misery prevent for others.
Happiness is like manna. It is to be gathered in grains and enjoyed every day; it will not keep; it cannot be accumulated; nor need we go out of ourselves, nor into remote places to gather it, since it is rained down from heaven, at our very doors, or rather within them.
Calie for Others.-Dun't cumplain of the selfishness of the world. Deserve friends, and you will get them. It is a mistake to expect to receive weleume, h'spitality, words of cheer,
 life, in retura fur culd selfishliteso which care, for nothing in the world but self Cultivate consideration fur the feelings of other peuple if you would never have your "wa injured.

## READ THIS

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