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EDITORIAL

Rev. William Birks.

It will be learned with deep regret by his many friends that the Rev. William Birks, for over forty years a most useful and honored minister of the Methodist Church, has passed away. His sudden and unexpected demise took place at his residence, St. Clarens Avenue, this city, on Thursday morning last. Mr. Birks came to Canada as a missionary, from Staffordshire, England, in 1855, and throughout his whole ministerial career labored with an energy and success, a zeal and devotion which won for him the highest esteem and affection of all those with whom he came in contact. Three years ago he was given a superannuated relation in connection with the London Conference, when he removed to this city. Here he identified himself with the St. Clarens Avenue Methodist church, which he regularly attended, and where he was greatly beloved. Besides a large circle of acquaintances and friends, he leaves to mourn his departure, a widow and four sons. The latter are the Rev. A. K. Birks, B.A., of Waterloo Street church, Stratford; W. J. Birks, organist of St. James' Methodist church, Montreal; T. W. Birks and D. D. Birks, of British Columbia. A fuller notice will appear later.

A Literary Feast.

An occasion of more than ordinary interest was the banquet to Mr. Gilbert Parker, the Canadian novelist, last week, in this city. This is the second time Mr. Parker has been banqueted in Toronto, and each occasion has demonstrated the author's popularity at this centre. Though for some time a resident of London, England, Mr. Parker is one of the staunchest Canadians to be found anywhere. He has the true national spirit, and is not ashamed of his country when absent from it, as some weak-kneed Canadians have been in times past. Mr. Parker's books show that he is not afraid to exploit the history and romance of his own country in literature. He has entire confidence in the race bred and nurtured here in this northern land, and he regards himself, not as an independent, special product of genius, but simply as the natural product of the soil and of the race. Speaking of personality he said:

"It is not myself, it is not yourselves. You are not independent, there are no heaven-born geniuses thrown off the great wheel of eternity, sent down upon the earth incongruous, unnatural and before their time. No; for personality, like every piece of work, is a product of time, is a product of the spirit of the age. It belongs to the air of the country in which you live, it belongs to the great movements which have been going on subterranean, unseen, in touch, as it were, of possible human hands or a secret intelligence, going on until this great mass of feeling and of sentiment and of inherent innate knowledge suddenly rises from the ground like water from a fountain, and you get what? Not the new thing, but the old thing, the thing that belongs to you, the thing that belongs to your

country, the thing which is your inheritance, not the inheritance of the man who presumes to speak for you before the world."

Hon. G. W. Ross, who, in his excellent speech in reply to the toast of "Literature," referred to a saying of Edison's, that genius was perspiration rather than inspiration, seems to have caught something of Mr. Parker's ideas of the value of work and industrious application. "Whether," said Mr. Parker, "you be a merchant or builder of bridges, or builder of houses, or builders of laws and governments, you cannot deny to me that one thing that marked your greatest effort was the 'agony' with which the real piece of work was produced which you presented to the world, and that that piece of work represented, seemingly, the very throwing off, the incandescence of talent, or, at the bottom, the very sifting of your nature and your soul."

Mr. Gladstone and the Hawarden Methodists.

We are indebted to The Methodist Times for the following interesting item:

"In the course of his service at Trinity church, Forest Hill, on Sunday morning last, Rev. W. J. Townsend, D.D., in a somewhat lengthy review of Mr. Gladstone's character, gave the following account of his relations with the Methodist New Connexion. He said: 'We as a community have stronger grounds for regarding him with love and gratitude than any other denomination. It is the only religious community in the parish of Hawarden save the Established Church. We therefore have been more familiar with his religious life than others. We have seen his irreproachable course, his consistent profession of faith in Christ, our ministers have frequently talked with him on religious subjects; we have known of his visits to the poor and sick, offering them consolation and praying by their side. We therefore have strong reason to cherish with admiring love his memory and service. For thirty years Mr. Gladstone, when freed from attendance in Parliament, has called upon our ministers in Hawarden, has invited them to the Castle, maintaining friendly relations and interchanges with them. He has read our literature, was familiar with our hymn-book, and expressed his admiration of our church polity and order. On one special occasion, when he was Prime Minister, he called at the Manse and found all the family from home save the aged and afflicted father of the pastor. He asked to be permitted to see him, and sitting down by the side of the veteran, he spent an hour in delightful religious fellowship, talking upon matters that most concern a true Christian experience. The old Methodist found that a High Churchman and a great statesman could offer testimony to the work of divine grace as fervently and clearly as any devout follower of John Wesley.'

The Case of Dr. McGiffert.

The Presbyterian General Assembly, in its annual meeting, concluded a few days ago, took action in regard to the theological views of Rev. A. C. McGiffert, a professor in the Union Theological Seminary, of New York, which is likely to arouse a good deal of discussion. Professor McGiffert is the author of a book entitled, "History of Christianity in the Apostolic Age," and it is the views contained in this book which have caused all the disturbance.

A memorial was sent to the Assembly by the Presbytery of Pittsburg, in which the book is described as "a flagrant and ominous scandal," the most daring and thoroughgoing attack on the New Testament that has ever been made by an accredited teacher of the Presbyterian Church in America.

The committee of twenty-one appointed by the Assembly to report on this matter wrestled with the subject for an entire week, and then brought in their finding, adopted by a vote of fifteen to six, by which the Assembly "stamps with its emphatic disapproval all utterances in the book called to its attention by the Pres-

bytery of Pittsburg, not in accord with the standards of our church," and, finally, "counsels Dr. McGiffert to reconsider the questionable views contained in his book, and, if he cannot conform his views to the standards of our church, then peaceably to withdraw from the Presbyterian ministry."

There were two minority reports, one proposing to pass the matter on to the Presbytery of New York, of which Dr. McGiffert is a member, the other, proposing to take no action whatever. The former was strongly supported by Dr. Bryan, of Chicago, and others, who, though differing entirely from Dr. McGiffert, urged that the latter's constitutional right not to be condemned unheard, was subverted by the majority report. This contention, however, was overruled. The dominating conviction was, that as Dr. McGiffert had made the trouble, the burden of it should rest upon him, and that if he felt aggrieved, he could demand vindication before his own Presbytery. The proceedings are said to have been marked throughout by an amicable spirit.

Christian Dealing.

In a London exchange we notice the following: "About \$500 was distributed quietly among the employees of the McCormick Manufacturing Co. on Saturday, May 21, by the firm. Once a year this firm is in the habit of dividing up a slice of the year's profits with the employees and the \$500 distributed Saturday was the employees' share. Some of the hands got \$25 apiece, some more and some less."

In these days of keen industrial competition we constantly see instances of the greed and grasping of strong companies and corporations. Occasionally we see instances of actual inhumanity and barbarity on the part of employers or contractors, such as that brought to light a few days ago, when the Royal Commission appointed to look into the grievances of the workmen on the Crow's Nest Pass contract made its report to Parliament.

It is refreshing, therefore, to read of such creditable acts as the one mentioned by our contemporary. We have no doubt that many firms treat their employees in a similar manner, firms whose Christian dealing with their men we never hear about, but whose influence for good is nevertheless far-reaching, perhaps even incapable of estimation.

Pundita Ramabai's Visit to Toronto.

The many friends of the Pundita Ramabai will be interested to learn that after ten years' absence she has returned to America, and will soon be in Toronto, pleading the cause of the high caste widows of India. Ten years ago her school opened with one widow and one non-widow; to-day there is an average attendance of fifty widows and eighty scholars at the school. Fourteen teachers have been trained; eleven of these are working and supporting themselves; eight have been engaged as nurses, of whom five are under salary; seven are assisting missionaries, seven are engaged as matrons of institutions, three are engaged as housekeepers, nine have been happily married, twenty-three are engaged in active Christian work—in all, 350 child-widows have passed through the school. Last year 300 famine girls were rescued, and thirty-five of the old scholars took charge of them as kindly and affectionately as their own mothers and sisters could do. Ramabai will address a meeting in Westminster church, Bloor Street East, Monday, June 13, at 8 p.m. Rev. John Neil will preside.

Quid Leone Fortius.

The night is full of darkness and doubt,
The stars are dim and the Hunters out;
The waves begin to wrestle and moan;
The Lion stands by his shore alone
And sends, to the bounds of Earth and Sea,
First low notes of the thunder to be,
Then east and west, through the vastness grim,
The whelps of the Lion answer him.

—R. J. Alexander, in the London Spectator.

THE STRANGE ADVENTURES OF ISRAEL PENDRAY...

AN EARLY METHODIST PREACHER

EDITED BY

SILAS K. HOCKING.

V. The Case of Johnny Trudgeon.

CHAPTER I.

The name of Johnny Trudgeon I have already mentioned. I have never met another case like his either in actual life or in books. For that reason I include it in these recollections of a time now long past and gone. Johnny was a tin miner, a well-favored and respectable young man, with a vein of quiet determination in him that few people credited him with. When I first met him he did not strike me as being in any way superior to the average run of his class. Perhaps he was not. Character is developed by circumstances. The seed will never ripen into fruit unless it hath soil and sunshine.

It was in the shortening days of September, after the leaves had begun to fall—twelve months after our first meeting—that I began to understand him. All the reserve had melted between us by this time, and he talked to me as I think he talked to no other. I wish I could convey a true impression of those conversations, for he had won his victory then, and had entered into the state of peace and calm that comes to all true warriors when the battle and tumult are over and past. Even the great forces of nature seemed to enter into his mood. I cannot recall another September so sweet and restful as that. The wind never rose above the gentlest sigh, and the sunshine was tempered by a soft dreamy haze that lay over land and sea and seemed to glorify everything.

Johnny's cottage stood, quite alone with a large garden surrounding it, and beyond the garden meadows and orchards. In the front the ground dipped gently, showing the village of Penzance nestled snugly in the lap of the hills, and beyond to the right, where the hills divided, the sea came into view—the ever-changing, ever-beautiful sea. In the quiet of those September afternoons we used to sit under a little verandah that he had erected across the front of his cottage, and talk of many things, but chiefly of the past, for though his eyes were toward the future, his heart was still in those dear old days that would live with him always.

Now and then the mist would gather in his eyes as he talked, but only for a moment. He had gotten his victory. Nor was his any partial triumph. I knew well enough as I listened to him that he had conquered for all time.

He was to have been married to Honor Bray in the previous spring, and in that lay the tragedy of his life. Honor was a pretty girl, and well suited in all respects. She had not the depth of feeling of which he was capable, nor had she the skill in tracking conduct to its source. But she was a pleasant, loveable girl for all that, and everybody said she would make Johnny a capital wife.

She was nineteen when they became engaged, he was three-and-twenty, and the arrangement was that when she was twenty-one the wedding should take place; and Johnny began to make preparations at once. He took the little cottage with its big garden, and began to furnish it as he could afford. He had no relatives, so he lived by himself, doing most of his own cooking and mending, and employing an old woman a day a week to come and tidy up things.

That he loved Honor with all his heart no one could doubt. She was in truth the apple of his eye. She had no wish that he did not share, and no pleasure was sought to him if she took no part in it. When he bought any new thing for the house she always went with him to the shop or to the sale. And if he had set his heart upon a thing, and she did not approve, he saw no beauty in it afterwards. He lived for Honor and for her alone. She filled all his heart and all his life.

His dream of heaven in those days never went beyond that little cottage, with Honor's presence to brighten it and make it beautiful. He pictured the time when she would be there to greet him on his return from the mine; when she would sit opposite to him at the evening meal and pour out his drink for him; when they would loiter together through the old garden in the quiet of summer evenings, and sit at their own hearth-stone when the cold of winter should fall.

It was a beautiful dream—a dream that keeps the world young, and makes the hearts of youths and maidens beat to sweetest music; a dream that in its very loveliness makes for purity and chivalry and all that is best in human life. It may be that the reality never

quite comes up to the expectation; yet I (who am an old man now) cannot but think that it is a wise arrangement of providence that young men and women should, for a little space at least, look at the world and at life through the eyes of romance; should see all things that belong to earth through the golden glamor of love's first sweetness and passion. There is nothing else in life like it, or that can be compared to it, and he would be a hard-hearted man indeed who would begrudge it to any youth or maiden.

Johnny Trudgeon had his dream, as millions of other young men have had, and will have yet, till time shall be no more. Then came the awakening; and in that awakening I think he stood almost alone. At first he was like a man stunned, and could not persuade himself that he was wide awake. It seemed too bitter, too terrible, to be true. But as the days passed on, and every symptom became more and more confirmed, the truth, like the fangs of a viper, dug deep into his heart and left him no room for escape.

The caresses of Honor in those days cut into his heart like knives. She never seemed so beautiful in his eyes nor so worthy of his love. In the early days of their courtship he had wondered sometimes if she loved him as he loved her; but he had ceased to wonder now. She was an ideal sweetheart—gentle, tender, considerate. He heard of other young men being consumed with jealousy, of engaged young women carrying on flirtations with comparative strangers. But his Honor was all that her name implied, and gave no occasion for any pang of jealousy to steal into his heart.

Her very love and tenderness made his trial all the harder to bear, and so unnerved him that he felt he could not tell her the truth.

He had not felt well for several days. A morning cough distressed him, and an occasional pain in the side made him feel uneasy. So one Saturday afternoon he went off to the mine doctor, never dreaming of the fate that was in store for him. The doctor examined him very carefully, and Johnny noticed that his face grew graver and graver.

"Your parents are both dead, I believe?" he said, in a questioning tone.

"That is so," Johnny answered.

"Can you tell me what they died of?"

"I was only a lad," Johnny made answer; "but I have been told that he died of a decline, and that my mother went a similar way, but that grief hastened her end."

"You are not married, I think?" he questioned again after further examination.

"No. But I hope to be in the spring."

"You hope to be? Yes, yes, we all hope. But hopes are like the spring flowers, they early bloom and early fade."

"Not all," Johnny answered, beginning to feel uneasy.

For several minutes the doctor did not speak, but kept looking at him as though undecided what to say.

Johnny broke the silence. "I hope you do not think there is much the matter with me," he said.

"Unfortunately that is what I do think," was the sudden answer.

"But I do not feel ill. I have only a little cough and an occasional pain in my side."

"Verily, young man, it is not those that have most pain that are in sorest straits," he replied, bringing out the words slowly. "The evil that strikes most deeply is often least expected."

"Truly, you alarm me," Johnny said; "but tell me all the truth."

But I need not repeat the conversation as Johnny told it to me. The doctor at first seemed unwilling to tell him all. But Johnny was firm in insisting that he would rather know everything, and in the end the doctor yielded to his entreaty, and told him every whit, withholding nothing.

Johnny walked home feeling numbed and dazed, and all the way he kept talking to himself and repeating over and over again, "And in a year or so I shall be dead—dead. Before next Christmas twelve-month I shall be in my grave. I, who am now looking across the cornfields and listening to the wind—I shall be in the dark and cold, and shall hear the wind no more or feel the sunshine. And Honor—"

But as he told me afterwards, he could not realize it then. His mind refused to take it in. The real bitterness came later, when he looked into Honor's eyes and listened to her laughter.

He tried to appear as usual, to act as though no burden lay upon his heart. But in truth the task was beyond his strength, and Honor—womanlike—was quick to see that something ailed him.

"But Johnny, thou art dull as a quiet," she said as they walked together through the lanes.

"Am I quiet, Honor?" he questioned, not daring to meet her eyes. "I was thinking of the future. There has been talk of shortening hands at the 'Bal.'"

"But they will not turn thee off. Thy place is sure enough."

"Nay, nothing is quite sure," he answered, "but I can litter for myself."

"Thou shouldst not worry about 'un," she replied, with a gay laugh. "I can always fend for myself whatever comes or goes."

But conversation lagged during all that afternoon, and Johnny left Honor early, much to her surprise, at least, on the plea that his head ached badly, and that he was very tired.

"But you can surely rest as well here as in your own lonely cottage," she said, changing her tone from gay to serious.

And for answer he said, "I want to be very quiet."

"As if I would disturb you," was the reply she made.

But though he saw she was pained, he left her early in the evening, so that he might wrestle with himself alone.

But the resolve which he so bravely carried through did not come to him until he had seen a very celebrated physician in the town of Truro. A golden guinea he paid down to be told that his case was hopeless. A disease known as "miner's decline" had fastened itself upon him, and there was no cure. He would possibly live a year longer, but not much beyond. For several months he would feel but little worse, but the end when it came would come rapidly.

Now Johnny was not afraid of death. His courage in that respect was very beautiful, and very inspiring to me, as we sat in the drowsy sunshine and talked together.

"I cannot die but once," he kept saying to himself as he rode back from Truro in Julliff's van. "And a few years sooner or later can make but little difference."

Yet his heart belied his lips; for he felt that those few years would make all the difference. Such a life of love as he had pictured seemed worth eternity.

Yet all his anxiety was concerning Honor. How could she be saved from pain? To tell her all the truth would break her heart. She was looking forward to their wedding day in the following spring with the keenest anticipation and delight. She had provided a score of pretty things for their little cottage home. She was constantly talking of their future together. How, then, could he tell her that the wedding would never take place, that all their hopes were doomed to perish? No, he could not tell her. She must find out for herself, by little and little, till she grew reconciled to the idea.

(To be continued.)

British Columbia Conference.

The unique missionary character of the Conference was clearly brought out in this, the twelfth annual session, which opened in customary form in the Metropolitan church, Victoria, on Wednesday, May 11, 1898, President Crosby in the chair. In the special ministerial session thirty-seven ministers responded to the roll-call. Among these were Chinese Japanese and Indian native representatives, besides representatives of the mission field from over the sea, now in the regular pastorate. Participating in the proceedings of the Conference as corresponding members were Rev. Dr. Sutherland, General Secretary of Missions, and Rev. C. Woodsworth, Superintendent of Missions in Manitoba; the Northwest and British Columbia cities were represented, headed by Victoria, which, with such generous hospitality, entertained the Conference; agricultural districts, such as the charming Chilliwack Valley; mining sections, of which the famous Kootenay is typical; communities noted for canneries, lumber camps and cattle; back settlements opening up and coming to the front. Reaching far away to the north, to the "regions beyond," the country which has lately loomed so large in the eye of the world—the weird and wonderful district of the Yukon, found representation also, at least indirectly. If anything further were needed to complete the cosmopolitan character of the Conference and its operations, it was supplied in the fact that a contingent of British blue-jackets waited upon the Stationing Committee to present a plea for the stationing of one of the brethren as chaplain to the fleet, the bluejackets undertaking to raise what was necessary, after allowing for grant, which it is understood the Admiralty is making to the Wesleyan body in England, with which body the Conference authorities are now in communication.

The first hymn sung was number 753; the Scripture read by the secretary, Rev. J. P. Powell, the third chapter of the first epistle to Timothy. Prayer was offered by Revs. W. H. Pierce (native Indian missionary), C. Ladner and the president.

MINISTERIAL.

There were two transfers, one to and one from the Conference; the former, Rev. R. B. Laidley, the latter, Rev. S. Wilkinson. There were no charges touching ministerial character. Two resignations were laid before the Conference, those of Revs. C. A. Procnier, M.A., and R. B. Beavis. The resignations were accepted and credentials granted upon fulfillment of disciplinary requirements. There was also a withdrawal of a probationer, J. U. Robins, who desisted on account of ill-health, a letter being granted him to this effect over the signatures of the president and secretary. Received into full connection was one probationer, Chinese, Chang Sing Kai, who had travelled seven years, and who should have been received last year but for some delay in connection with examination papers. No ordination was called for, Chang Sing Kai having been previously ordained. Three probationers were continued on trial, namely: Three years, G. E. Smith; two years, G. A. Cropp; one year, W. G. Tanner; the first and last named attending college. One candidate was received, Charles Wesley Nelson, who was heartily recommended and unanimously received. Ministers continued in a superannuated relation were: Revs. Charles Bryant and T. D. Pearson; supernumerary, J. E. Rossmann; left without a station, Revs. W. W. Baer, R. J. Irwin, J. C. Spencer. There was a brief but animated discussion in regard to the re-

lationship of these brethren, as it affected the general question of brethren withdrawing temporarily from the regular work to engage in secular pursuits. No action was taken by the Conference beyond referring the matter to the Stationing Committee to draw up a resolution putting on record the attitude of Conference. This was done.

PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY.

