

SHAFTESBURY HALL

WEEKLY BULLETIN.

PUBLISHED BY THE
TORONTO YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

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No. 21.



WEEK OF PRAYER FOR YOUNG MEN.

The opening meeting of the special services in Shaftesbury Hall was held in the afternoon of Sabbath Nov. 14th, Vice-Chancellor Blake taking the chair at a quarter past four. He spoke a few earnest introductory words. Eighteen hundred years ago, he said, was held a special meeting for prayer, “they were all with one accord in one place”—about one hundred and twenty of them. To-day, God be thanked, were His children again together “with one accord,” but, God be thanked also, *not* “in one place.” The world over were prayers going up to the Creator, and hearts going out in entreaty for the cause of Christ, and for the welfare of the young men of all lands, and “who could tell what God would accomplish in answer to the faith of a prayer-meeting which stretched around the globe?”

After prayer, and singing of the hymn “There is a fountain filled with blood,” the Rev. H. M. PARSONS, of Knox Presbyterian Church, addressed the meeting, speaking from part of the

tenth and thirteenth verses of the 1st of John,—“The world knew him not, * * * as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God.” The address was listened to with deep interest, and could not fail to prove beneficial to the hearers.

Vice-Chancellor Blake in closing the meeting asked prayers at home, throughout the week, as well as personal attendance at the meetings to be held at noon each day, and at eight every evening. After a hymn and the benediction, the large audience, a considerable number being young men, left the hall.

We look for permanent results flowing from these meetings, in the quickening of God's children to renewed activity in Christian work. We have been cheered and encouraged by the presence and helpful words of our ministers, and have heard many pleasing reports as to blessings flowing from the sermons preached by them.

We pray that many souls may be won for Christ through the sermons on the past, and those on the coming Lord's day.

The Noon Meeting has been largely attended. Our prayer meeting room being completely filled. The evening meetings have also been interesting and profitable.

Please read carefully the list of sermons for the 21st, as also the bulletin of meetings during the coming week.

CLASSES.

Members will please notice that the classes open this week. The Elocution class will be under the tuition of Prof. Lewis, whose well known ability is sufficient guarantee for the excellency of the training to be secured. Our young men will do well to attend. It is designed for their special benefit, and those who enter are

expected to regularly and faithfully attend. It will meet every Monday at 8 p.m.

The Phonetic class opened last Monday with an attendance of over twenty. Mr. McNab has charge of this class.

The Book-keeping class under the leadership of Mr. McIntyre, met for organization on Tuesday evening, 21 present.

Mr. H. B. Gordon a member of our Board of Directors has kindly consented to take the Drawing class, which will meet every Friday evening.

In addition to the adult class in Gymnastics, a Boys' class will be conducted by Mr. Bruton every Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoon from 4.30 to 6 o'clock.

These classes are free, but are open to Members only.

OUR BULLETIN.

The benefits flowing from the publication of the Bulletin, are such as to lead the Devotional Committee to recommend that the circulation be doubled, that is to 2000 copies per week. It is believed that the Bulletin will prove a welcome visitor at the boarding houses.

BOARDING HOUSE VISITATION.

Our Boarding House Committee are actively at work. Reports thus far are encouraging, and good results have already been experienced. May the Divine blessing rest upon this branch of our work.

NOT NOW.

A story is told among the Russian peasants of an old woman who was at work in her house when the wise men from the East passed by on their way to find the Christ child. "Come with us" they said. "I will come but not now," she answered. "I am not ready to go now; by and by I will follow Him." When her work was accomplished, the wise men had gone, and the star in the heavens had disappeared. A similar story could be told by thousands of human hearts. Christ comes, and we are very busy with our daily work. We have but little time for the Bible, or the closet, or the house of God, where we should be most apt to find Him. We are building our house or looking after the needs of our children, and the Christ child comes and goes, while we neglect, until perchance we have missed Him forever.

The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God.—
Ps. xvi. 1.

To my mind, those who sneer at religion and set themselves up to be too knowing to believe in the Bible are shallow fellows. They generally use big words and bluster a great deal, but if they fancy they can overturn the faith of thinking people, who have tried and proved the power of the grace of God, they must be ignorant, very ignorant. He who looks at the sunrise and the sunset, and does not see the footprints of God, must be inwardly blinder than a mole, and only fit to live underground. God seems to talk to me in every primrose and daisy, to smile upon me from every star, to whisper to me in every breath of morning air, and call aloud to me in every storm. They say that man is the god of the dog. That man must be worse than a dog, who will not listen to the voice of God, for a dog follows at his master's whistle. They call themselves philosophers, don't they? Their proper name is fool, for the fool hath said in his heart, "There is no God." The sheep know when rain is coming, the swallows foresee the winter, and even the pigs, they say, can see the wind; how much worse than a brute must he be who lives where God is everywhere present, and yet sees him not! So you see a man may be a great hand at learning, and yet be ignorant, very ignorant. — [John Ploughman's Talks.

SHAFTESBURY HALL.

ADDRESS BY

REV. DR. POTTS,

OF METROPOLITAN CHURCH,

ON SUNDAY, NOV. 21st,

AT 4.15 P.M.

W. H. HOWLAND, Esq., in the Chair.

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