On Conference re-assembling in full session Thursday, May 12, forty-two ministers and twenty-three laymen responded to their names. Quite the usual interest was manifested in the election of president and secretary. Three ballots were cast for president. The vote on the first ballot was scattered. On the second Rev. A. E. Green and Rev. J. F. Betts were nearly a tie, Rev. J. C. Speer being third. On the third ballot Rev. J. F. Betts was declared elected. This is the second time Bro. Betts has occupied the presidential chair, the first time being in 1891. The president, Rev. T. Crosby, in retiring, with a full heart thanked the brethren for their support during the year past. He said he did not know till then that they thought so much of him. President Betts also said a few words expressive of his appreciation of the honor conferred upon him, although he could not help thinking the brethren had in his case made a mistake.

There were two ballots for secretary. On the second Rev. J. P. Powell was re-elected for the fourth time. Rev. R. N. Powell and J. D. P. Knox were nominated assistants, and Rev. S. S. Osterhout, journal secretary, the place of the last named being taken by Rev. W. D. Misener. Revs. J. Calvert and the writer were appointed Conference reporters to the local press and The Guardian, and A. Safford, B.A., to The Wesleyan.

Preceding the Conference prayer-meeting Rev. C. S. Eby, B.A., D.D., introduced notice of motion dealing with the general question of missionary economy now before the Connexion. The motion, subsequently brought up, after some debate was referred to the Committee on Missions; this committee being unusually large. It may be well, in view of the importance of the question, and the prominence which it is likely to have in the coming General Conference, to give the names of the brethren composing the committee, especially as the discussion in extenso was confined almost to the committee exclusively. They are as follows: Ministers—J. F. Betts, T. Crosby, Joseph Hall, T. W. Hall, D. Jennings, G. H. Raley, A. E. Green, E. Robson, W. H. Barraclough, B.A., C. Ladner, J. A. Wood, J. C. Speer, S. S. Osterhout, W. J. Stone, C. M. Tate, C. S. Eby, B.A., D.D., G. H. Morden, B. C. Freeman, J. P. Hicks, J. P. Powell, Goro Kaburagi. Laymen—Dr. Boulton, J. E. Macmillan, E. Nicholls, Noah Shakespeare, G. R. Ashwell, G. Robinson, D. Spencer, I. Lehman, A. C. Wells, C. Linmark, R. G. Wellwood. Total, twenty-one ministers, eleven laymen. The report of the committee will be referred to further on.

HON. C. SIFTON AND INDIAN SCHOOLS.

In the report of the Conference Special Committee reference was made to the address presented to the Hon. Clifford Sifton on his visit to the province, touching the unequal distribution of grants to Indian schools. Those of the Methodist Church, while reporting the largest responsibilities and results, receiving the least grant, the amount per capita paid to the Roman Catholic and Anglican Churches being out of all proportion. Attention was also called to the fact that it was felt that influence inimical to the Methodist Church was used in the appointment of agents.

KLONDYKE.

The same report referred to the Klondyke, recording the recommendation upon which the General Board of Missions acted in taking up the work. Many were the references made during the Conference to the zeal and self-sacrificing qualities of the good brother, Rev. James Turner, upon whom the choice of the mission authorities had fallen, who seemed so eminently fitted for the undertaking. For upwards of twenty years Bro. Turner has labored in the province, and has had a hand in laying the foundation of many a mission. His good-natured brotherliness, no less than his zeal and tact and his love for souls, has commended him to the warmest wishes and sincerest prayers of his brethren that heaven's blessing may attend him as the pioneer of the north.

The Stationing Committee—that dread committee to which all power belongs—consisted of the following: Chairmen, Revs. J. F. Betts, A. E. Green, Joseph Hall, J. A. Wood, C. Ladner, T. Crosby, E. Robson; other ministers, Revs. J. C. Spencer, H. J. Miller, W. H. Barraclough, B.A., S. J. Thompson, J. Calvert, C. M. Tate, D. Jennings. Other committees were appointed in due form.

COVERDALE WATSON AND THE BRETHREN.

In answer to the question, What ministers or probationers have died during the year? the answer was—Coverdale Watson. Mention of Bro. Watson's sickness, which proved to be a sickness unto death as well as for the glory of God, appeared in last year's Conference report. It was but fitting that the brethren should appoint a public memorial service, which was accordingly arranged to come in place of the usual service for reception of probationers, no reception service being called for this year. The meeting was held on Friday night. The obituary, a worthy tribute to a worthy man, prepared and presented by Rev. J. H. White, was formally adopted. Many of the brethren took advantage of the occasion to refer feelingly to the sterling worth of the departed brother, each speaker emphasizing

some particular aspect. Rev. J. C. Speer, who succeeded Bro. Watson on two charges, the one in Toronto, the other here, spoke of his "fragrant memory" and his "fearlessness." Rev. T. W. Hall briefly testified of him as a brother beloved; Rev. E. Robson as a victor in death, quoting Bro. Watson's words that he never dreamed a man could be so filled with God, that it was not dying, it was heaven. To Rev. J. A. Wood Bro. Watson was his first pastor, years ago, in Peterboro'. Rev. C. M. Tate touched on his fidelity to duty and faithfulness in warning sinners. Rev. C. S. Eby said he was a good man to follow. So the list might be increased with the tributes of Rev. A. E. Green, T. Crosby, Sheriff McMillan and Messrs. T. G. Raynor, E. Nicholls and Humber. Last, but by no means least, Dr. Sutherland added his tribute in passages that sounded like poetry, which was saved from being a fanciful panegyric by that holy element—truth. With Bro. Watson the last surviving chairman of the old British Columbia District passes away. So does the solemn message speak to all!

Following are the Conference treasurers for connexional funds: General Conference, Rev. A. E. Green; Contingent, Rev. J. P. Howell; Union Church Relief, Rev. S. J. Thompson; Superannuation, Rev. Joseph Hall; Educational, Rev. J. Calvert; Missionary, chairmen of districts; S. S. Aid, Rev. E. Manuel.

A report was presented to Conference by the committee appointed to inquire into titles of property, more particularly of that connected with the Indian work. It transpired that with regard to both Indian and white work, the property belonging to the Methodist Church in this Conference, so far as concerned title, was in a far from satisfactory condition. After considerable discussion on the general question and on individual cases, a committee was appointed to take action in the matter.

MISSIONARY MEETING.

There was an interested though not a very large gathering at the public missionary meeting, which was opened by the president, Rev. J. F. Betts. The first speaker, Rev. C. Ladner, referred to the progress made by the Methodist Church during the last ten years in the province. Figures were given for the time when the Conference was organized in 1887, with a dozen ministers and a few laymen, as compared with the present showing of over sixty ministers and many laymen. The statement read by Rev. C. Ladner is so interesting that it is here given. It goes to make up, if not a chapter in the romance of missions, at least a humble contribution towards the same.

INTERESTING STATISTICS.

The British Columbia Conference was organized in 1887 by Dr. Williams, General Superintendent. There were 19 ministers and probationers in the territory that year; 12 of the ministers were present. The Kamloops District was formed that year with 3 ministers, 2 churches and 3 parsonages.

At the last General Conference in 1894 the British Columbia Conference reported \$3,331 raised for missions that year. This year we report \$4,000. Amount raised for all purposes—1894, \$62,225; 1898, \$85,858—Increase, \$23,631. In 1894 there were 82 churches, 42 parsonages; in 1898 there are 101 churches, 53 parsonages. Value of church property in 1894, \$23,631. In 1894 there were 82 churches, 42 bers; in 1898, 4,879. Sunday-school scholars in 1894, 4,020; 1898, 5,121. Members of Epworth Leagues 1898, 978.

In that part of the province east of Vancouver known as the Kamloops district, in 1894 there were 12 ministers, 261 members, 7 churches, 5 parsonages. Church property valued at \$20,625. Amount raised for all purposes, \$7,675. In 1898 there are 2 districts, 22 churches, 10 parsonages; value of property, \$43,298, with a debt of \$10,613. Raised for all purposes this year, \$21,427.

The figures in preceding paragraph include those of the Kootenay district as follows: In 1896 the Kootenay District had 4 ministers, and the missionary grant was \$2,289. In 1897, 8 ministers, missionary grant, \$2,092; showing increase of ministers of 4, decrease of grant, \$197. Raised for all purposes, \$10,595. There are 8 churches, 5 parsonages, together valued at \$20,825, with a debt of \$4,613.

OTHER FEATURES.

Dr. Bolton spoke as a layman and pioneer medical missionary in regard to work in the north among both Indians and white people. The good work had been carried on without cost except for the missionary's support. The medical missionary, who combined prayer with surgery had a report to give alike honoring to God and gratifying to the church.

Next came Rev. C. Woodsworth, Superintendent of Missions, who presented a plea that was eminently sensible in behalf of the work on the home and domestic missions. He spoke of the great west as Greater Canada with possibilities simply incalculable. He had a letter in his possession from General Strange, written in connection with the Riel rebellion, in which General Strange stated that Rev. Jor McDougall, with his scouts, was the greatest individual factor in the success of the suppression of the rebellion. Other men had received the credit. The Methodist missionary was a power of which the Government were glad to avail themselves, and the missionary's work was a practical answer to the question as to whether missionaries paid. (Would Bro. Woodsworth kindly send this letter to The Guardian, as it is historic, and should go on record?—W. L. H.)

Rev. Dr. Sutherland entertained the audience to the close. It is difficult to condense his speech, which was admirable, practical,

wise and helpful; the speech of one well posted in details of missionary work. It was an elucidation and elaboration of his initial statement, that the world had come to that point where no longer gush and sentiment would pass, but where actual fact and positive statement were called for. This given, there were not wanting evidences that the church of God would rise to the occasion and rally to the call.

Following are the delegates elected to the General Conference: Revs. J. F. Betts (president), T. Crosby, E. Robson and C. Ladner, with Joseph Hall as alternate. Laymen, D. Spencer, J. R. Ashwell, Dr. Boulton and A. C. Wells, with J. Tuttle as alternate. Rev. J. F. Betts was also chosen representative to the General Board of Missions.

COLLEGE AND COLLEGE MATTERS.

The report of the College Board for the year past was read by Mr. D. Curtis and adopted, and the Board of Directors appointed for three years, two years and one year respectively. In connection with the question of the college indebtedness, a valuable suggestion was put forward by Mr. Curtis by which four thousand dollars could be raised to meet the calls of the present year, namely, by getting eighty subscriptions of fifty dollars each. The suggestion was heartily endorsed. Each subscription entitles subscriber to send to the college one student for one year, certificate to be issued to this effect. Over \$1,100 was raised on these terms on the spot, and appeal will be made throughout the Conference for the balance.

Following the report, Rev. W. J. Sipperell, B. A. B.D., principal of the college, was requested to address the Conference. The energetic manner in which he complied with the wish of the brethren may be taken as a promise and prophecy of things to come. Principal Sipperell replied to questions regarding the powers of the college to grant degrees; which questions were answered satisfactorily, inasmuch as Columbia College is in affiliation with the Toronto University. Bro. Sipperell spoke in hopeful terms of the work that could be done, and he was prepared to enter upon that work with heart and soul. Nevertheless there was something of pathos in his plea, that the brethren must not expect him to preside over the college and preach every night as well. He could do either, not both. The Conference was much delighted with Bro. Sipperell's address, and the brethren will doubtless be prepared to give him all the help they can.

On Saturday afternoon, in connection with the Theological Union, Rev. R. Whittington, M.A., B.Sc., was the lecturer. Rev. Dr. Eby presided. "Love and Duty" was the title of the lecture. The lecturer dealt with the different meanings in which the word love is used in the Scriptures, or rather the three different words that are translated love in our English version, and applying this to religious experience showed that in the church love could be translated duty. The lecture was much appreciated, and hope was expressed that it might appear in our own Magazine. The lecturer for next year will be Rev. J. C. Speer, with Rev. R. Whittington in the chair.

The Sabbath morning service at the Metropolitan church was conducted by the ex-president, Rev. T. Crosby, who, in his own whole-souled manner addressed himself to his hearers' hearts, to their great pleasure and profit. Rev. Dr. Sutherland preached in the evening on the question raised by a querulous disciple as to the waste connected with a certain alabaster box of ointment. To what purpose is this waste? It was easy to apply this "waste," or, more truly, wealth of sacrifice and service characteristic of woman, to the work of the W. M. S. and other agencies by which women have blessed both the church and the world. Rev. Mr. Woodsworth also preached to an appreciative audience, and many of the city pulpits were occupied by visiting ministers. Addresses to the Sabbath-school were given by Revs. J. D. P. Knox and C. Hill Sutherland.

MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE.

On Conference re-assembling on Monday, May 16, there was a discussion as to the basis of assessment for Superannuation Fund. A resolution was passed to be forwarded to General Conference praying that if possible the basis be changed so as not to militate against the raising of missionary or other connexional funds. Rev. Dr. Sutherland offered a few words bearing on the difficulties in the matter.

Committee work took up a good part of the morning and afternoon. In the afternoon addresses were called for from Mr. Woodsworth and Dr. Sutherland. Both dealt with the question of missions. In earnest manner Bro. Woodsworth counselled caution and care. The tendency to increase new missions and new men without the wherewithal necessary could only lead to serious consequences. The Methodist Church was doing a third more work than there was means provided for. Both Mr. Woodsworth and Dr. Sutherland strongly advocated putting on the brakes. The Doctor (who was suffering from hoarseness, result of cold), with the aid of humorous and telling illustrations, touched on different aspects of the question now before the church.

TEMPERANCE.

From this meeting it was easy to pass, after due space for refreshing the inner man, into the public meeting on temperance. Rev. A. E. Green was the first speaker, and spoke as a past-master, which indeed on this temperance question he is. Miss Bowes, on behalf of the W. M. S. followed with a tribute to the memory of Miss Willard; incidentally advocated the cause of the lower animals and the birds, "No bird should be slain to decorate a lady's head," and referred to the mammoth petition now at Ottawa, measuring seven miles long, as

prophecy that the women of the world would be on the side of Prohibition. Rev. W. H. Barracough, B.A., spoke on the three stages of the temperance agitation—the era of moral suasion, restrictive legislation, prohibitive legislation. He pointed out that the three main provisions in the present law of the province as to minors, Indians and hours for sale, respectively, were all openly broken. Dr. Sutherland was the last speaker, and strongly arraigned the iniquity of inequality which allowed saloon-keepers and sots to vote, and yet allowed a Christian woman no vote to protect her boy.

On Tuesday, at 9.30 a.m., the Conference again came to order. A memorial was presented from Rev. C. Ladner, touching the constitution of a Conference Church and Parsonage Aid Fund, towards which, during his trip east, he had succeeded in raising some four hundred dollars. The main recommendation was adopted, and details referred to a standing committee.

Here follow some interesting statistics, reported by the respective committees:

MORE STATISTICS.

Report of Statistical Committee—Present membership, 4,879; increase, 155. Raised for connexional funds, \$7,276; increase, \$1,541, of which increase \$653 is in Missionary Fund. Raised for all purposes, \$85,858; increase, \$13,471. Raised for ministerial support, \$19,451; increase, \$1,898. Church property valued at \$380,218. One hundred and one churches valued at \$269,872. Fifty-three parsonages valued at \$49,236.

Report of Sabbath-school Committee—Number of schools, 72; comprising 5,121 pupils. 575 officers and teachers. Of the latter 476 are members of the Methodist Church. The total average attendance for the year is 3,534. The increase for the year is as follows: Schools, 8; scholars, 408; officers and teachers, 25; average attendance, 455. Raised for school purposes during the year, \$4,068; increase, \$25. Attention is called in the report to a lack in respect of the number of children studying Methodist catechism. Attention is also called to the opportunities for usefulness offered by the Home Department.

MORE MATTERS FOR GENERAL CONFERENCE.

In the report of the Committee on Memorials, presented by Mr. J. Jessop, an important clause was that dealing with a change in respect of tickets of membership. It was moved by Rev. J. C. Speer, seconded by Rev. Dr. Eby, that instead of quarterly tickets being issued as at present, which were all right for children but scarcely adapted to existing conditions, the General Conference be memorialized to arrange for a yearly card of membership. This was endorsed by the Conference, and will be forwarded to the General Conference accordingly.

At the afternoon session a deputation was received from the W. M. S., consisting of Mrs. Betts, Mrs. Crosby, Mrs. Chapman, Mrs. Goro Kaburagi, Mrs. Cunningham, Mrs. Holt, Misses Gould, Mansill, Sixsmith, Bowes and a number of other ladies. Mrs. Chapman addressed the Conference on behalf of both the W. M. S. and the W. C. T. U., and explained the absence of Mrs. Gordon Grant on account of the serious illness of her husband. Mrs. Chapman's address did honor to the movements represented, and to the lady herself. It was admirable. Among other things the plea was again entered for the extension of the franchise to women. Men and women must stand shoulder to shoulder in all progressive work. Hearty applause greeted the speaker's address, and both ladies and Conference were delighted with the reception.

The delegation was opportune, inasmuch as it preceded a motion introduced by Mr. J. Jessop looking to a radical change in Methodist polity by the admission of women to all church courts. The resolution secured the unanimous and appreciative endorsement of the Conference, and will go up to General Conference. Rev. Mr. Speer voiced the sentiments of the Conference in saying that he felt humiliated every time he faced the question, in which connection he used the words, "The barbarism of the past." Rev. C. Whittington, M.A., B.Sc., and others, spoke to the question. Here it may be stated that a memorial, advocating that the presidents of Ladies' Aids be constituted members of the Quarterly Official Board was also enthusiastically passed.

A matter of much interest was brought forward in a motion to memorialize the General Conference to make the extension of pastorate for Methodist ministers five years without any of the present restrictions. It was moved by Rev. Joseph Hall, seconded by Mr. J. Jessop, supported by Rev. J. C. Speer and others, and carried, with three or four dissentient votes.

In connection with the report of the Board of Examiners, a committee consisting of Rev. R. Whittington, M.A., B.Sc., Rev. C. S. Eby, B.A., D.D., and Rev. Goro Kaburagi, B.A., was appointed to prescribe a course of study for Japanese probationers. A similar committee was appointed in connection with the Indian branch of the work, consisting of Rev. T. Crosby, D. Jennings, S. S. Osterhout and C. N. Tate.

MISSIONS AND MISSIONARY QUESTIONS.

Wednesday was the last day of the Conference, which did not close till past midnight. Most of the day was taken up by the Committee on Missions. It was their report, in fact, in conjunction with that of the Stationing Committee, for which the Conference was detained. At last, after much weary waiting on the part of the brethren, late at night the report of the Committee on Missions was received; which,

as its provisions, some of them, have such intimate bearing on the questions discussed in The Guardian, had perhaps better be referred to a little more fully than would otherwise be required. It would seem that Rev. Dr. Eby, the mover of the resolution, or set of resolutions, with which the committee had to deal, and who, with Dr. Sutherland, was on the committee, is in accord with the Doctor on almost every point. Instead of advocating any division of the fund into domestic, home and foreign, respectively, the Conference referred the whole question to the mature deliberation of the General Conference.

The other recommendations in the report adopted by the Conference are in substance as follows:

1. That the General Conference be memorialized to enact such legislation as shall prevent the creating of unnecessary missions (domestic) and the unnecessary multiplying of men in consequence; and take such steps as shall remedy any abuses that may have arisen under the present legislation.

2. That a General Superintendent, with additional powers, or a Superintendent of Missions, be appointed so as to provide an effective superintendency of all domestic missions, with a view to raising such to self-support as soon as possible.

3. That when the domestic missions have been reduced to a minimum to meet actual requirements, the amount necessary to provide for the adequate support of all the missionaries be carefully calculated, and a pro rata amount apportioned to each field, to be raised as its share of the total Missionary Fund required; instead of the present indeterminate amount left by each field to raise at its own option.

4. That a complete system of superintendency be applied to all foreign (non-English) missions, whether at home or abroad.

5. That groups of missions be formed into councils, districts or conferences, and legislation enacted giving them the largest possible measure of local control, under the superintendency before mentioned.

6. That the General Secretary of Missions be relieved as far as possible of office duties and details in order that he may give himself wholly to administrative functions.

7. That a field secretary be appointed to arouse enthusiasm, and organize church activities in behalf of missions, and so increase the giving.

8. That the number of members of the General Board of Missions be reduced, and continuity of policy secured by less frequent change in personnel.

CLOSING WORK.

After the Committee on Missions had reported, Dr. Sutherland said farewell, in words that called forth a spontaneous reply in song, "Blest be the tie that binds." The Stationing Committee retired to complete their work, the Conference continuing in session under the presidency of Rev. T. W. Hall, during which time pending matters were disposed of, and a discussion entered upon as to what measures might be adopted for the more effective carrying on of the work of God.

Then there was a sudden silence, a sensation of expectancy, a movement of the door, turning of faces, the hour had arrived. With grave countenances, the members of the Stationing Committee filed into the church ready to report. The secretary of the committee, Rev. James Calvert, stood forward. No one stirred. In a few moments the fateful words were spoken, and every man knew where his destiny was cast for a year to come. Nothing remained but to elect the chairmen, and give one another a parting benediction and shake of the hand; while all together broke into a final word of prayer and praise. There was a scuffling of feet, a putting on of coats. Presently the church was left desolate, without minister or layman, as the brethren hurried off as fast as they could to catch the boat.

The chairmen and financial secretaries for the respective districts are as follows:

Victoria District.—Rev. J. C. Speer, Chairman; Rev. J. P. Hicks, Financial Secretary.
Vancouver.—Rev. A. E. Green, Chairman; Rev. R. N. Miller, Financial Secretary.
Westminster.—Rev. J. F. Betts, Chairman; Rev. J. H. White, Financial Secretary.
Kamloops.—Rev. C. Ladner, Chairman; Rev. S. J. Thompson, Financial Secretary.
Kootenay.—Rev. J. A. Wood, Chairman; Rev. J. Robson, B.A., Financial Secretary.
Simpson.—Rev. S. S. Osterhout, Chairman; Rev. D. Jennings, Financial Secretary.
Bella-Bella.—Rev. T. Crosby, Chairman; Rev. G. H. Raley, Financial Secretary.
By invitation of the Quarterly Board, conveyed through Rev. T. W. Hall, the Conference will meet next year in Nanaimo. Each member attending Conference will contribute two dollars to the Biling Fund. W. L. H.

Woman's Missionary Soc'y.

RIDGETOWN DISTRICT CONVENTION.

The annual convention of the W. M. S. of the Ridgetown District met in the Methodist church, Newbury, on May 11, Mrs. Scatcherd presiding. There were present representatives from four auxiliaries, all showing a deep interest in the work. We had two interesting papers, "How to secure new members," and "What it means to be a member of the W. M. S." Both were followed by discussion. We also discussed systematic giving and the proposed changes in constitution. At the evening session we were favored with two very interesting and inspiring addresses by

Miss Webster, of London, and Mrs. (Rev.) Harrison. Music for both sessions was kindly furnished by the choir. The young people also served tea in class-room after the afternoon session. M. Stone.

STRATFORD.

A Woman's Missionary auxiliary was organized in the Waterloo Street church by Mrs. Hampton, the district organizer. The officers are: President, Mrs. Birks; Vice-President, Mrs. Cast; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Farrow; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Dunsmore; Treasurer, Mrs. Myers; Executive Committee, Mrs. Steinoff, Miss Sanderson and Mrs. Saxton. We commenced with fifteen members. The interest has steadily increased. At every meeting new members have been added. A missionary prayer-meeting was held in April, at which five new names were handed in, making a membership now of twenty-eight. We feel much encouraged, and are looking for greater things in the future.

Edith G. Dunsmore, Rec. Sec.

UXBRIDGE DISTRICT CONVENTION.

The Uxbridge District held its annual convention in the Methodist church, Locust Hill, May 13. The first session opened at 10.30 a.m., with Mrs. D. F. Gee presiding. Reports from auxiliaries, mission bands and circles were very encouraging, showing that the interest is increasing, and a great deal of good is being done. Two papers were read during the morning session, one by Mrs. (Rev.) Bedford—subject, "The relation of literature to mission work," the other by Mrs. (Rev.) Stevenson, of Unionville, on, "Excuses." Both papers were very interesting and helpful.

The afternoon session opened with devotional exercises. An address of welcome was given by Mrs. (Rev.) Oke, to the delegates and friends; replied to by Miss Todd, of Goodwood. Greetings were received from the Baptist sister society of Green River. A consecration service, led by Mrs. J. G. Crosby, of Uxbridge, was very helpful and inspiring. A paper on "Mission band work," by Mrs. H. A. Crosby, was also very interesting, showing that the children are in earnest in this work. Mrs. Gee was re-elected district organizer. The convention was pleased to accept a cordial invitation from the Mount Albert ladies to hold their next annual meeting there.

The evening session opened at 8 p.m., Rev. J. H. Oke presiding. Mrs. Gee gave a very encouraging report of the work on the district. Rev. Messrs. Stevenson and Bedford gave short addresses, which were interesting and beneficial. Mrs. J. B. Willmot, president of Toronto Conference Branch, gave a short address on the work in the foreign fields and missions, which showed the good work that is being done, and also how much there is still to do. Music added to the pleasure of the evening. Collections during the day amounted to \$15.43.

Secretary of Convention.

WHITBY DISTRICT CONVENTION.

The annual convention of the Whitby District was held at Port Perry, May 19, 1898. The afternoon session was opened by Miss Lambly, district organizer. Reports from auxiliaries showed that the district has had a prosperous year, all reporting an increase of members and finances. Word of welcome and reply; greetings from the Baptist and Presbyterian churches; three excellent papers on "How to increase our membership," "Why lay stress on joining the W. M. S.?" and "Systematic and proportionate giving," were all well and ably presented. The question-draw was excellently conducted by Mrs. Willmot, of Toronto, giving us many practical suggestions for auxiliary work. A consecration service closed a very interesting and profitable meeting.

The evening session opened at 8 p.m., with the pastor, Rev. D. N. McCamus, in the chair. Mrs. Willmot gave a very interesting address on the work of the W. M. S. Rev. Dr. McDiarmid, president of the Conference, also gave an address. Members of the Junior League and church choir provided the musical part of the programme. A. G. Brown, Sec.

BIBLE-WOMEN.

About 1861 Bible-women were first employed in China, but were soon dispensed with. In 1882 two were again set to work, the next year eleven, and a year later twenty-one. And behold! in 1897 the Methodists alone employ eighty in Foochow and Hinghua.

The first employed in our Canadian mission in Japan, was in 1885. One of the first, Mrs. Wadda, of Kofu, still continues to do effective work. Two others, engaged a little later in Tokyo, though aged and feeble, are among the faithful ones. Younger women may do more service, but none are more welcome, or give more cheer in the church or homes of the people than old Mrs. Sabashi, and Kubo San. The latter is at present in the hospital, being treated for her eyes. Even there she finds opportunities to serve our Lord. Another patient is a Christian, but does not understand the Bible very well—a younger woman has never heard before. The three spend much time happily together. Kubo San cannot see to read, but she explains what the Christian desires to understand, and between them the sweet story of Christ's love is conveyed to the eager listener at their side. The chief qualifications of these aged Bible-women are their love for Christ, and tact in dealing with the unconverted, winning their way, till they can persuade them to come to church. The work is limited for want of workers. Pray that many more may be raised up and taught of God.

Church News.

Toronto Conference.

Toronto, McCaul Street.—Rev. W. J. Barkwell, pastor. The review of the past year of the work of this church at the closing official meeting was both gratifying and encouraging. The pastor presided. The various reports showed appreciable advancement in all the departments. The financial obligations of the year have been fully met, nearly \$2,000 paid on floating debt, and the pastor's salary raised in ten months, making the year end the first of May instead of the first of July as heretofore. The connexional funds have been loyally sustained, the missionary and educational offerings doubling the previous year. Success has also been marked by enlarged congregations, increased attendance at the social means of grace, and an ingathering during the year of 137 new members. The regular work of the church has been ably supplemented by an efficient Ladies' Aid, energetic Senior and Intermediate Leagues, and a well organized Sunday-school, which, for the first time in seven years, is out of debt.

Bruce Mines.—Rev. E. B. Service, pastor, writes: Our quarterly meeting was a season of spiritual interest and power. Congregations are large. On Sunday evening, May 29, five members from the Junior League were received in full connection with the church. This Conference year has been one of financial and spiritual progress. All Conference claims have been met and church debts have been provided for. The pastor's salary has been paid up in full. One hundred and twenty dollars were raised for missions. We have a kind and consecrated people here.

Angus.—Rev. G. Agar, pastor: The recording steward of the Angus Circuit writes to say that the past year has been one of prosperity both materially and spiritually. Over eighteen hundred dollars has been raised during the year for church purposes. The membership is increased by a goodly number. The Epworth Leagues and Sunday-schools at the different appointments are in a healthy and prosperous condition.

Toronto, Queen Street East.—The annual meeting on Wednesday last, June 1, was well attended, and a good service. Each department, Epworth League, Sabbath-school, Ladies' Aid, the financial statement by the treasurer, and the general statistical and spiritual state, was reported on, and showed a good progressive year. The church stands better than at any previous time, and the outlook is hopeful. The president of the Ladies' Aid, on their behalf, presented the pastor, the Rev. G. Webber, with a handsome combination writing desk, with an address heartily appreciative of his four years of successful pastoral work, recognizing that the debt of the church had been reduced by one half and the state of the church improved in every way. The address expressed a wish that the term could be four years longer, showing that Mr. Webber closes his pastoral term and pastoral work with the hearty appreciation and affection of his people.

Bay of Quinte Conference.

South Monaghan.—Rev. T. S. McKee, pastor, writes that the finances of this circuit are in advance of former years, and were all paid early in May.

Manitoba and the Northwest.

Church news communications from Manitoba should be sent to Rev. T. E. MORDEN, 464 Nollie Avenue, Winnipeg.

CIRCUIT NEWS—BUILDING AND IMPROVING OF CHURCHES—SUNDAY-SCHOOL NOTES—REPORTS OF DISTRICT MEETINGS.

A correspondent of the Edmonton Bulletin notices the preaching of Rev. J. L. Thorne's farewell sermon at Angus Ridge, Wetaskiwin Circuit, and says: "He has done a great deal of work here considering the time at his disposal. His sermons have been appreciated by his hearers. All wish him success in his future sphere of labor."

Rev. C. E. Somerset, principal of the Red Deer Industrial School, is on a tour of the Indian Industrial Schools of Manitoba and the territories. He visited the Bow River school last week.

The King's Daughters of the Medicine Hat church, held their annual meeting recently. The secretary submitted a very satisfactory report of the work, and noticed particularly a very gratifying increase in the society's work during the past year. The committee had been enabled to supply the church with new lamps, to put a substantial fence around the church, etc., and many other repairs and improvements. The total receipts for the year amounted to the sum of \$175.85. The following ladies were elected officers for the ensuing year: Mrs. Fleeger, President; Mrs. Sprague, Vice-President; Mrs. Cunliff, Secretary; Mrs. Douglas, Treasurer; Mrs. Niblock and Mrs. Scarlett, Auditors.

Rev. T. Ferrier, says the Moose Jaw Times of the 27th inst., preached what in all probability will be his last sermon in Moose Jaw on Sunday evening, having completed the term of three years allotted by Conference. Mr. Ferrier will be much missed in Moose Jaw and surrounding district, as he was closely identified with the social as well as the religious life of the people, and was untiring in his duties as pastor, never sparing himself or considering his

personal comfort when he thought he could show a kindness or perform a good turn to another. He is followed by the best wishes of the citizens of Moose Jaw and district.

The foundation of the church at Indian Head was completed, and the floor partly laid last week. The plan of construction promises to give satisfaction. The view of the pulpit will, it is said, be almost as good from the rear seats as from the front, and The Vidette suggests that the special feature be borne in mind in building the new town hall.

The parsonage at Virden is undergoing internal changes and repairs.

At a full meeting of the Virden Quarterly Board a unanimous invitation was extended by Rev. Wellington Bridgeman, to return to Virden for another year. Virden Circuit enjoys the unique position of being out of debt. The Ladies' Aid Society boasts a handsome surplus, the funds are all up, and on Saturday the trustees purchased the old manse property on Main Street from the Presbyterian body at a cost of \$850. The site is in the centre of the town.

The regular meeting of the Fleming Quarterly Board was held on Friday, 20th inst., with very satisfactory results, showing a small increase of membership, and a general advancement for the year. The total amount raised on the circuit was about \$1,100. This circuit is on the Moosomin District; its pastor is Rev. A. R. Aldridge, B.A.

The following items from Gordon appear in the Neepawa Register of the 27th inst.: The Quarterly Board of the Glendale Circuit met at Mr. Sirett's on Saturday last. Among other things it was decided to build a church at Gordon, the site chosen being at the school corner. A unanimous invitation was extended to Mr. Gilbert to remain another year, and a widely signed petition to that effect will be presented to Conference. A week ago Sunday was reception service at Gordon, when over twenty persons united with the church.

Evangelist C. J. Atkinson was expected to begin union evangelistic services at Blaris last Sunday.

At an adjourned meeting of the Quarterly Official Board of the Stonewall Circuit, a resolution was passed inviting the pastor, Rev. J. A. McClung, to remain for another year.

At the annual meeting of the Zion church, Winnipeg, Sunday-school officers and teachers, Mr. R. Douglas was re-elected superintendent. Subsequently he nominated the following officers, who were elected: Mr. Gibson, Assistant-Superintendent, provisionally; Mr. McPherson, Secretary; Mr. Bramwell, Assistant Secretary; Mr. Spink, Treasurer; Mr. Godley, Librarian; Mr. A. Sutton, Assistant Librarian; Mr. J. Monkman, Literary Secretary; Mr. J. Ryan, Jr., Assistant Literary Secretary; Miss E. Motley, Organist; Mr. Mayhew, Musical Director; Mr. Costello, Adult Bible-class Teacher; Miss Walker, Junior Bible-class for young men; Miss Davis, Junior Bible-class for young women; Miss C. Douglas, Superintendent of Primary Department; Miss Christie, Organist.

Reports of the various departments of the school were read; these were shown to be in a very satisfactory condition. A slight decrease in the membership was accounted for by several families leaving the city, and some removing to other districts.

Anniversary services in connection with Grace church, Winnipeg, were held yesterday, Rev. T. C. Buchanan, of Regina, preaching in the morning to the children, and Rev. John Maclean, M.A., Ph.D., of Neepawa, in the evening to the adults, to large congregations. Mr. E. A. Garratt, B.A., who has been re-elected superintendent, made a statement at the evening service, showing the condition of the school, and commending it to the constant interest and sympathy of the congregation. The school, he said, was prosperous, having had at the beginning of the year an enrollment of 777, and at present of 828. The average attendance had increased about ten per cent., and had been for the last quarter 559. During the year ending April 30, \$670.77 had been contributed, of which \$50 had been given towards educating Grace Endo, a native student in Japan; \$155.35 for the missionary cause, and \$452.47 for general expenses, leaving a balance of \$170 on hand to pay certain accounts. It was the wish of the management to provide for a kindergarten as soon as possible. A Home Department had been organized with six or eight workers to visit the homes of the people, and get them started in the course of study. It was believed that 500 people should be numbered in the Home Department. Another aim was to develop the musical department by enlarging the orchestra from five or six to twenty instruments, some of these to be the property of the school. The library contained 860 volumes, and 3,700 books had been distributed during the year.

During the past winter the Epworth League of the Methodist church, Minnedosa, has had a series of lectures given under its auspices by various outside talent, and on Friday evening last the pastor, Rev. G. H. Long, finished the course by giving perhaps the best of the whole on the subject, "The Making of a Man." The local paper concludes a short synopsis with the following comments: The speaker was most eloquent in portraying the grand possibilities that lie within the reach of our young men, and appealed to them very strongly to not fritter life away, but by cultivating the manhood within them accomplish something here, and be certain of a glorious hereafter. We can only assure the lecturer that should he again favor the Leaguers he will have a large and appreciative hearing.

RAT PORTAGE.

The annual congregational meeting of the

Rat Portage Circuit was held on the 18th inst., Judge Robinson presiding. Rev. A. Andrews presented the membership report, which showed that there had been received during the year on trial 7, and by letter, 57; present membership, 130; net increase 20. Two years ago Rat Portage raised for all purposes, including minister's salary, \$757; in 1897 the amount rose to \$2,127; and in 1898 the gross receipts amounted to \$4,520. Mr. P. H. Clark presented the Sabbath-school report, showing 16 officers and teachers—all but one members of the church; scholars, 172, with an average attendance of 122. There are 174 copies of Sabbath-school periodicals taken by the school, all of which are from our Book-Room in Toronto. There are 250 volumes in the library; \$100 has been raised for school purposes. Mr. Elmer Burley gave the report of the Epworth League of Christian Endeavor, which contains 40 active and 18 associate members. Several departments of work had been undertaken and faithfully carried on. Master Roy Weidman gave the report of the Junior League, which had been organized about a year. The League meets on Sunday morning at ten o'clock, and has an average attendance of about twenty-five members. Miss McGimsie, assisted by Miss Richardson, has the superintendency of the society. In the absence of the president, Mrs. G. Thompson, the pastor read the report of the Ladies' Aid Society. There had been many meetings held during the year resulting in increased and helpful association of the members. There had been raised \$404.25 during the past twelve months.

RESTON NEW CHURCH.

The dedication of the new church at Reston took place on May 25, at 3 p.m. The chairman of the district presided, while Rev. Mr. Teeter preached an appropriate sermon from the words, "Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?" The congregation then adjourned to Mr. Sherrin's new hall, where an excellent supper had been provided by the ladies. At 8 p.m. the audience assembled in the church, where a choice programme was given, consisting of music, and addresses by Rev. Messrs. Switzer, McQuarrie, Sellar and Somerville. The church is a neat little structure, 24 x 40 feet, capable of seating comfortably 160 people and costing about \$725. It is a credit to the Methodists of Reston, who have shown great interest during the past year in its construction and completion.

CYPRESS RIVER.

The re-opening of the Methodist church at Cypress River, on Sunday, 22nd inst., was a time of universal spiritual interest and advantage to the congregation.

Rev. Henry Kenner, of Thornhill, preached in the morning, and Rev. W. G. Wilson, of Morris, in the evening. Both of these ministers formerly filled the pastorate at Cypress River, and succeeded in gathering into the church many men and women whose character and life are a guarantee of the future welfare and development of our common Christianity in this land.

At the entertainment on Monday evening Rev. Thomas Argue, the pastor, occupied the chair. Choice music was furnished by the choir of the church, with Mr. Verner as leader and Miss Carwell as organist. Rev. Messrs. Kenner, Elatt, Macdonald and Wilson delivered appropriate addresses.

The church presents a beautiful appearance, and best of all the cost of improvements and decorations is fully paid.

The Western Prairie adds, in reference to the occasion: For a time workmen have been engaged in making alterations and improvements in the Methodist church at this place. On Sunday last special services were held, and immense gatherings attended public worship. The life and vigor displayed by the congregation of the Methodist church at Cypress River shows that excellent and successful pastors have been stationed in this district, and that their efforts have been beneficial, and their teaching properly appreciated.

WINNIPEG DISTRICT.

The Winnipeg district meeting was held in Grace church, Winnipeg, on Wednesday and Thursday of last week, Rev. Prof. Stewart, chairman, presiding. G. J. Elliott, H. J. Kinley and L. D. Post were recommended to be received into full connection; S. Wilkinson to be continued on probation; John Stewart as a superannuated minister, and T. L. Helliwell and T. E. Morden as supernumeraries. Rev. W. S. A. Crix, B.A., was elected secretary, and Rev. E. S. Barker, B.A., assistant of the ministerial session, and Rev. J. M. A. Spence, of the mixed session. Rev. W. A. Cooke, B.A., and Mr. J. F. Fowler, Auditing Committee. The following were elected to the Conference: Stationing Committee, Rev. W. A. Cooke, B.A.; Sabbath-school Committee, Rev. S. Cleaver, M.A., and Mr. J. F. Fowler; Epworth League Committee, Rev. Prof. Riddell and Mr. A. Monkman; Lay Representatives to the Annual Conference Missionary Committee, Mr. Thos. Nixon; Lay Delegates to the Annual Conference, Messrs. David Manorgan, Rosser; J. G. Brown, Morris; H. C. Osborne, Selkirk West; C. A. McCall, Starbuck; W. J. Boyd, Foxton; Willis Heather, Springfield; Jas. E. Turner, Stonewall; David Wright, Emerson; T. Nixon, J. F. Fowler, A. Monkman, J. W. Cockburn, G. H. Rodgers, J. W. Morley, C. W. Barker, J. A. M. Aikins, R. Douglas, S. Walker, R. Breen and R. J. Whitla, Winnipeg.

It was resolved that the next annual district meeting be held in Young church, Winnipeg.

The financial reports showed that all the connexional funds had been paid in full.

On motion of Rev. J. W. Dickinson, seconded by Mr. J. F. Fowler, a resolution was passed in reference to the formation of new missions, that the General Conference be memorialized to provide that all recommendations for the formation of new missions shall be referred to a standing committee of the Conference; that the recommendation of the committee shall state the relation of the proposed new missions to the existing circuits or missions, the number, and locations of the proposed appointments, and the amount of the prospective income, and that a two-thirds vote of the Annual Conference shall be necessary to the creation of a new mission.

On motion of Mr. J. F. Fowler, seconded by Rev. J. A. McClung, it was resolved to memorialize the General Conference, through the Annual Conference, to remove from the Discipline the restrictions concerning the re-appointment of ministers for the fourth and fifth years, in case the limitation to three years be not restored to apply in all cases.

CARMAN DISTRICT.

The Carman district meeting opened at Roland on the 17th inst., Rev. Thomas Argue, chairman, in the chair. All the ministers were present with the exception of two. Rev. W. L. Armstrong, B.A., was elected secretary. Mr. J. W. Bruce, the only probationer in the district, passed a very creditable examination, and was unanimously recommended to be received into full connection and ordained. Mr. G. J. Blewett, B.A., who has been attending Victoria College, and desires to remain there, was recommended to be continued on trial. The report of the college faculty in his case was exceptionally gratifying, stating him to be one of the most brilliant students that has ever attended Victoria.

A consideration of the financial condition of the different circuits was interesting and encouraging. The circuits, with one exception, had met in full the estimates of the August Quarterly official Boards. The connexional funds were found to be well up, there being only a small deficiency comparatively, for the whole district, which amount, after some interesting conversation and a little solicitation by the chairman, was fully made up. So the district meets Conference with a good conscience as to connexional funds. Total connexional funds, \$2,845.78; total for Missionary Fund, \$1,240.13; for circuit purposes, \$12,406.99; grand total for all purposes, \$22,796.77.

The reports from Sunday-school and Epworth Leagues indicate that these organizations are in a most satisfactory state. The work is still developing.

Roland Circuit makes request for a second minister, at least for a part of the year.

It is recommended to divide the Carman East Circuit, the one part to be a circuit, the other a mission. Some of the circuits have made valuable improvements in their parsonages in the way of additional furniture, etc.

There have been some new churches built and others improved; a \$1,000 new church at Swan Lake, Alberta Circuit, appointment; Baldur Circuit, a new church; a new church in course of erection on McCreary Circuit. Churches have been enlarged and improved on Roland Circuit to the extent of \$2,600.

Rev. H. Wigle was elected to the Stationing Committee; Rev. H. Lewis and E. Steinhoff to the Sunday-school Committee, and Rev. T. M. Talbot, Ph.D., and Dr. Gordon, to the Epworth League Committee.

Resolutions were passed recommending the wheat system as an improvement on former methods of financing in agricultural districts; asking the Conference to memorialize the General Conference to definitely fix the time limit of the pastorate, and that certain changes be made to facilitate transfers of ministers from Conference to Conference. The last of these was moved by Rev. T. M. Talbot, seconded by Rev. H. Lewis. It proposed to divide the ministers who may be transferred into four classes: Class 1, all who have not been received into full connection and stationed. Class 2, those in missions who have asked for a transfer to a particular Conference. Class 3, those receiving salaries between \$600 and \$750, and who have asked for transfer. Class 4, all receiving salaries over \$750, and who have asked for transfer; further, that vacancies in a Conference occurring by death or superannuation, be filled from ministers on the transfer list, and that the Conference from which a minister is withdrawn shall have the vacancy thus created filled from Class 1. When a vacancy occurs the senior applicant of that class be notified immediately of his transfer at his own expense; also the man of Class 1 be notified of his transfer; that \$10 accompany any application for transfer, to be a fund to pay expenses of second man transferred. The report of the membership was encouraging, here being a net increase of 224.

DELORAINE DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Deloraine District was held at Reston last week, Rev. Wm. Somerville, chairman, presiding. The following probationers were recommended to be continued on trial: Three years, A. W. Kenner; two years, A. P. Halladay, J. S. Woodsworth, B.A., and W. E. W. Sellar. W. F. Adams and R. E. McCullagh were recommended to be received on probation.

On motion it was recommended that two probationers who had left the work irregularly during the year be dropped in silence.

Rev. J. C. Switzer was elected secretary of the district, and Rev. W. P. McHaffie and Mr. J. M. Fee, the Auditing Committee.

Schedules were presented showing the connexional funds to have been well sustained, and general progress to have been made. An increase of the funds, aggregating \$865.46 was reported.

A discussion on "Children as members of the church" took place, in which the necessity of

looking after the children was strongly emphasized.

The following were recommended for appointment to attend college: W. E. W. Selar to Mount Allison University; J. S. Woodworth, B.A., to Victoria; A. W. Kenner to Wesley College; E. Lousley and N. I. Vernon to continue at college.

The following were elected to Conference: Stationing Committee, Rev. J. C. Switzer; Sunday-school Committee, Rev. W. P. McHaffie and Mr. J. M. Fee. Epworth League, Rev. C. Teeter and Mr. Connor; Lay Delegates, Wm. Busby, Reston, J. M. Fee, Hartney; Mr. Connor, Melita; Mr. Helen, Deloraine; Missionary Committee, Mr. J. M. Fee.

Motions were passed recommending re-arrangement of the work on the Lennox and Whitewater, Argue and Reston Circuits. Oxbow was reported as becoming a self-supporting circuit.

NEEPAWA DISTRICT.

The ministerial session of the Neepawa District opened on May 26, in the Methodist church, Neepawa, with a full attendance of ministers and probationers. B. H. Spence, W. H. Dingle, H. H. Gilbert, L. Allen and W. A. Sippell were passed on in their probation.

An interesting and profitable discussion on the state of the work and its needs was the closing order of the day. The presence of the Superintendent of Missions, Rev. James Woodworth, during the meetings of the Ministerial Association on Tuesday, and at the district meeting on Wednesday, added to the interest and profit of the gatherings.

On Thursday the annual district meeting opened with a full attendance of ministers and representative laymen. The tabulating of the reports from the different fields occupied most of the morning, and they showed the work to be in a prosperous and growing condition on the district. There has been an increase of 168 in membership, of \$152 in missionary monies, and of \$2,684 in the givings for all purposes. Three churches have been dedicated during the year, and three others are on the way for construction.

Rev. L. Allen asked, on account of ill-health, for his credentials, which were recommended. H. H. Gilbert, W. H. Douglas, B. H. Spence and A. W. Sippell were recommended to college. Wesley Halpenny was recommended to be received as a candidate for the ministry.

A resolution was passed unanimously asking for the extension of the pastoral term to four or five years on the votes of the Quarterly Boards and Stationing Committee as the only condition; also a resolution asking the continuance of the office of Superintendent of Missions, and one expressing appreciation of the good work done by Rev. James Woodworth during the twelve years he has filled the position of Superintendent of Missions.

A pleasing interruption took place immediately on the opening of the afternoon sitting, when the probationers took charge of the chairman, Rev. Dr. Maclean, and presented him with an address and a handsome writing-desk. The Doctor was completely surprised, but rose to the occasion in a feeling and appropriate reply.

Rev. George H. Long was elected to the Stationing Committee; Rev. A. B. Osterhout and Mr. B. R. Hamilton to the Sabbath-school Committee, and Rev. T. J. Johnston and Mr. E. O. Riley to the Epworth League Committee. Mr. W. H. Ditch, of Minnedosa, was elected by the lay brethren to represent the district on the Annual Conference Missionary Committee.

Dr. Maclean filled the chair with his accustomed grace and ability, and Rev. E. J. Hopper, with Rev. A. B. Osterhout and Mr. W. J. Siffert, M.P.P., as assistants, performed the duties of secretary.

Monday, May 30.

District Meetings.

ST. CATHARINES DISTRICT.—The district meeting met in the Welland Avenue church, St. Catharines, May 25 and 26. The reading of the circuit reports excited the usual interest. A regrettable discovery was a small decrease in membership throughout the district. There had been many members received, but the number of removals was abnormally large. Still another thing regretted was a decrease in missionary givings. This decrease would have been larger had it not been for the splendid missionary zeal manifested by the Epworth Leagues. The finances as a whole were much in advance of last year, due to the repairs in church property, and a legacy of \$6,000, bequeathed to the St. Paul Street church, St. Catharines. A beautiful and fitting tribute to the life and work of the late Rev. James Kennedy, was read by the chairman, Dr. Philp. It was ordered to be placed in the district minutes and sent on to Conference with memorial service. Several resolutions were sent to the General Conference through the Annual Conference, one requesting that words emphasizing the sanctity of the Lord's Day be incorporated in the Epworth League pledge; another desiring the issuing of a district minute book fully ruled and otherwise prepared, and another endorsing the Twentieth Century Fund. A fair audience met in the evening of the second day to listen to four addresses relative to Methodism—"Young Methodist People," by Rev. Hugh S. Dougall, B.A., B.D.; "The Social Means of Grace," by Rev. Wray R. Smith; "Methodist Evangelism," by Rev. J. C. Stevenson, and "The Quadrcentenary of Methodism," by Dr. Cornish. Rev. George Calvert was elected to the Stationing Committee.

tee. A complimentary resolution was confirmed and presented to the retiring Chancellor, Rev. John Philp, D.D.

BRACEBRIDGE DISTRICT.—The annual district meeting was held at Huntsville, May 25 and 26, Rev. H. Moore, chairman. There was a full attendance of ministerial and lay members. Examination of ministerial character perfectly satisfactory. The schedules gave a good increase in membership, notwithstanding heavy losses by removals from three fields. Connexional funds are well sustained, the Missionary Fund showing an increase of upwards of \$150. Six probationers were recommended to attend Victoria University. On the evening of the 25th, Rev. W. E. Baker preached an excellent sermon, which was followed by a fellowship meeting and the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Rev. J. E. Wilson, B.A., LL.B., was elected to the Stationing Committee; Rev. J. H. Stonehouse and Sheriff Beltes to the Sabbath-school Committee; Rev. W. E. Baker and Mr. J. R. Boyd to the Epworth League Committee; Mr. W. Hanna to the Missionary Committee. A very complimentary resolution was passed, expressing high appreciation of the services of Rev. H. Moore during the past three years as chairman of the district.—A. T. Ingram, Secretary.

ORANGEVILLE DISTRICT.—The Orangeville district meeting was held in the Shelbourne Methodist church on May 25 and 26. Our returns for the year show an increase in the membership of 109, also an increase of twenty-seven in subscriptions to The Guardian. Although we have to report a decrease in some of the connexional funds, yet in the total amount for the connexional funds there is a hopeful increase. We are pleased to report an increase in missionary subscriptions of over \$100. On motion it was decided to recommend to the Stationing Committee to divide the Mono Road Circuit, a new circuit to be formed of Caledon East, Centerville, Brown's and Wilson's appointments. The new circuit to be called Caledon East. The remaining appointments in the former arrangement to be called Mono Road Circuit. On motion it was resolved to organize a district Epworth League. The following officers were elected: Honorary President, Chairman of the District; President, M. E. N. Pyke, Orangeville; First Vice-President, Mr. W. G. Roland, Shelburne; Second Vice-President, Miss Gladie Meek, Blunt; Third Vice-President, C. W. Reynolds, Caledon; Fourth Vice-President, Mr. Wilfred Richie, Orangeville; Secretary, Miss Priscilla Dynes, Granger; Treasurer, Mr. J. Akitt, Hornby's Mills.

It was suggested to the Executive Committee of the district Epworth League that a convention be held in Shelburne at the time of the financial district meeting.—C. W. Reynolds, Secretary.

TAMWORTH DISTRICT.—The annual district meeting was held at Enterprise on May 25 and 26, 1898. After the usual devotional exercises, Rev. W. T. Wickett was elected secretary of the ministerial session. The examination of character gave an affirmative reply in each case. J. M. Whyte, W. Higgs and L. S. Wight gave very satisfactory answers on doctrinal questions. Rev. M. W. Leigh and Rev. C. Adams were appointed a deputation to convey greetings to the Woman's Missionary auxiliaries in convention assembled. The public meeting in the evening was an enjoyable one, prominent features of the programme being addresses by Mrs. Grange, of Napanee; James Aylsworth and Rev. W. T. Wickett, with choruses by the ministers of the district. On the second day Rev. M. W. Leigh, B.A., was elected secretary, Revs. W. T. Wickett and W. Higgs being appointed assistants. The circuit schedules show an increase in membership and connexional funds. The elections to the Conference committees resulted as follows: Sabbath-school Committee, Rev. C. Adams and C. D. Wagar; Epworth League Committee, Rev. D. C. Day and D. E. Rose; Sustentation Fund Committee, N. Harris; Stationing Committee, Rev. W. T. Wickett. D. E. Rose was elected as lay representative to the Annual Conference Missionary Committee. A strong resolution on the plebiscite was heartily approved.—Montague W. Leigh, Secretary.

PORT ARTHUR DISTRICT.—The first annual meeting of this district has closed its sessions to-day, having been held in the beautiful new church at Rat Portage, Rev. A. Darwin in the chair. Four circuits and four missions comprise the jurisdiction. Territorially it extends from Port Arthur, the gate city for the great Canadian Northwest, lying beautiful for situation on the north shore of Lake Superior, to White Mouth on the C. P. R., a distance of over 400 miles, and then stretching off to the south and south-east as far as Mine Centre, over 200 miles from Rat Portage, thus taking in almost the entire gold fields of the new Ontario Northwest. There are but three ordained ministers and five probationers and candidates for the ministry. On Thursday afternoon the usual ministerial session was opened, a public service was held in the evening, at which the chairman of the district presided. The four young men on the missions were called upon to give a report of their respective fields. These reports were deeply interesting, and were thoroughly enjoyed by the audience. In some of the addresses incidents of missionary life, travel and adventure lent additional charm to the service, and it gave the ministers an opportunity to hear the young men in public address. This feature of our district meeting seems to commend itself to the brethren as likely to add increased interest to the annual meeting for the public where the sessions are held. The reports of the year disclose success in almost every department.

Partly-eight members have been received, on trial, and 124 by letter. Present membership, 646, being an increase of 66 during the year. Connexional funds show an increase of \$191, or a little over twenty-five per cent. For circuit purposes there was raised \$7,486, an increase of very nearly sixty per cent. For ministerial support, \$4,159, an increase of \$704 over last year, or slightly over twenty per cent. The remarkable development of this part of our province has, in the judgment of the district, justified the recommendation to the Conference of the formation of two new missions—one on the main line of the C. P. R., to be called Savanée and Ignace, and the other Mine Centre—the purpose being to supply to some degree the necessities of the work in the mines and among the lumber camps. Bros. Robert Twyers and William Elton were recommended as candidates for the ministry. Elections: Rev. A. Andrews, Stationing Committee; J. W. Saunby and J. A. McKenzie, Epworth League; A. Andrews and P. H. Clark, Sunday-school; J. A. McKenzie, Missionary Committee; Delegates to Conference, P. H. Clark, Rat Portage; R. McKenzie, Murillo; J. A. McKenzie, Fort William; H. Langford, Rat Portage. Next district meeting is to be held in Rat Portage.—A. Andrews, Rat Portage, May 28, 1898.

TORONTO WEST DISTRICT MEETING.—The annual meeting was held on May 25 and 26, in the Parkdale Methodist church, Rev. S. D. Chown, chairman. Rev. E. R. Young, Jr., B.A., was elected secretary. In the ministerial session the death of Rev. Thomas S. Keough was recorded, and Brother Metcalf's request to be superannuated for one year was adopted. A motion was passed to apportion the district to the different churches for the better pastoral visitation, and charitable relief in cases of distress. The following committee was appointed to look into the matter and to report at the financial district meeting: Revs. Dr. Chown, Dr. Tovell, J. A. Rankin and E. C. Laker, and Messrs. J. R. L. Starr, Dr. Watson and Edward Terry.

At the general district meeting the following appointments were made to the Conference committees: Stationing Committee, Rev. J. A. Rankin; Sunday-school Committee, Rev. Dr. Tovell and Mr. J. R. L. Starr; Epworth League Committee, Rev. C. O. Johnston and Mr. H. B. Andrews; Missionary Committee, Mr. Ambrose Kent; Nominating Committee, Rev. W. R. Barker and Mr. J. W. St. John.

A lively discussion was provoked by a resolution introduced by Rev. J. A. Rankin proposing that the representatives to the General Conference be taxed \$10 each for the purpose of diminishing the debt of the General Conference Fund. Out of the discussion the following amendment was evolved and carried: Moved by Bro. Tovell, seconded by Bro. Rowe: "That in view of the heavy liability resting on the General Conference Fund, this Toronto West District would memorialize the General Conference to take positive and practicable steps to devise some equitable method by which the financial ability of the Methodist Church shall be secured in an effort to wipe out the entire indebtedness."

Resolutions were also passed to strike out the qualifying clauses with regard to longer terms of pastorates; asking for more equal representation of laymen at the district meetings; adopting the reforms suggested by the Prison Reform Committee as to indeterminate sentencing, reorganization of reformatories, classification of prisoners, etc.; requesting the preparation of new schedules. A resolution expressing brotherly sympathy with missionary Dr. J. A. Jackson, who is home ill, was passed, and also one of thanks to the chairman for his brotherly supervision during the year, and congratulating him on being made a Doctor of Divinity.

The secretary presented a report showing the total membership for the district to be 6,403, an increase of 407 over last year. This report gave such pleasure that the members arose and sang the doxology.

The invitation of Wesley church to hold the next annual meeting in that church was accepted.

—E. RYERSON YOUNG, JR., B.A., Secretary.

General Conference Delegates.

Following are the delegates elected from the British Columbia Conference to the General Conference: Revs. J. F. Betts (president), T. Crosby, E. Robson and C. Ladner, with Joseph Hall as alternate. Laymen,—D. Spencer, J. R. Ashwell, Dr. Boulton and A. C. Wells, with J. Tuttle as alternate. Rev. J. F. Betts was also chosen representative to the General Board of Missions.

The following are the delegates from the Bay of Quinte Conference to the General Conference in the order of election: Revs. T. W. Joliffe, S. J. Shorey, W. R. Young, B.A., W. J. Crothers, T. M. Campbell, Dr. Burwash, N. A. McDiarmid, W. J. Joliffe, B.C.L., Thos. Manning, M.A., Dr. Dyer, E. Roberts, Caleb Parker, Dr. N. McCamus, Dr. Workman, J. P. Wilson, B.A., O. R. Lambly, D.D. Lay delegates,—S. P. Ford, M.D., J. M. Smith, E. D. O'Flynn, William Johnston, W. E. Tilley, Ph.D., Judge Dean, W. F. Hall, R. W. Clarke, J. Shier, G. D. Platt, D. J. Bonter, T. Wickett, T. Courtice, J. A. Holgate, J. R. Fraser, R. J. McLaughlin. Dr. Mallery was elected delegate to the Missionary Committee.

The following are the delegates from the Montreal Conference: Revs. Dr. E. B. Ryckman, Dr. W. I. Shaw, Dr. T. G. Williams, Dr. A. C. Courtice, Dr. Griffiths, Dr. Rose, Dr. Jackson, Hugh Cairns, F. Chisholm, J. E. Mavety, D. Winter, W. Timberlake, J. Elliott, W. H. Shinsley, T. J. Mansel, S. G. Bland, F. G. Lett, Dr. Hunter, W. Blair. Three more will be added.

Laymen.—John Torrance, Charles Morton, J. Macdonald Oxley, Samuel Finley, J. H. Carson, J. W. Knox, S. J. Carter, Montreal; A. Shaw, Dr. Lavell, M. B. Britton, Kingston; J. Bissell, Brockville; W. A. Whitney, Brockville; J. R. Lavell, Smith's Falls; Judge Deacon, Pembroke; W. W. Stumbles, W. Gliddon, Ottawa; W. H. Lambly, Inverness; Col. Moorehouse, Sherbrooke; W. H. Dalgleish, Huntingdon; J. Ternaman, Prescott; H. Hughes, Hexton; J. A. Tomkins, Granby; Reserves, E. Seybold, Ottawa; W. Anglin, Kingston; W. R. Allison, Dunbar.

Personals.

M. C. Cameron, M.P., West Huron, is the new Lieutenant-Governor of the Northwest Territories.

N. C. Wallace, M.P., was re-elected Sovereign Grand Master of the Grand Orange Lodge of British America.

Miss May Bowes, B.A., of Brantford, has been appointed organist of the Park Baptist church, that city.

Madame Dandurand, wife of Senator Dandurand, and one of the cleverest of French-Canadian writers, has been appointed an officer of the French Academy.

Mrs. W. Thompson, organist at Baillieboro', Bay of Quinte Conference, has been presented with a handsome purse and complimentary address.

At the last regular meeting of the Board of Management of the Fred Victor Mission, Mr. J. A. Hill, Ph.B., was made an honorary member of the board in recognition of faithful service in connection with the work during the past four years.

In a letter to the Mission Rooms under date of April 2, the Rev. Dr. Hart announces the safe arrival of Rev. B. B. Ewan, M.D., and wife, at Kiating, China, in the best of health and spirits. After a few days rest they would go on to Chentu, which is to be their future field of labor.

At a joint meeting of the trustees, leaders and stewards of the Methodist church at Bridgen, a resolution was passed expressing high appreciation of the pastor, Rev. T. R. McNair, who is leaving the circuit after a two years' pastorate. Mrs. McNair was also kindly spoken of.

Rev. A. C. Borden, writing to Halifax, from Tokio, Japan, under date of May 5, says: "Dr. Carman arrived safely, and brought his usual good cheer. Neptune dealt kindly with him. He leaves to-day for Kofu and other stations. After a tour of about three weeks he will return in time for Conference."

Rev. S. G. Staples, who is leaving the Avon Circuit after a three years' pastorate, was honored a few evenings ago by the members of the Avon League, who gathered at the parsonage, where they read an appreciative address to the pastor, and presented him with a handsome gift.

In its report of the Bay of Quinte Conference missionary meeting The Globe says: "This Conference missionary anniversary will be long remembered, chiefly for the able, eloquent and impressive address of Dr. Henderson, who, in a most impassioned manner, called for interest in and workers for the great outstanding foreign mission fields."

The Rev. John Bennett Anderson, widely known as the Singing Evangelist, whose visit of some twenty years ago will no doubt be remembered by many in this country, purposes spending the present summer in Canada. Mr. Anderson requests that ministers or churches desiring his services shall address him in care of the Book-Room at Toronto, and to these he will give his personal attention.

The Whitby Chronicle, in referring to the meeting of the Bay of Quinte Conference which was held in Lindsay says: "If you can, get your eye on Rev. Dr. McDiarmid's cane. It is made from wood taken from the Hay Bay Methodist church, the first Methodist church built in Upper Canada in 1792. The wood is therefore over a century old, and at the time of the centennial celebration, Mr. Richard Duke, had the cane with a silver head, and presented it to the president of the Bay of Quinte Conference, to be handed on to his successor. Each president has a silver band bearing his name placed around it, and the last name to be added is that of Dr. McDiarmid."

Rev. F. L. Brown, of Elmvalle, writes: "Less than a year ago one of the most devoted and consecrated young ladies on the Elmvalle Circuit bade farewell to home and friends, and started on her way to South America to join the missionary workers. When she reached Buenos Ayres, she (Miss Maggie Locke), was united in marriage to Mr. W. B. Sallans, who had spent a few years as a probationer in the Toronto Conference. Mr. and Mrs. Sallans were appointed by the M. E. Church to open a school, and to carry on evangelistic work in Bahla Blanca, Argentine Republic. They had been thus engaged for about six months when Mrs. Sallans, who had accompanied her husband to Conference, was smitten with typhoid fever. She was ill but eight days, when death claimed her, April 15. Owing to the great distance the sad news did not reach her parents until May 26. It is needless to say they are almost prostrate with grief. Both the bereaved parents and husband have the sympathy of the entire community."

Ministerial Invitations.

For a Third Year—

Rev. G. Agar, Angus.

Rev. T. G. Scott, Markdale.

The Family.

"Choose ye this day whom ye will serve."

MOVE TO THE FORE!

Move to the Fore!

Men whom God hath made fit for the fray;
Not yours to shirk, as feeble ones may,
Not yours to parley and quibble and shirk;
Ill for the world if ye do not God's work.
Move to the Fore!

Move to the Fore!

Say not another is fitter than thou;
Shame to the manhood that sits on thy brow!
Own thyself equal to all that man may;
Cease thine evading; God needs thee to-day.
Move to the Fore!

Move to the Fore!

God himself waits, and must wait till thou come;
Men are God's prophets, though ages lie dumb;
Hails the Christ-Kingdom with conquest so near?
Thou art the cause, then, thou man at the rear!
Move to the Fore!

—James Buckham.

CHILD-STUDY AND CULTURE.

V. SPIRITUAL MEANING OF PLAY.

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Play is the first means of developing the human mind in the effort to make acquaintance with the outward world. The effort to collect original experiences from things and facts, and to exercise the powers of mind and body will give nourishment to the spiritual life.

From very early babyhood a child will appreciate a play long before he can talk or understand your talking to him. We can easily see what a natural channel of development play is, because we can only further develop through what the child understands. A child is easily attracted by motion, and laughs consciously before he is attracted by sound. Now, if we attract the child by some amusement, let it be a step in its development, and as he grows let his playthings grow with him. This does not mean to be always fussing over a tiny baby, disturbing its rest and exciting it unduly. Every baby, no matter how much he sleeps, has his wake time, when he gazes around inviting attention. These are the hours to be utilized by the watchful mother for her babe's development through her own sweet communion with him. At this play-time any other members of the family will gather around and all their gentleness and loving nurture will be given out. This is the family unity that is to be kept sacred and unbroken. A child's spiritual life can be more largely expressed through games because his whole body is brought into action. The best way to strengthen the divine in him is to bring into use as many powers of activity as possible.

The spiritual life within is the divine spark in every human being God has made. It is God's thought, and through play we help him to manifest it. Let us watch the children at their play and see if the games they play are any help to their spiritual life. If the play strengthens the physical life in its highest phase and the mental in its highest phase, are not these the channels through which the spiritual life flows, and will it not be developed?

Children's actions and words tell us what class and kind of children they have chosen as playmates, or in many cases the locality their parents have brought them to, from which they are to choose their companions. Choose the locality in which your children live and play. Consider their welfare as well as the convenience to father's business.

Every living thing is a temple to hold some thought or purpose of the Creator. By bringing into the child's play the things of the outside world he will be one in spirit with the most beautiful characteristics of these creations by performing the duties they perform, and by playing as they play, also by arousing and strengthening his sympathy with nature. When the children have seen birds building their nests, suggest to them the play of nest-building. Let them be a bird, and care for the young birdies and fly and bring worms to feed them. The arms stretched out and moved up and down will be the wings, and if there are not a number of children, dolls and blocks will do for the baby birds. Bird life and bird ways are of intense interest to children. Every living creature appeals to them, but birds have a stronger hold than creeping things, because of their freedom of flight and family life. Why should not the child be interested? Are not these only other members

of the great family world of which we are also members, and have the one Father? The child feels the unity; foster that God-given love in him. When once you have set him on the right track he will find plays for himself.

If you have a patch of ground, even if it is small, put your children into it, and let them dig, thus gratifying one of their first instincts. Assign them a mud-pie place, and give them some utensils to use in it, and you will see your children happy and joyous over an old sieve, pan or spoon, and appreciate the pie made for you and father and others. Just think! Sometimes it takes hours to make a mud pie, and how grateful we should be to anyone who thinks of and works for us so diligently.

If possible, let them also have a garden in which to plan seeds and care for the plants. Now comes forth the cry, "their clothes will get dirty." Have an old dress or suit for the digging and dirty time, and a clean one for the clean time, teaching your child to discriminate and find out the value of dress. With each dress comes a new duty. Keep a good dress for Sunday, so as to help the Sabbath to be a day of welcome, because there is a sweet freshness which comes over children when the clean clothes are put on.

Give the child, if you can, some animal life to cherish and watch. Give him a board and saw and hammer; let him build and reconstruct, using his activity in the right direction. Give no time to allow him or her to grow in the wrong direction, and refrain from calling out "don't" instead of "do."

Your interest must always be with the children, whether you are personally present or not. Talk over their plays and give them your counsel frequently. Keep them when you can in actual work or pursuit, which is filling their life for the time. This thought applies to fathers as well as mothers. How many parents in after years are grieved when their sons and daughters do not make a companion and confidant of them, instead of pushing out of their lives and considering their parents intruding on their (the children's) rights! And is it not in many cases an intrusion when parents, who have just let their children grow up outside of their love and interest, interfere with the choice of the sons and daughters by trying to bring about a unity of feeling and thought that was in the first broken by them? The underlying principle of so many of the kindergarten games is Love. So Froebel knew the value of this power upon which to build the true and noble character of man.

The outward expression of the divine thought in the child is manifested by love, and by playing mother bird, pigeon and many other games. His love or divine thought is deepened because love gains by being spent. It is our duty to help him spend it in the right direction, in the love of the highest good, so that the gain to him may be the development of the spiritual, which is the highest life.

We can help the child to be a truer reflection of God's thought by placing him in the full view of his divine love. Help him to know it, feel it and express it; for when he loves and communes with nature and man, his soul is brought into fellowship with God. When choosing the plays for children, think in what way will he be developed. When any one thoughtlessly induces a child to close his fists and punch another while that one punches back, in what direction will you lead the child's activities? Is there a mental or spiritual gain in this exertion?—because all activity helps to develop some thought, whether low or high. What is this squaring up a symbol of?—a fight without a cause, a defence when it is not required. It may seem simple to parents, but children will do the same outside, and it does not mean fun then, but the developing of a revengeful spirit. If you wish to develop his muscles, in this direction, a punching-bag is an excellent thing.

In choosing games, the choice of toys must not be overlooked. Any toys that require too much work from the child, heavy breathing, pushing and driving, are very injurious to the child, and require so much strength while he is with them that he has a tendency to frown at you when you visit him. He leaves his childish eagerness with the toys, and has none left for any new things.

Let nature be our guide in play. See how hard a bird works, every day finding its food, feeding its family; but also see how, after all its daily labor, it can end the day with a sweet song. Fathers and mothers are to the children types of everything great and good and true in this world. Be it and live it. Live up to the rules you require your children to

obey, and let the Rule Golden be a guide along the pathway. Do unto your children as you would that they should do unto you, and when they are old they will not depart from it.

THRIFT.

A lady gives the following instance of what can be done by intelligence and economy: A young woman came into my home, several years ago, as nurse girl. She remained six years. She was the daughter of a well-to-do farmer, was bright and intelligent, and remained with us and attended school three years. When she left she was appointed principal of a primary school in a small city. She taught one year with great success; and then married a man with an income of \$75 a month. Both purposed some time to have a small fruit farm, and agreed to live on \$35 a month and lay by \$40 monthly towards that farm. For years they lived very prettily on about \$400 a year. The wife could paint a little, do fancy work, and grow beautiful house plants, and when they built their first home she sold geraniums, pinks and pansies to help pay for the bay-window she wanted in their living room. They own a ten-acre farm, a good stone house, barn, horse, carriage, cow, chickens, beautiful shrubbery and plants, and fruit trees, and it is all paid for and a margin left for emergencies! There are two little girls in the home, prettily dressed, and bright scholars.—Canadian Baptist.

FRIGHTENING CHILDREN.

Never frighten your little ones into obedience with foolish threats. Many a timid, shrinking and cowardly man has to thank the experience of his nursery days for this defect in his constitution. It is wicked and cruel to tell a child that if he is naughty the black man will take him away or something equally terrifying, as foolish nurses and careless mothers have learned to their cost. Small wonder if the child whose susceptible mind has been tainted with stories of the supernatural grows up a hopeless, cowardly specimen of humanity, unfit to fight the battle of life.—Ex.

ETHICS OF THE UMBRELLA.

What ought to be done, ought to be done. He who borrows an umbrella ought to return it because it is borrowed. Umbrellas are for rainy days, and the borrower ought to be willing to carry an umbrella on a fair day in order to get it returned to its owner in time for him to use it on the next rainy day. So long as he is in debt, and could pay the debt by dispensing with a little vanity, or by a little exertion, and yet does not discharge his debt, he is not strictly honorable. The umbrella is not, "only an umbrella," it is a point in morals. Many a man has started upward or downward in life from the day he struck an attitude toward his neighbor's umbrella.—S. S. Times.

LETTER TO THE FAMILY.

Dear Friend,—The last time we talked together you longed for peace. Your house is not a home, but an arena, where the members of the family box and fence and fight. You have no influence over them; indeed, your weak interference only adds fuel to the flame. Your husband blames you for the state of affairs, and takes the children's part against you—which makes your lot a very hard one—for, if the husband does not honor the wife, there is an end to all happiness, and the mother becomes either a virago or a slave.

A friend said to me not long ago, "I am tired of this twaddle about mother and the sacredness of motherhood. I do not think children would be happy if they were not scolding their mothers."

Whose fault is it when homes are not an entrance to heaven? I do not like to write it, but I am sure it is generally the mother's fault. Indulgence, instead of discipline; weakness in place of firmness, and self-respect. Broken promises and an impulsive, spasmodic softness, followed by hysterical anger, instead of a gentle but determined insistence on obedience and respect.

Ruskin says: "Queens you must always be, queens to your lovers; queens to your husbands and your sons; queens of higher mystery to the world beyond, which bows itself and will forever bow, before the myrtle crown and the stainless sceptre of womanhood." But, alas! you are too often idle and careless queens, grasping at majesty in the least things, while you abdicate it in the greatest.

It is not too late to mend, but you must hurry and get back to your throne, remembering that she who cannot rule herself cannot rule a child.

Yours in the strife,
MARGHA.

The Children.

NOBODY KNOWS BUT MOTHER.

How many buttons are missing to-day?
Nobody knows but mother.
How many playthings are strewn in her way?
Nobody knows but mother.
How many thimbles and spools has she missed
How many burns on each fat little fist?
How many bumps to be cuddled and kissed?
Nobody knows but mother.

How many hats has she hunted to-day?
Nobody knows but mother—
Carelessly hiding themselves in the hay?
Nobody knows but mother.
How many handkerchiefs wilfully strayed?
How many ribbons for each little maid?
How for her care can a mother be paid?
Nobody knows but mother.

How many muddy shoes all in a row?
Nobody knows but mother.
How many stockings to darn, do you know?
Nobody knows but mother.
How many little torn aprons to mend?
How many hours of toil must she spend?
What is the time when her day's work shall end?
Nobody knows but mother.

How many lunches for Tommy and Sam—
Nobody knows but mother—
Cookies and apples and blackberry jam—
Nobody knows but mother—
Nourishing dainties for every "sweet tooth,"
Toddling Dottie or dignified Ruth?
How much love sweetens the labor, forsooth?
Nobody knows but mother.

How many cares does a mother's heart know?
Nobody knows but mother.
How many joys from her mother love flow?
Nobody knows but mother.
How many prayers by each little white bed?
How many tears for her babes has she shed?
How many kisses for each curly head?
Nobody knows but mother.

—Selected.

DADDY WARREN'S POPPIES.

"I wish I had a few of those poppies, Daddy Warren," sounded Bert's frank little voice from the region of the gate.

Daddy Warren responded crossly. Perhaps it was the broiling hot August afternoon that made him feel cross. Perhaps he realized what a forlorn, lonely old man he was, living by himself in his little gray cottage, surrounded by beds and beds of scarlet poppies. At any rate, he raised himself from his chair till he could see the blue band on Bert's white sailor hat, and then he shook his cane and cried: "Get out, you bad little boy! You can't have nary a poppy nor a seed."

There was a sudden silence, but Daddy Warren detected no stir of retreat at the front gate.

"Hey!" he called, "ain't you gone?"

"No," replied Bert's cheerful little voice. "I'm waiting for you to change your mind. Aunt Jane sometimes changes hers when her head aches and she speaks quick. Does your head ache?" Bert's tone had a confidence in it that was irresistible.

"Come in," said Daddy shortly, and as he stepped promptly within the gate, he looked him over with a softening of his gnarled old face.

"You're a city boy, aint you? Now, what do you want o' my poppies? Don't you know I sell my poppies? No, no. Can't give away flowers in this village. Lor, they'd lug off the roots and the seed pods."

Bert's face fell. "Sell them, do you?" he said. "I haven't any pennies left in my bank. Not a one. Oh, dear!"

"Always sell 'em," returned Daddy Warren firmly. "But what be you so crazy about poppies for?"

"There's a fellow I know who worked in the livery, and a horse stepped on his foot and hurt it, and he lives way back where it's so hot and dusty. Yesterday I took him a big bunch of water-lilies, and to-day I thought I'd give him—"

"My poppies, hey?" interrupted Daddy Warren, dryly. "Givin' other folks' property for charity."

Bert felt himself rebuked, and his gaze fell. Suddenly he lifted his little flushed face.

"Daddy Warren," he said, "this little fellow I know has been so good to me, and he loves flowers so. I have a little puppy, all my own, though Aunt Jane says he's a nuisance. Could I—could I pay him for poppies? He's a nice puppy, and I love him."

Daddy pulled at his pipe two or three times and said slowly, looking hard at Bert:

"Yes, you bring me your puppy and you kin have a whoppin' bunch of poppies. A trade's a trade, though. Poppies'll die, but the puppy is mine."

Bert never hesitated, but ran off to Aunt

Jane's stables. In twenty minutes he was back, and laid the little black and tan Dachshund in Daddy's lap.

"Aunt Jane said: 'Thank goodness, sell him,' when I asked her," he declared breathlessly.

Daddy's old hands were fondling the dog. His face looked eager. His dim eyes brightened.

"See here, little chap, I was only a-tryin' you," he said. "You can go an' pick every poppy a-blowin'. If you want to, and, oh, I should like this little dog! He'd be such company for a lonely old man! Can't I buy him of you? He's a good breed, and worth more'n my poppies." Daddy's changed tone reached Bert's heart instantly.

"I'll tell you!" he cried, clapping his hands. "You give me some poppies, and I'll give you my dog. I'd love to give him to you, and I can come to see him, and all three of us can be friends! Won't that be nice?"

"You're an odd chap, sonny," said Daddy with a feeble attempt to be gruff. "I can't see you here too often, and I've got lots of curiosities I can show you. I've been a seafarin' man, you know. Now, lad, let's see you pick poppies," he ended, briskly.

Poor sick Jimmie had his heart and eyes gladdened with a glorious bunch of flowers an hour later. And at bedtime Bert said, "Aunt Jane, I've made a beautiful new friend."

"Who?" asked his aunt, curiously.

"Daddy Warren."

She stopped and kissed her nephew to hide a smile.

"It took you to find a beautiful friend in cross old Daddy Warren," she said.—Selected.

CHOW.

"Chow" was brought over to England from Hong Kong when she was six weeks old. She is a fine dog of a thick, sturdy build, as big as a good-sized retriever, with a very thick, bright brown coat, bushy tail like a fox's, and ears small and soft which stand up like those of a lioness. Her nose is black, and so is the roof of her mouth, and her tongue has black patches on it. Chow is naturally very shy, and when first brought to her new home always wanted to hide under chairs and sofas, and if she followed any of the family a few steps beyond the garden, a horse and cart, or any noise, was quite enough to send her back much quicker than she came. She has, however, been treated with such kindness ever since she has been in England, that she has got more confidence, and now often goes out for long walks with her master and other dogs.

One day Chow and another dog chased a cat; they raced up the field like mad. The cat was up at the top of the field, and in the upper branches of a tree in a trice, and for a time the dogs stood around it and barked, but presently Chow saw a way by which she could get on the hedge, and from there put her forepaws some way up the tree. The frightened pussy rushed down and away across the field, but was soon overtaken. Just at that moment Chow's master came up, and beat off the dogs with a walking-stick. The cat limped away as quickly as she could. Chow's sides were very sore all the next day, from the whacks of the stick. The incident taught her a lesson, and never since has she been known to chase a cat.

Experience taught Chow many a lesson. She used to be fond of killing fowls, chasing lambs and biting them, and such like; but she soon found out that such deeds only brought pain in the end, and now it would be difficult to find a more docile or gentle dog than Chow. At the same time there are some things which she finds it difficult to reconcile. For instance: Why may a man kill a fowl while she may not? Why may she kill a rat and not a cat? and so on. But she seems to know a dog cannot understand everything, and so she lets things go, believing that men, who are a higher order of beings, must know better than she does.—Exchange.

LITTLE THINGS.

Little words are the sweetest to hear; little charities fly the furthest, and stay longest on the wing; little flakes are the stillest, little hearts the fondest, and little farms the best tilled. Little books are the most read, and little songs the dearest loved. And when nature would make anything especially rare and beautiful she makes it little—little pearls, little diamonds, little dew. The Sermon on the Mount is little, but the last dedication discourse was an hour. Life is made up of little things; death is what remains of them all. Day is made up of little beams, and night is glorious with little stars.—Ex.

Memorial Notices

Memorial notices must be brief, or they will be returned for condensation. A limit of about 200 words is suggested in all ordinary cases. These notices should not be religious histories, but characteristic notices of the deceased, and must reach the office within three months of the person's death.

SENNETT.—Frank Sennett was born April 2, 1873, and died on March 15, 1898, at his mother's home, Belhaven, Ont. He was the fourth son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sennett, his father having preceded him to glory about eight years ago. Frank was a beautiful boy—everybody loved him, he was so good-natured and kind-hearted. He was converted during the special services which were held at the Bethel appointment, Sutton West Circuit, in January last, and had been a Christian for about two months. During that time he took an active part in church work, being a member of the choir, etc. On the day of his burial he was to have led a prayer-meeting, had his life been spared. He died suddenly of heart disease, and his death cast a gloom over the whole community. Since then several of his companions have been converted, as well as his brother Silas. The funeral service was held in the Bethel church, and was attended by a very large concourse of people. The writer conducted the service, assisted by the Rev. Messrs. Leonard and Jenkins. The widowed mother and brothers and sisters have the sympathy of all the community in their sorrow. They can console themselves by saying that "Frank is not lost, but gone before." G. L. Powell.

LINTON.—Mrs. John Linton was born in Ireland in the year 1834, and died in the Lord May 18, 1898. Her maiden name was Eliza Bell, and in 1859 she was married to the late John Linton, who passed from earth a little over a year ago. They lived together thirty-eight years, which was a time of happiness and prosperity. Her earlier days were spent in connection with the Presbyterian Church, as was the case with her husband also. But during the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Ellsworth they both united with the Methodist Church. Sister Linton not only became and lived a loyal Methodist—she was more than this, she was a truly devoted Christian woman. Her home was for many years a home where our ministers were all welcomed and well treated, and the support extended to them was liberal. She never fully recovered from the affliction occasioned by the death of her husband. She faded gradually until the end came, and that end was peace. Her attendance at the means of grace was constant to the last. A beautiful home has been left in the township of Fullarton for a better home above. Seven sons and two daughters are left behind to mourn the loss of a loving mother. It is our hope and prayer that each and all of them will so live as to be enabled to meet their parents where there shall be no parting. J. C. Nethercott.

HODGINS.—Jane Thompson Hodgins, fourth daughter of Henry and Mary Jane Thompson, was born in the township of Kinloss, in the county of Bruce, July 26, 1872. She was converted to God about four years ago in special services conducted by Evangelists Johnston and Sutcliffe. She became the wife of Mr. Walter Hodgins, January 3, 1895. Her married life was very happy. Indeed, her defects were so few and her excellencies so numerous, that she secured the very high esteem of the entire community around her, and the tenderest and strongest affection of those who knew her best. She had been a member of the Epworth League. For two years before her marriage she presided at the organ in the church choir. She had been in delicate health for some time. About seven weeks ago her second daughter was born. Her strength gradually declined; notwithstanding all that medical skill, tender nursing and fond affection could do she continued to sink into weakness and exhaustion. Her heart was filled with the praises of God, even when she could only feebly give utterance to them in faltering song. Death had no sting. The tendrils of her affection loosened their earthly clasp of loved ones. She counselled them to meet her in heaven. Thus passed peacefully away to the better home a dutiful daughter, a loving sister, an affectionate wife and mother, the first of a family of twelve children nearly all grown to maturity. A large funeral followed her remains to the Lucknow cemetery. May all meet her in heaven! N. S. Burwash.

POINTON.—Father Pointon first saw the light of day in the county of Norfolk, during the dawning years of the century, thus having lived under the rule of four monarchs of England. Just about the time of her Majesty's accession he emigrated to Canada, and grew up with the "new country," bringing with him a faith in God. He settled in what is now the township of Whitchurch, never wandering far from the original spot, so that at the time of death he had been a citizen of our township for over sixty years. During the early days in this country he seems to have grown somewhat lukewarm in religious matters, though not for long, for in a camp-meeting not far from our Bethesda appointment, responding to the appeal, he "went forward to the penitent bench," weeping his way to peace, and arising, no bounds could thenceforth restrain his expressions of his faith in God whenever opportunity offered. For a great many more years than the average travelling preacher he exercised the gift of local preacher, and was al-

ways ready to be anything for his Master and his church. The wife of over fifty years' companionship preceded him to the better land by about fifteen years. The family consisted of four sons and three daughters, but with grandchildren and great-grandchildren the number is nearly seventy. In later years Father Pointon grew very feeble, but strikingly illustrated the fact that mental and physical may fade, but the spiritual correspondingly increase. As often as possible he was found at church services, though over ninety, and his presence was always known, for the loud "Amen" and other responses was not a "lost art" to him. On April 10 he was at church for the last time. The next day, April 11, a spell of weakness not unlike others, brought extreme prostration, and with the day his spirit peacefully passed to be with the rejuvenated forever. A. P. Brace.

RICHARDS.—A very sad and distressing occurrence took place at Kinlough, county Bruce, Ont., on Friday, April 23, 1898. Our dear brother, James Richards, Jr., was in his saw-mill adjusting a band around a revolving wheel, when his foot slipped, throwing him upon the shaft. He was caught and whirled around in a frightful manner. His limbs were broken and his body dreadfully bruised. During about fourteen hours he lingered in agonizing pain. But "the peace of God which passeth all understanding," kept his heart and mind through Christ Jesus. His "consolation abounded in Christ." He had been converted to God in special services conducted by evangelist Ruttle and others between five and six years ago. He had developed into church trustee, Sabbath-school teacher, and also into a very acceptable and useful local preacher. The Quarterly Official Board passed a resolution expressing high appreciation of his character and usefulness, and also of condolence with his sorrowing friends. The esteem in which he was held, and the sympathy felt for his sorrow-stricken relatives, were manifested at his interment, and at his memorial service, by the presence of two of the largest assemblages ever gathered together in the locality. His melancholy removal at about thirty-four years of age is a solemn warning to "be also ready." May the sorrowing ones all meet him in heaven! N. S. Burwash.

HAMILTON.—About half-past ten on Thursday night Mrs. William Hamilton, of Locksley, passed away to her everlasting rest after many years of suffering. Over fifty-eight years ago the deceased was born in East Hawkesbury, county of Prescott. Her residence in Locksley community extended over a number of years, during which among the friends and neighbors and in the Methodist Church (of which she was a faithful member and attendant) she gained the esteem and confidence of all who knew her and kept it until the close of her earthly life. In Mrs. Hamilton's death the church and community lose a faithful friend, but it is in the home where she will be most missed, by the kind husband of her more youthful years, and the children—two sons and seven daughters—left to mourn her loss. Their loss is her eternal gain. About ten o'clock on Sabbath morning a large gathering of friends and acquaintances from near and far gathered at the home to pay their last tribute to their departed friend, and to mingle their tears of sympathy with those of the bereaved. An appropriate service was held by the pastor, Rev. Mr. Beamish. The funeral procession, which was nearly half a mile long, wended its way to the silent resting-place of the dead, where the beautiful burial service of the Methodist Church was read, and all that was mortal of Mrs. Hamilton was laid in the grave. "She sleeps the sleep of the faithful in Christ Jesus, to await the bright resurrection morn."

CALDWELL.—Forest Caldwell suddenly passed to his reward on the morning of May 5, in his sixty-sixth year. He was converted during the ministry of the late Rev. B. Nancekivel, and became one of the most devoted members and strongest supporters of the Methodist church at Carp. His seat in the church was seldom empty. His voice was seldom still in the social means of grace, and it was a rare thing for his purse to be closed when the church funds required aid. We shall always think of him as an industrious, economical, kind, hospitable, good man. He was unassuming, never coveting honors, but was always willing to help in every possible way. In this testimony he frequently said, "I love the Lord, and I love his cause." In his last testimony he desired to be faithful to the end and his life was a manifestation of it. Three weeks before his death his home was consumed by fire, yet while his loss was heavy he never murmured, but many were the words of praise and thankfulness to his neighbors who, by hard work, prevented the fire from consuming the barns. There was no dying testimony, no parting words, for he retired in good health, and about three o'clock stole away to Jesus. "Blessed are the dead who died in the Lord." The funeral was very largely attended, the Rev. W. S. Jamieson, of Almonte, assisting the pastor. J. M. Tredrea.

CALDWELL.—Frances Maxwell was born at Kildore, Cavan county, Ireland, May 8, 1818, and triumphantly passed to the better land April 20, 1898. With her parents she came to Canada in the year 1827, and settled in Aylmer, Quebec. At this time they belonged to the Church of England, but through the earnest labors of the early Methodist preachers she was led to see herself a sinner, and was converted when fifteen years of age. On March 26, 1840, she was married to Samuel

Caldwell, of the fourth concession of Huntley, who sixteen years ago preceded her to the better world. Mrs. Caldwell was one of the first to encourage the Methodist preachers in the pioneer work of this township, and for years her house was the preacher's and The Guardian's home. At home, as well as in the love-feast or the class-meeting, she gave evidence to the saving power of religion. One who knew her for about sixty years, said of her, "She was a genuine Christian." Her children are loyal members of the Methodist Church. Revs. John Ferguson, John McLaren and the pastor, conducted the funeral services. J. M. Tredrea.

ANDERSON.—John Anderson was born in the township of Ameliasburg, Prince Edward county, on April 9, 1820, and died April 14, 1898. In 1840 he married Miss Mary Roblin, who preceded him to the better land some three years ago. In early life he gave his heart to God, and remained a humble, faithful follower of Christ to the end. His neighbors had confidence in his Christian integrity, and his most intimate friends believed that he walked with Jesus. He was blessed with an abundance of the good things of this life, but in these things he recognized the divine hand, and with a willing and liberal heart he aided the different institutions of the church of his choice. His seat in the house of God was seldom vacant. It was to him a source of great grief when declining health deprived him of the privileges of the sanctuary. Loved ones, who would gladly have had him stay longer, tenderly cared for him during his last illness and now are consoled by the prospect of a happy reunion beyond the river. "The memory of the just is blessed." M.

PAUL.—Ann Paul, whose maiden name was Pool, was born in Dumfries, Scotland, 1817; came to Canada and settled in Markham, 1850; married Thomas Paul, 1853; moved to Osprey, county Grey, 1856, where she lived and walked with God for over forty years. The beautiful fruits of the Spirit—love, joy, long-suffering, gentleness and patience shone out in her daily life. For nearly three years I visited her, always returning with a sense that I had received more help and instruction in the way to God than I was able to give. She was a true mother in Israel; every Christian effort had her sympathy, every troubled one felt the force and power of her wise counsel and Christ-like example; her cheerful confidence, her hopeful trust in the Lord during years of great suffering, proved a blessing to all who knew her. Hattie, her granddaughter, who tenderly nursed her for years, testifies to the tenderness and sweetness of her spirit, which made it a special privilege to soothe her in pain and trouble. On the evening of March 26, 1898, she crossed "Time's River," now no more she heeds the bubbles on its breast, nor feels the storms that sweep its shore. Her end was peaceful and triumphant. Three sons, a daughter and a lonely husband mourn the loss of a faithful wife and mother. Thomas Legate.

JOLLIFFE.—James Jolliffe was born in Cornwall, England, February 23, 1817, and died at his residence in the village of Avon, April 18, 1898. In 1833 he was married to Mary Ann Blake, who still survives him. The family consisted of eight sons and five daughters. Three of the sons have passed over the river before him, while there is left to mourn the loss of a kind and thoughtful husband and an affectionate father, the wife and five sons and five daughters. The great joy of his declining years was that he had been spared to see all of his children converted to God. He had eleven brothers and sisters, of whom there are but two now living—Richard, of Avon (father of Rev. Thomas Jolliffe), and a sister in England. He came to Canada in 1852, landing at Bowmanville. That fall he moved to Dorchester township, where he secured a good home. He was converted at seventeen and shortly after licensed to exhort; was a faithful member of the Methodist Church for sixty-four years. He suffered for fourteen years with cancer, before being happily released from pain. His end was peace, choosing for his funeral text Isa. xli. 10. From the beginning of his severe affliction he felt that the Lord was leading him through the dark valley of suffering and sorrow for some wise purpose, knowing that some time he would explain the wherefore of each grief and pain. In writing to his son three months before his death, he said, "I take happy inventory of my mercies, and try to keep the windows of the soul open towards heaven." His last audible words were, "I am going home." So he lay down to sleep in the evening to awaken in the glorious morning of eternal day. S. G. S.

MOOREHOUSE.—Sarah Conn, beloved wife of Joseph Moorehouse, of Smith's Falls, Ont., died at Edina, Que., on April 7, after a short attack of pneumonia. She was born in North Emsley in 1833, and was converted to God at the same time as her husband, during a camp-meeting at Wolford, conducted by Rev. Silas Huntingdon, and at once united with the Methodist Church, of which she has been a faithful and consistent member ever since. Of late years Bro. Moorehouse has acted as supply on some of the hardest missions of the Montreal Conference, and it was amid the hardship and loneliness of one of these fields that our sister ended her life. Her piety was unostentatious but deep, and she lived in the affection of those amongst whom she labored as a true helpmeet to her husband. Her dying testimony was, "I have given myself entirely to the Lord and I know it is all right." Alfred A. Radley.

The Christian Guardian

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Montreal Conference.

Montreal, May 31, 1898.

The fifteenth annual session of the Montreal Conference assembled this year in the metropolis of the Dominion—Montreal.

At nine o'clock this morning the ministerial session was opened by devotional exercises. Rev. J. B. Saunders, D.D., presiding. A hymn was sung, the secretary, Rev. W. H. Sparling, B.A., read the Scriptures, and Revs. Dr. Griffith and F. Chisholm led in prayer. A second hymn was sung, and Revs. Alex. Campbell and R. G. Peever offered prayer.

The roll being called eighty-seven ministers answered to their names. Many others entered a little later, having been misled by an error in printing the announcement in the billet sheet as ten instead of nine o'clock for opening.

The president named, and the Conference elected, the following brethren as a committee on Conference Relations: Revs. W. Jackson, M. Benson, J. M. Hagar, M.A., F. C. Reynolds, W. Raney, J. Webster, E. S. Morrison and J. T. Pitcher (ex-officio).

Revs. A. R. Orser and Elisha Tennant having been recommended by their districts to be restored to the active work if suitable fields can be found for them, their cases were referred to the Committee on Conference Relations.

Rev. A. W. Mills, having left the work irregularly, it was decided to drop his name in silence.

The following resolution, proposed by Rev. Dr. Jackson, seconded by Rev. G. G. Huxtable, was adopted: "That this ministerial session of the Montreal Conference respectfully request the General Conference to make such representation to the General Conference of the M. E. Church in the United States, as in its judgment it may deem proper, regarding the reception of ministers and probationers of our church into theirs without official credentials."

A number of probationers having completed their course of studies were recommended to be received into full connection and ordained. Their names will appear in the list at the reception service.

Probationers of four years: R. B. McAmmond, S. F. Newton, W. D. Farrar, A. E. Knapp, Richard Eagleson, G. J. Crabbe.
Three years: E. W. S. Coates and W. J. Williams.

The hour of adjournment having arrived the Rev. Dr. Courtice pronounced the benediction. In the afternoon Rev. G. McRitchie led in prayer, and the question of three year probationers was again taken up. They are as follows: J. H. Milhar, W. W. Anglin, T. W. Bailey, W. L. Rowan, E. H. Tippet, Thomas Powell, S. L. Harton, T. J. Vickery, W. A. Hamilton, G. E. Bates, M. E. Wiggins, John A. Edwards.

At this point Rev. Dr. Briggs, Book Steward, was invited to the platform, and in his usual—and this year, perhaps, even more than usual—happy manner, he delighted the Conference with his exceedingly encouraging report. It showed that prosperity marked the year's business in every department of the building; more sales in books and stationery, larger total circulation of Guardian, Magazine and Sunday-school papers; more turn over in the manufactory, and more profits as net result financially. This year the Book-Room makes the largest grant to the Superannuation Fund that it has ever made, namely, \$10,000. The Doctor's racy, witty and withal, substantial and highly satisfactory report was followed by loud applause and vote of confidence and gratification. The resolution was proposed by Rev. Dr. Williams, seconded by Rev. Dr. Ryckman, and heartily endorsed by the Conference. The Book Steward also reported on behalf of the Montreal Book-Room, and spoke in high terms of the faithfulness, ability and success with which the business of this house had been conducted by Mr. Coates.

The name of J. H. Colborne was dropped in silence for irregular withdrawal from our work.

Two year probationers: Isaac Norman, Elwood Lawson, W. T. G. Brown, S. H. Jones, M. L. Wright, J. W. Davidson, W. Wood.

One year probationers: J. I. Hughes, A. S. Cleland, T. A. Halpenny, R. H. Whiteside. The name of C. W. Service, B.A., was up when the time of adjournment arrived.

EVENING MEETING.

The annual lecture before the Theological Union was delivered by Rev. Salem G. Bland, B.A., in the Mountain Street church. There was a large attendance. The lecture was, of course, a very thoughtful one, and the literary composition and delivery most excellent. The

subject was, "Climatic Changes Now Proceeding in Religious Thought and Life." It was followed by a discussion, in which Revs. Messrs. Rose, Jackson, Hewitt, Baldwin and Courtice took part.

Rev. S. G. Bland, B.A., was appointed president for the ensuing year; Rev. W. Sparling, B.A., lecturer, and Rev. J. W. Cliphams was re-elected secretary. The meeting was presided over by Rev. James Elliott, B.A.

June 1.

Another beautiful morning. Most of the ministers have now arrived. President Saunders announced a hymn, and after singing, Revs. J. Watson and C. A. Sykes offered prayer.

On motion of Rev. W. Jackson, D.D., seconded by Rev. F. Chisholm, the following motion was, by a very small majority, adopted, namely, That the pastoral session be requested to appoint a committee to consider and report on the best means of securing the correspondence of the number of candidates for the ministry received with the absolute needs of the work, and the prospective resources of our funds.

The case of G. R. Mackintosh, B.A., B.D., was laid over for consideration of Examining Board. On motion it was resolved that the case of R. C. Armstrong and all other candidates for our ministry be relegated to a committee composed of one minister from each district to be nominated by the chair of each district. This produced the following committee: Revs. Dr. Shaw, Dr. Jackson, W. G. Henderson, J. T. Pitcher, W. S. Jamieson, M.A., John Webster, S. Huntington, P. A. Jourdan, F. McAmmond, F. A. Read, E. A. Davis, C. E. Bland, W. N. Chantler.

In answer to the question, What candidates are now received on trial? the following names were submitted: G. R. Mackintosh, B.A., B.D., R. C. Armstrong, James Gillan, A. C. Hoffman, A. A. Wall, G. R. Kitching, F. A. Magee, Howard Philp, Albert B. Argue, Daniel B. Wyman, B.A., Archer H. Booth, L. H. Booth, L. F. Fisher, Robt. W. Dalglish. In the case of Bro. Magee the year is to be allowed when the corresponding studies are completed.

Superannuated ministers: Thos. Harris, A. McCann, A. E. Geoffroy, Jas. Brock, John Holmes, Wm. Shortt, Alex. Drennan, Richard Whiting, Jas. O'Hara, S. E. Maudsley, Joseph Follick, S. Shibley, L. A. Betts, S. Might, H. F. Bland, W. Barnett, John Ferguson, S. B. Phillips, R. M. Hammond, W. L. Scott, Charles Taggart, Geo. McRitchie, W. J. Hewitt, W. Adams, J. Davies, Herman Fowler, J. H. Fowler, Thos. Bell, A. Parent and W. J. Hunter, D.D. The last name to be referred to the Committee on Conference Relations. Superannuaries: John Hiscocks, Mitchel Sadler, Thomas Rennie.

Rev. Prof. Patton, registrar, reported for the Wesleyan Theological College, Montreal.

A committee for considering the needs of the work was nominated by the president consisting of four doctors, namely, Revs. Messrs. Jackson, Courtice, Ryckman and Williams, and Rev. W. H. Emsley.

In the afternoon the session was opened by the singing of a hymn, and the offering of prayer by Rev. E. S. Howard.

The following was moved by Rev. F. G. Lett: That we hereby express to Bro. A. L. Holmes our deep sympathy with him in his affliction, and the prayerful hope that he will be speedily restored to the work from which his cheerful spirit and clear and cautious counsel are so much missed. The resolution was seconded by Rev. Dr. Williams, and cordially carried.

The case of Rev. Dr. Hunter was taken up, and his superannuation was not recommended. The report of the Examining Board was read by Rev. W. Philp, B.D., the very efficient secretary, and was adopted. The recommendation of the committee in reference to Rev. A. F. Bland was ordered to be laid on the table.

A conversation took place in reference to membership in the church, occasioned by a memorial from the Perth District. The memorial will likely be presented to the full Conference, to be dealt with. A few other items of minor importance were attended to, and Conference adjourned a little before four o'clock.

EVENING.

At seven o'clock this evening Rev. Prof. Patton gave a lecture in the Dominion church on "Discoveries of a year in relation to the Bible." It was exceedingly interesting and instructive, and it was regrettable that time did not permit the lecture in full. Rev. A. E. Sanderson presided. The lecture was listened to with deep attention, and was followed with appreciative applause. This was followed by a jubilee sermon by Rev. John Armstrong, which was a characteristic one, and was frequently applauded during its delivery, as well as at its close. The invitation system, as well as other innovations were touched off in the ex-president's telling manner. His reference to early Methodism, and his reminiscences of his own earlier ministry were highly appreciated. His text was Isaiah lxiii. 7.

At the close of the afternoon session a very large number of the members of Conference and their wives accepted the kind invitation of Mrs. S. Finley to an "At Home" at her beautiful residence on Bishop Street.

June 2.

This morning, at eight o'clock, a meeting was held in the Sunday-school room of the St. James' church for the study of the epistle to the Galatians. It was presided over by Rev. J. T. Pitcher. The lecturer was Rev. Dr. Ryckman, who gave a most admirable paper, giving a brief outline of the country and people of Galatia, of the writer of the epistle and its peculiarities, etc. Remarks were made by

several brethren at the close. It is much to be hoped this very instructive and suggestive essay will be printed.

Omitted to say that a prayer service was held yesterday morning, conducted by Rev. J. Webster.

OPENING OF CONFERENCE.

At nine o'clock, in the spacious St. James' church, the president, Rev. Dr. Saunders, opened the Conference, a large number of both ministers and laymen being present. Various hymns were sung, a Scripture lesson read by the secretary, Rev. W. H. Sparling, B.A., and prayer was offered by Revs. Dr. Shaw, John Armstrong, J. T. Pitcher, Thos. Harris and Messrs. E. Dickson, Dr. Lavell, W. H. Lambly and A. E. Kemp. It was a good Methodist prayer-meeting, conducted in the "scriptural attitude of kneeling" in prayer. The roll was then called, and 163 ministers and 77 laymen answered to their names. Several came in later, and so the Conference numbers over 250.

The Conference being organized, balloting for president was proceeded with, resulting in the election of Rev. Dr. Griffith, of Brockville, who, although lacking a few votes of majority on first ballot, was so far ahead of any other that on motion of Rev. Dr. Williams, seconded by several ministers and laymen, the Conference unanimously and most heartily declared the esteemed chairman of the Brockville district duly elected as president of the Montreal Conference for the ensuing year. Rev. Dr. Saunders, the retiring president welcomed the president-elect in a few appropriate words, assuring him of the sympathy of each and all of his brethren, and the new president briefly and suitably addressed the Conference. Dr. Griffith will make a worthy successor to Rev. Dr. Saunders, who has made a most efficient president, and retires with the kindest regards of the whole Conference, which greatly regrets his removal to another Conference, and hopes for an early return.

Rev. Salem Goldworth Bland, B.A., was elected on the first ballot, having received more than the necessary number of votes, and on the announcement being made, Bro. Bland was warmly applauded, and briefly and felicitously addressed the Conference.

The following resolution was then proposed by Rev. Dr. Shaw, which was eloquently seconded by his Honor Judge Deacon, and unanimously adopted by the Conference, with both vote and hearty applause. Dr. Saunders was called to the platform to receive the thanks of the Conference, and in a very feeling manner acknowledged the kindness of his brethren, assuring them that the larger share of his heart would still be with them. This is the resolution:

Resolved, "That we hereby record our cordial esteem for the retiring president, the Rev. Dr. Saunders, M.D., D.D., and our high admiration for the urbanity and ability with which he has performed the important duties of his office during the past year. It is with profound regret and sorrow that we anticipate his immediate removal from our Conference, but in his transfer to the London Conference we will follow him with confident expectation that by the blessing of God his ministry shall, as in the past, be honored of God in the extension of the kingdom of Christ."

Rev. H. Cairns pronounced the benediction. Rev. Dr. Griffith, president, opened the session in the afternoon, announcing a hymn and calling on Rev. Wm. Timberlake to offer prayer.

After the reading of the minutes the newly-elected secretary, Rev. S. G. Bland, B.A., nominated as his assistants, Revs. W. Philp, B.D., Silas James Hughes, M.A., and Mr. James Knox; also, Rev. Charles D. Baldwin as journal secretary, and Rev. James Lawson reporter to The Christian Guardian. All these nominations were confirmed by the Conference. It was ordered that for special purposes the following probationers be ordained, namely, Bros. McEwan, Eagleson and Edwards.

Rev. W. H. Stevens was appointed to sign railway certificates, and Rev. W. P. Boshart to receive monies for the Wesleyan Theological College.

Rev. Drs. Williams, Ryckman and Rose were appointed a committee to examine obituaries of deceased ministers before being read in the memorial service.

The following young men are recommended for college: E. W. S. Coates, S. F. Newton, B. W. Thompson, T. W. Bailey, E. H. Tippet, M. E. Wiggins, W. A. Hamilton, J. A. Edwards, G. J. Crabbe, S. H. Jones, W. Wood, J. H. Miller, R. B. McAmmond, Thomas Powell, T. J. Vickery, J. W. Davidson, W. D. Farrar and S. L. W. Harton.

Rev. E. Thomas reported for the Nominating Committee. The crowded state of The Guardian columns will be accepted as a sufficient reason for not entering names of committees here, as it would take up a great deal of valuable space.

Rev. Dr. Courtice addressed the Conference at some length, in reference to a couple of memorials, one of which was in reference to transfers, which he maintained should be made as easy as possible; and the other in reference to the very unsatisfactory state of the law in reference to the ministerial term. He advocated a regular four-year term, rather than a possible fourth or fifth year as at present. Dr. Courtice was listened to with much attention and heartily applauded.

The respective district secretaries reported memorials on various subjects, most of which were referred to the various committees for consideration.

Rev. W. Timberlake, secretary of the Stationing Committee, reported several recommendations for the formation of new missions. Where such changes are made will be seen when the stations are published.

The benediction was pronounced by Rev. J. Follick.

EVENING.

At eight o'clock Rev. J. E. Mavety announced a hymn, which, being sung, the fifteenth Psalm was read, and Rev. Melvin Taylor led in prayer.

After disposing of some routine work Mrs. (Rev. Dr.) Shaw and Mrs. Ross were introduced, the latter, who is president of the Montreal W. M. Society, then addressed the Conference in reference to their work. The report showed that the W. M. S. has done and is doing a large amount of work in Japan, among the Indians of the Northwest, etc. A strong appeal was then made in behalf of the society, and the speaker was warmly applauded. A somewhat lengthy resolution of approval of the work done by this society was moved by Rev. Dr. Ryckman, seconded by Rev. Dr. Rose and cordially adopted by the Conference.

Rev. Principal Shaw then addressed the Conference in behalf of the Wesleyan Theological College. The report showed the gross income for the year to have been \$3,615.64; increase, \$209.55; net, \$3,570.76; balance brought down, \$75.48. Refunds by former students, \$476. Total income, \$4,122.24; increase, \$540.81.

Rev. J. T. Pitcher then reported for the Stanstead College, and was followed by Rev. Dr. Flinders, the efficient principal. It was shown that the college is doing most excellent work. Rev. Dr. Shaw spoke on behalf of the college and the Conference adopted the report.

A resolution asking the General Conference to give the Stanstead College the same recognition as Alma and the British Columbia Colleges, as connexional institutions, was proposed by Rev. Dr. Jackson. It was strongly opposed by Rev. J. Elliott, B.A., who feared more money would be asked and diverted from its more legitimate use.

As Dr. Courtice, the accomplished Editor of The Christian Guardian, had to leave Montreal in a short time, it was decided to let the college matter lie over, that the connexional Editor might address the Conference. Dr. Courtice referred to the reading clubs, and said they would be continued. He then spoke of the class-meeting and spoke warmly in its behalf, and promised to do all in his power to aid the leaders, and suggested reading clubs for them, as well as for the Epworth League. Next he spoke of The Guardian, reading many extracts from ministers and others, showing reasons why some do not take it. Dr. Courtice showed the importance of all church members, especially all official members, being readers of the church organ. The circulation was shown to be much larger this quadrennium than the last, though on account of the reduced price the profits have been very much less. The address was followed by prolonged applause.

Mr. J. M. Oxley then addressed the Conference in behalf of The Guardian, proposing a resolution of sympathy with, and appreciation of, our church paper. Rev. Dr. Jackson seconded it, and it was adopted by the Conference.

Conference adjourned at ten o'clock, Rev. Dr. Hunter pronouncing the benediction.

June 3.

RECEPTION SERVICE.

Friday evening, as usual, was a specially interesting one in reference to the work of the Conference, and a very large audience assembled. The meeting was preceded by an organ recital by Prof. Stevens, of London, England, which was much enjoyed.

The opening hymn was announced by Rev. Dr. Rose, and Rev. W. G. Hudson led in prayer. The choir gave a most beautiful anthem.

The secretary then presented the names of fourteen young men to be received into full connection with the Conference, and after a few very appropriate remarks by the president, and a solo and chorus by the choir, the president called on six of the young men to relate their conversion and call to the ministry.

Herman E. Warren said: I owe the Methodist Church a lasting debt of gratitude. My earliest recollections are of a Methodist home with Methodist literature, etc. Mr. Warren was glad of his college life and of the associations during his education. He spoke of a book that had a good influence on him in his boyhood. An incident occurred when he was teaching in a quiet school, and one day a little boy raised up a Bible he (Mr. Warren) had been reading, and said, "Here, teacher, here's a Bible." He felt that he was proud. He knew not then as he knew now, that friends were praying for him. He then spoke of a revival meeting held in his home village, when he rose up and went to the altar. For a week he struggled and prayed. One night, on his way home, running after two boys to ask how he could get the light they professed, he seemed to hear a voice saying, "Thou art saved." Light came to his mind, and his heart was filled with joy. Another crisis came. He felt anxious to find the rest of the higher life, and he then felt he should be a Christian minister. For seven long years he refused, and attended to other pursuits, but after having been spoken to first by Rev. Seymour Bell, and later by Rev. C. S. Deeproose, he yielded and gave himself to God and the church.

W. S. Lennon said: A little over eight years ago, in Sherbrooke Street church, he felt he had passed from death unto life. He almost immediately felt a call to preach the Gospel of Christ, and it was in perfect harmony with the longings of his heart. He was constantly getting a deeper insight into divine truth.

A. S. Ruppells said the duty laid on him just now involved speaking of himself though with reluctance. He was trained by a Christian mother. He gave himself to God in this church in 1889, when Crossley and Hunter held

services here. He was led by Rev. Melvin Taylor to give himself to the ministry. He felt that God was love, and went forth to proclaim these truths to humanity.

J. J. Oke said his mother was his spiritual mother. About nine years ago he was led to seek the Saviour. He was converted in his bed-room. He was for some time sorely tempted of the devil because he was not converted in a revival meeting, or by some great preacher. But he thanked God the work was the same. He was conscious he was saved. He felt a great responsibility, a burden for souls—that he should be a mighty saving power in the world, in the community where he lived. He rebelled for about six years, feeling he was not qualified, but when he consecrated himself to God the way was opened up. He wanted his life to be of service to those around him.

J. H. Williamson said his mind was drawn back to his early days. He did not remember a time when he did not love God. In early life he felt his heart drawn out to things spiritual, but for some time he had not the witness of the Spirit that his heart was cleansed from sin. After continual calls by the Spirit of God, he gave his heart to him. He then felt a call to preach. In teaching school he began to try to explain the Scripture to his pupils, and try to lead them to Christ. Shortly after this, one Friday evening, he promised the Lord he would do whatever he required of him. He consecrated his whole life to God, and promised to do anything for him. He was sent to the Tichborne Mission to fill a vacancy for two months. He felt his inability, but did the best he could, and although he rebelled against the Spirit, after all his promises, still, as God had opened up the way, he had concluded he should follow his teachings. He prayed that if it were God's will he would open up the way, and God had led him to the present. By the grace of God he would do all he could to save souls, and do a minister's duties faithfully.

Daniel Mick said the story of his conversion was the old story of a wayward soul, and a loving Father, for God was willing to receive all who were willing to come to him. He spoke of a godly mother, who said to him, "Don't you think you should begin to serve God while you are young?" But not till Bro. Cummings labored on the Micksburg Circuit, did he give his heart to God. He then promised that if God would give him the witness of his Spirit he would go out and serve him. Before his conversion he felt he ought to be a minister. But his call also came from the church. There was no place he would rather preach than the little church at home, where God pardoned his sins. He did not want to fight the Spirit of God. He did not want to question, but enter the open door. He was much impressed with Dr. Ryckman's remark some time ago, that God not only called men into the ministry, but sometimes out of the ministry. He was glad to do what God had for him to do. He consecrated to God his all.

A hymn was sung, and Rev. Dr. Shaw was called on to move the reception of the young men, whose names are as follows: Richard Black, William G. Bradford, Hugh Geo. Cairns, Edmund Wesley Halpenny, S.T.L., William Halpenny, Walter Stanley Lennon, B.A., B.D., Daniel Abner Lough, S.T.L., Daniel Mick, S.T.L., John James Oke, Archer Eli Runnels, S.T.L., Herman E. Warren, M.A., B.D., Arthur Wesley Williamson, James Hodge Williamson and John Henry Wright.

Dr. Shaw showed that ordination to the ministry of the Methodist Church was not ordination to the priesthood, which has forever passed away. He showed, also, that ordination did not necessarily imply the imposition of hands, though this was an old custom. The Doctor spoke of other kinds of ordination practised by various churches. He showed that the ordination was valid in the sight of God and men, and reminded the young men that they would stultify themselves if they should ever submit to any other. He also showed that ministers are called by various names in the Bible, such as presbyters, elders, bishops, etc., but no one should be a "lord over God's heritage." He showed that preaching was the prime requirement of our system, but he thought our educational course was superior to that of any other branch of Methodism in the world. The speaker showed that a young man before entering our ministry must be converted, and also called to the office and work of the Christian ministry. The address was most able and interesting.

The resolution was seconded by Rev. Hugh Cairns. He regarded this as an important service. First to the laity of the church. He reminded the laity that they held the key of the outer door to this ministry. It was a solemn thing to say no to one who was called to the ministry. It was important to the ministry. The older ministers rejoiced to see others entering the ranks. It was the supreme hour of their lives to these young men. Allusion was made to the influence of godly mothers; also of Sunday-schools, young people's societies, ministers, etc. He hoped the time would never come when we would seek to prepare men for the ministry without the call of God. But he believed in a cultured ministry. Eternity alone could tell the story of what these young men would do for God. The speaker referred to his own ordination class thirty-two years ago, many of whom are gone to their reward. We want men of flesh and go, so that their word will reach the heart. He supposed they would have some hard fields to work, and some cranks to meet, but they would have the rich experience of saints in the church who have been saved for years; they would have sinners to save, the doctrines of God's Word to preach, and he trusted they would have entry into their eternal reward.

President Griffith then called upon all the ministers present to show by a standing vote their concurrence in the resolution just moved and seconded. The ministers present rose to their feet, after which the president briefly and fervently addressed the young men in words of earnestness and wisdom.

Rev. G. McRitchie dismissed the audience.

June 4.

In the absence of Rev. Dr. Griffith, through indisposition, Rev. Dr. Williams was called to the chair. Rev. Eber Crumley, B.A., B.Sc., offered prayer. Mr. Arthur Brown presented the report of the Memorial Committee, which was considered item by item. First, as to the public reception of catechumens; second, as to society representation being made compulsory; third, against ministers becoming candidates to Parliament. This was laid over, and will come up again. A lengthy discussion then took place on the matter of registering baptisms in Ontario. The item was re-committed to the Memorial Committee.

The item recommending the Sudbury and Nipissing Districts being transferred to the Toronto Conference next came up. Rev. Silas Huntingdon was called on to speak, followed by Rev. W. Blair, as well as several not in those districts. The vote being taken, the recommendation prevailed.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Jackson the General Conference was requested to add the Napanee and Tamworth Districts to the Montreal Conference in lieu of the other two.

Rev. Dr. Griffith returned and occupied the chair for a time, after which Dr. Shaw was called to the chair.

A resolution by Rev. G. G. Huxtable re the Superannuation Fund, was next considered, providing that those Conferences that pay their full assessment shall have their claimants paid in full. The motion prevailed.

A memorial was entertained favoring more definite legislation in reference to church membership.

Quite a lengthy discussion was indulged in regarding a change of time in holding our annual Conference. This question has been canvassed pretty thoroughly several times before, but always with the same result, namely, that it is now held at the best time of the year, all things being considered.

Rev. Dr. Jackson again brought up the matter of ministers offering themselves as candidates for Parliament, which he strongly opposed, and was followed by Mr. J. M. Oxley, who made a strong appeal for freedom in this matter. His views were supported by Rev. J. M. Tredrea. Dr. Ryckman spoke strongly against binding ministers in this way. Rev. Thomas McAmmond, Judge Deacon and Rev. J. B. Hicks, B.A., opposed men who were called to preach, leaving their work for politics. Rev. G. A. Bell would leave the matter with ministers themselves, but thought no man should remain a minister and receive aid from the Superannuation Fund while serving as a member of Parliament. Mr. W. R. Allison supported Dr. Jackson's motion. Rev. John Armstrong wound up the debate, except the mover, in his own witty manner, thinking most ministers were in no danger of being called to Parliament. Dr. Jackson spoke in conclusion. The vote was taken, but the motion did not prevail, so matters stand just as before.

This morning a paper was offered by Rev. E. Thomas at the meeting for the study of the epistle to the Galatians. The Guardian reporter unfortunately had to be absent, which he much regrets.

Just at twelve o'clock Rev. J. Scanlon pronounced the benediction. Committee meet this afternoon.

Hamilton Conference.

The fourth ministerial session of the Hamilton Conference met in the old Norfolk Street church, in the city of Guelph, on Wednesday, June 1, at 9.30 a.m.

Everything conspired to make the gathering of the brethren pleasant and inspiring. The Royal City was clothed in her most beautiful garments. Handshakings, greetings, congratulations, rejoicings, thanksgivings to God, lent their influence to the fervent spirit in which hymn 753 was sung by the strong-voiced and warm-hearted band of men present when the Rev. R. W. Woodsworth, the president of Conference, announced it.

"And are we yet alive,
And see each other's face?
Glory and praise to Jesus give,
For his redeeming grace!"

The secretary, the Rev. J. W. Cooley, read in 2 Timothy the second chapter, and the venerable but very energetic Rev. Wm. Savage, followed by Rev. John Wakefield, D.D., led in prayer.

After roll-call, when 112 ministers answered to their names, the president, in a few words of congratulation and thanksgiving, spoke of the presence of God in the homes of the brethren and upon the circuits of the Conference; for while some of the fathers had passed away during the year, there was only one death to record of those in the active work, that of the Rev. R. Wilson, a promising probationer. The president trusted that they had come to one of the most memorable and harmonious Conferences which it had ever been their privilege to attend.

The following brethren had been transferred from this Conference: Revs. J. V. Smith, D.D., George Smith (superannuated), and John Philp, D.D., into the London Conference; while from that Conference we received Revs. John

Mills (superannuated), Geo. F. Salton, Ph.B., and W. Smythe.

On motion, the president nominated the following names to constitute the Committee on Conference Relations: John Wakefield, D.D., John G. Scott, M.A., J. S. Ross, D.D., George Richardson; John Kay, A. E. Russ, M.A., J. S. Williamson, D.D., and W. S. Griffin, D.D., and Wm. Kettlewell, ex-officio.

David Cattanaich, superannuated minister, was recommended to be restored to the active work.

These brethren were superannuated for one year: Revs. Thomas Voaden, C. Stringfellow, James Webb and Thos. Athos. Superannuation was granted to Rev. Wesley Casson, who, in a unique and characteristic address, related his experience as a minister for thirty-two years, and his reasons for retirement from the active work.

A great deal of interest was awakened in the arrest of the name and ministerial character of the Rev. A. Burns, D.D., by the following resolution from the Hamilton District:

Moved by Rev. Dr. Brethour, seconded by Rev. R. Davey, "That we, as a district meeting, regret that Dr. Burns has rented the ladies' college property in the city of Hamilton for hotel purposes, which we believe to be against the whole teaching and practice of our church, thus putting himself out of harmony with the church of which he is a minister. We would therefore recommend that in view of all the facts of the case the whole question be referred to the ensuing Conference for final consideration."

After some earnest discussion and two or three abortive resolutions, and a full statement from Dr. Burns, setting forth the history of his association with the property in question, and his negotiations concerning its rental or sale, the following resolution met the almost unanimous approval of the ministers, and is the final official minute in the case:

Moved by J. S. Ross, D.D., seconded by John Kay, "Whereas, a resolution of the Hamilton district meeting, respecting the leasing by Dr. Burns of his property, known as the Hamilton Ladies' College, for hotel purposes, was presented to the Conference; and whereas Dr. Burns has stated that he had not leased his property for said purposes; and whereas a document from Lazier & Lazier, solicitors, reading as follows, was presented by Dr. Burns to the Conference:

"36 James Street South, Hamilton, Ont.,
21st May, 1898.

"Rev. A. Burns:

"Dear Sir,—This is to certify that you have this day executed a deed of all your interest in the land and buildings formerly known as the Wesleyan Ladies' College, of Hamilton, and situate on the south side of King Street, and the north side of Main Street, between John and Catharine Streets, in the city of Hamilton, whereby you have conveyed away all your interest in said lands and buildings, and that said deed has been duly registered in the Registry Office of the county of Wentworth.

Yours truly,

"LAZIER & LAZIER.

"Therefore, resolved, that the character of Dr. Burns do now pass." Carried.

The recommendation of the Hamilton District that the request of Rev. J. W. Sifton, LL.D., that he be given his letters of standing was granted.

Who are dropped in silence for irregular withdrawal from our work? Ans.—George A. Maudson.

A large number were recommended from the several districts of the Conference to be received into full connection with the ministry and to be ordained. The following comprise the list of those who have successfully passed their years of probation: Thos. P. Perry, W. B. Caswell, George W. Barker, Chas. G. F. Cole, William Willoughby Prudham, B.A., George W. Down, Joseph Douglas Richardson, Arthur C. Eddy, B.A.

Who are probationers of four years and remain on trial? Wm. B. Smith, Robt. H. Bell, B.A., Chas. D. Draper, Andrew David Robb, George Smitherman.

The probationers of three years are the following, Robt. J. McIntyre, William D. Masson, John M. Haith, James H. Holmes, David B. Neely, Charles L. McIrvine, Alfred Tennyson Wilkinson, Robt. G. Green, Andrew S. Colwell, William E. Stafford.

Who are probationers of two years? Alfred J. Johnston, Charles P. Holmes, John W. Worral, Ernest W. Stapleford, Walter L. Sheridan, Richard A. Facey, Albert W. Shepperson, John A. Doyle.

Those who have spent one year on probation and are continued on trial are the following: Victor J. Gilpin, Arthur H. Crosby, Austin P. Misener.

On the list of reserve: Thomas W. Poole.

When the question was asked by the president, What candidates for the ministry are now received on trial? the following resolution was moved by Rev. Wm. Kettlewell, seconded by Dr. Wakefield, and carried: Resolved, that in view of the fact that we already have all the probationers that we need for our circuit work we receive no candidates for the ministry this year, save and except any who may have been taken out under the chairman during the past year; and be it further resolved that no young man shall be employed under a chairman with a view to reception by the Conference during the year.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

Notwithstanding the strong and unusual counter attraction furnished by the presence and performance in the city of Dan, Godfrey's celebrated band, the meeting in the Dublin Street church in the interests of Temperance and Social Reform was well attended and en-

thusiastic throughout. Your reporter is indebted to the Guelph Mercury for the following extracts from its report of the able addresses given by the Rev. J. W. Cooley, Joseph Gibson, Esq., and Rev. J. S. Ross, D.D., respectively:

Rev. John W. Cooley dealt generally with the topic of moral reform. After stating that perhaps the gravest subject to-day was the church in its relation to moral reform, he defined the movement as that which sought to foster every influence opposed to immorality and to repress vice in every form. It was the effort to bring the world up to a perfect standard. It was commonly urged that the church's work was to prepare people for a future world and not concern itself about this one. This was a very erroneous view. It was the church's duty not only to prepare men for a better life, but to make this a better world here. He spoke of the inter-relation of moral reform work; all branches linked themselves naturally together. The Prohibitionist naturally became an advocate of Sabbath observance, as the advocate of the emancipation of the slave had become a Prohibitionist. No social reformer would neglect any branch of the work.

Mr. Joseph Gibson, of Ingersoll, was the next speaker, and his address was a warm appeal for support of the plebiscite. It was no use, he said, for Prohibitionists to doubt what the Government would do after the measure had been carried. Their duty was to roll up such a majority that no Government would dare to transgress their expressed will.

Rev. Dr. Ross, of Brantford, confined himself almost entirely to challenging arguments made use of by Principal Grant. These arguments, he characterized as flimsy, and said that, if nothing better could be employed against the introduction of Prohibition, then that measure was sure of success.

The meeting closed with the usual religious exercises.

THURSDAY MORNING.

The work of the ministerial session was continued this morning, the president, the Rev. R. W. Woodsworth, in the chair.

Several names were sent up from the districts as candidates for the ministry, but in view of the resolution already passed they were not entertained, only in the case of William Edgar Gilroy, who was received on trial, as it came under the exception provided for.

It was generally felt that while it was necessary to exclude so many at the present time, there was cause for rejoicing that a number of very excellent men were standing at the doors of the church that they may serve it and its Head. The resolution, which follows, gives voice to the feeling:

Moved by Geo. A. Mitchell, B.A., seconded by W. C. Henderson, D.D., "That having heard the record of the various district meetings concerning the young men who have been recommended to the Conference to be received on probation for our ministry, we express our great satisfaction with the qualification of these young men as indicated by these records; but, inasmuch as the Conference has decided not to receive any candidates this year on account of the fact that we at present have all the probationers we require, therefore, be it resolved that we cordially commend these brethren to the favorable consideration of any of the other Conferences needing young men."

The report of the Committee on Conference Relations was received and adopted. Besides those already named in this report the case of Rev. Thomas Gee was taken up, and recommended to the Superannuation Fund Board to reconsider its action re commutation of claim. Recommendations were also made in the matter of claims of service upon the part of the Revs. Thomas Boyd and J. P. Bell.

The case of Rev. Dr. Burns created some discussion. It arose out of a difference of opinion as to the amount of his personal assessment. It was left to be decided between himself and the Superannuation Fund Board between now and another Conference.

The ministerial session then adjourned.

Conference Presidents.

The following brethren have been elected to the highest office in the gift of the several Conferences:

London Conference.—Rev. Walter Rigsby, of Blyth.

Hamilton Conference.—Rev. F. E. Nugent, of Hespeler.

Bay of Quinte Conference.—Rev. T. W. Jolliffe, of Colborne.

Montreal Conference.—Rev. Dr. Griffith, of Brockville.

These brethren have all been in the ministry for over thirty years, respectively as follows: Thirty years, thirty-one years, thirty-one years, thirty-four years.

B. K. Sandwell, B.A., '97, at present living in London, England, has been appointed a fellow in classics at Cambridge University. He is also music and art critic upon the London Sketch. As a student at Varsity, Mr. Sandwell was considered the most brilliant student of his brilliant year. He has proved it now.—Toronto World.

On May 23 the choir of Dundas Centre Methodist church, London (fifty voices), under the direction of Mr. W. H. Hewlett, were taken by the pastor, the Rev. E. B. Lanceley, to Brampton, where they gave a grand concert in the Grace Methodist church there. The choir were royally treated by the Brampton people, returning to London the next day by special car.



"For Christ and the Church."

This Department is edited by REV. A. C. CREWS, General Secretary of Epworth Leagues and Sunday Schools, to whom all communications relating to Epworth League work should be sent.

Office: Wesley Buildings, Toronto.

All orders for Charters, Constitutions, Topic Lists or other League supplies, should be sent direct to Rev. Dr. Briggs, Methodist Book-Room, Toronto.

Collections for the Epworth League Board to be sent to the Financial Secretaries of the respective Districts.

W. FLAVELLE, Esq., General Treasurer, cor. Front and Beacall Streets, Toronto.

The discussion of Epworth League affairs in the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South, showed that the organization has taken a very strong hold upon the entire church. Delegates, both old and young, spoke in the most enthusiastic manner of the League.

Mr. Irving G. Penn, Assistant General Secretary of the Epworth League of the Methodist Episcopal Church, is an active worker among the colored chapters of the South. During the past year he has travelled 20,000 miles, delivered 400 addresses, sold over \$2,000 worth of League literature and secured 800 subscribers for the Epworth Herald.

Mr. C. S. Keith, secretary of the British Columbia Conference League, suggests that it would be a good thing for the different Conference secretaries to form a sort of mutual help club to keep each other informed as to what is going on all over the work, and to aid one another by suggestions in regard to methods of work. A good idea.

A postage stamp a week from every member of the united societies of Christian Endeavor, the Epworth League and the Baptist Young People's Union would mean about \$5,300,000. A penny a day from these three societies would give the enormous sum of \$19,345,000, or enough to support 15,124 foreign missionaries, each at a salary of \$1,200 per year. These figures are worth thinking about.

The editor of the League Department of the St. Louis Christian Advocate refers in a very complimentary manner to Rev. Dr. Griffin's speech at the Baltimore General Conference. He says that "the venerable Doctor spoke with all the enthusiasm of a boy in regard to the League, which he seems to believe in thoroughly." It certainly is delightful to find the veterans of our church so thoroughly in sympathy with the young people's movement.

Here are some good subjects for League debates:

Resolved, "That the intellectual progress of the world has kept pace with the material."

Resolved, "That ambition has been a greater evil than blessing."

Resolved, "That the war between the United States and Spain is justifiable."

Resolved, "That women have contributed as much as men to the world's progress."

The Christian Endeavor organ of India tells about a Hindoostanee girls' society at Rakha, in which a great deal of time was wasted because the members failed to take part promptly—a condition of affairs duplicated, we fear, in some societies nearer home. A vigorous and efficient remedy was discovered by the president, who made the announcement that hereafter the meeting would close at once, after the first quiet minute. A marvel of promptness in testimony was the result.

"Mr. Gladstone as a Christian," would make a very interesting and profitable subject for discussion in the League meeting. His religious character, his adherence to Christian principles, his devotion to the Scriptures, his allegiance to Christ as a personal Saviour, would furnish material for several inspiring and helpful papers. One of the most recent testimonies of Mr. Gladstone was this: "All I think, all I hope, all I write, all I live for, is based upon the divinity of Jesus Christ."

It is not an uncommon thing just now to see young men and women of Nashville's best families going from house to house, carrying large white bags ornamented with the C. E. monogram. They are in search of homes for the delegates to the convention, and when they find one, they take from their bags tacks, hammer and a white placard containing the words, C. E. Home, in flaming red letters, and with it label the house. Upon the homes of rich and poor alike, all over the city, may be seen the notices of welcome to the delegates.

Some Sunday-schools hibernate during the winter, and a few Epworth Leagues cease to meet during the summer. It is hard to say which is worse. We noticed, the other day, that a certain League was closing up its work for the season. If the closing of the winter season is regarded as but the prelude for

opening out for the summer campaign, all right, but if not, it is all wrong. The style of work done during June, July and August may be of a somewhat different character from that conducted in January and February, but there should be no cessation of activity. We shall be glad to hear from various societies as to their plans for the coming summer.

The early morning prayer-meetings for bicyclists at the International Convention last summer were so enjoyable and profitable that a desire has been expressed to have them repeated. Arrangements have been made by the Toronto Methodist Cyclist Union to hold a sunrise prayer-meeting at Reservoir Park on Thursday morning, June 9, which is the day appointed for the young people's anniversary meeting of the Toronto Conference. All cyclists will meet at the monument of the late Sir John A. Macdonald, at the entrance to Queen's Park, in time to line up and leave sharp at 6 a.m. Let there be a great rally.

The Lookout presents an idea for soul-winners worth trying: "The Endeavor Society of the West Side church, Chicago, has been holding neighborhood meetings. A room is secured in the neighborhood of the church for one or more meetings, and a special effort made to get the residents to attend. At the meeting everybody receives a personal invitation to come to the regular services of the church. Then the meeting is moved to another place. The idea of bringing the people to the church, instead of taking the church to them, is always best. Mission schools and sometimes mission churches are necessary, but there can be no right condition in the church till the rich and the poor meet together."

The educative work done by our students at the International Convention in Toronto last July in distributing missionary literature and advertising the Missionary Campaign, is bearing fruit in the United States, as both the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, are preparing to inaugurate a forward missionary movement. It has for its object: (1) The organization of a strong Missionary Committee in every chapter of the Epworth League. (2) The placing of a missionary library in every chapter of the Epworth League. (3) The organization of a missionary study class wherever possible. (4) The securing of signatures to a "systematic giving" pledge card.

Secretary Schell says: "Our giving is the measure of our love. It is a beautiful testimony to hear in class-meeting, 'I have given myself without reserve to Christ,' and that is one of the angel hymns with which 'Songs for Young People' begins:

"Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to thee."

But how much we mean by them is known most surely by the way in which we live the week following the testimony and the singing of the hymn, and by the amount we contribute on the day the missionary collection is taken up. It is Phariseism of the most vicious sort to sing:

"Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold,"

and then give twenty-five cents for missions."

AMONG THE LEAGUES.

The secretary of the Young People's Society at Locust Hill, writes: "Our League is in a flourishing condition. Our hobby is practical Christian work. We are all of the opinion that doing good gets good, and our aim is to make a business of the League work, as well as a spiritual recreation. All our departments are in a bright and healthy condition. On Tuesday evening, F. J. Johnson gave a paper on "Why I am a Methodist," which was very interesting and instructive."

The following is an extract from the report presented by the president of the Epworth League of Christian Endeavor, of Orillia, at the recent anniversary service: "We are pleased to be able to report substantial progress in nearly all the various phases of the society's work. In the past year we have adopted the constitution of the Canadian Epworth League, which has brought us more into touch with the work of the church of which we form a part. We have had a deepening of spiritual life among the members, and also a large increase in the attendance and interest at our public services. We have received thirty-two active members, and thirty-four associate into membership in the past year. Our roll-call of membership now shows fifty-eight active, thirty-four associate and thirty-six honorary members, a total of one hundred and twenty-eight. The number of visits made under the auspices of this society to the aged and infirm, totalled two hundred and thirty-three, the number of bouquets sent to the sick, was one hundred and ninety-seven; ten jars of fruit and other delicacies were also sent among the sick and convalescent. At Christmas sixteen baskets of provisions were sent among the deserving and needy, and helped to bring Christmas cheer to those who received them. We have also left among the different hotels and boarding-houses of this town to be given to travellers and others a total of two hundred and twenty-six written invitations to attend our church services. We have paid on our special fund for the liquidation of the church debt the sum of \$57.50; on our Missionary

Fund we collected \$21.53; on our poor fund we received \$5.80, which was paid to church treasurer; and our unclassified receipts totalled \$8.75. Our total receipts for the year were \$93.58, our disbursements \$71.88, leaving a balance on hand of \$21.70. In conclusion, we beg to offer our heartfelt thanks to our esteemed pastor and honorary president, for his kindly assistance since coming into our midst, and to all those who have aided us in any way in the past."

FOR THE ARMY.

The United Society of Christian Endeavor is planning evangelistic services in behalf of the United States troops, both regulars and volunteers in the camps, and also in the moving army. Circulars have been sent to the different unions urging co-operation with the Young Men's Christian Association in tent meetings and in personal work on evenings and on Sundays, and in forwarding Bibles, religious papers and books to the nearest camps.

WESLEY GUILD.

Reports of the work done by the Wesley Guild in England during the past winter are of the most encouraging character. The number of Guilds is steadily increasing, and the whole movement is deepening in spirituality and earnestness. A long list of contributions from the various branches gives plain evidence that the young people of our church mean the work to be self-supporting. The Guild, the new penny monthly, is a decided success. The young people welcome it, and already the circulation exceeds the number expected during the first year. Evangelistic work has held a prominent place on most Guild programmes, and now, in numerous centres, cycle clubs are being formed to carry on similar work in the villages during the summer.

LOYALTY.

In these times of interdenomination meetings, where we, no doubt, get broader views of our Master's work, we should be careful not to allow our spirit of fellowship to drift into a frothy sentimentality. We believe in catholicity of spirit, but we do not believe in so dissipating our forces that we can give no real strength to any cause or enterprise. The most patriotic and useful man to his country is not he who runs from one division of the army to another to join a great hurrah, but he who has a special company of his own, fills his place in the ranks, sees that there is not a weak place there for the enemy, and while he fights at his post shouts a word of cheer to his brother in the next company. The church member who is so liberal that his religion and church relations stand for nothing, does not help his own church or any other.

Sometimes all the companies, and corps and regiments and divisions come together for a great onslaught, and a great victory is won; but at once each man must return to his own special post of duty in order to preserve the fruits of victory.

A church member can no more be useful to the cause of Christ by running hither and thither all the time than can a pastor properly serve his church and spend the most of his time in some other charge.

Let our young Leaguers be liberal and brotherly, but at the same time let them stand at their own posts of duty—having a definite work to do, and do it.—Atlanta Christian Advocate.

THE CRISIS IN THE LEAGUE.

All movements have to pass through a testing time which decides the question of their perpetuity and importance. The Epworth League is no exception. No movement in Christendom was more favorably received and applauded than this one. But its novelty has passed away. The time for criticism has come. The phenomenal growth of the organization has passed away. The time for ordinary steady increase has come. Our church papers are raising the question as to its utility and spirituality. Some pastors are questioning its place and power. The crisis is upon us. If our Leagues can impress the church of their real spiritual help, the future of the League is as bright as the millennium. If they fail in the crucial test of these days, the League will wane and die in spite of all its prestige. We are not fearful as to the results. We believe in the League. We believe it will realize all the best anticipations of its friends.

But it is a critical hour. Leaguers, live near to God! In the Church, South, the coming General Conference is to act decisively on the League. In our own church certain tendencies are unfavorable to the League. Upon ourselves depends the issue. If we will keep on in the Spirit of Jesus, humble and trustful, all will be well. If the League prove herself worthy, the "fittest shall survive." Let the bugle blow, and every Epworth Leaguer to his post!—Omaha Christian Advocate.

Like flakes of snow that fall unperceived upon the earth, the seemingly unimportant events of life succeed one another. As the snow gathers together, so are our habits formed. No single flake that is added to the pile produces a sensible change; no single action creates, however it may exhibit, a man's character.—Jeremy Taylor.

PRAYER-MEETING TOPIC.

JUNE 19.—MY MISSIONARY DUTY: GO OR SEND.

Rom. x. 14-17.

BY REV. THEO. J. FARR, B.A.

If we refuse to communicate to others the Christ-life, we have received, we shall lose it. The important question for Christians to ask is not, "What will become of the heathen who have never heard of Jesus?" but "What will become of us if we disobey the Master's command by refusing to send them the Gospel?" If we allow the fires of enthusiasm for souls on the altars of the church to go out, the church is doomed. Our Leagues will become the mighty forces in our church life which we expect them to be only as this zeal for the spread of the Gospel is generated and maintained and increased. All life is sustained by respiration, and respiration is a double function of nature. We must not only inhale the air around us, but we must exhale it or die. We must breathe out what we have breathed in, or that which is the source of life will become the cause of death. So the Christian who seeks to absorb all the good he gets from God and man—retains all he receives—is in a fair way to die of moral suffocation. We must communicate to others the life, we have received from Christ, or be in danger of losing it. Such is the forceful figure presented in The Missionary Outlook, furnishing a powerful motive to missionary endeavor. As Christians we must go or send, or be parties to dire distress coming upon the church. President Woodworth recently told of the experience of thirty Baptist churches in a certain large district in regard to missionary procedure. Twenty-eight of these thirty churches resolved to cease their missionary givings. The remaining two decided to continue their missionary enterprise, and cultivate the missionary spirit. Time went on—time, the great justifier or condemner, under God, of all human conduct—and it was observed that these twenty-eight non-missionary churches, which refused to obey our Lord's command: "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature," ceased to exist, lost the very vitality which they withheld from others; while the two churches which maintained the missionary spirit and activity grew and flourished.

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE.

There is reason for thankfulness to God on the part of the church, that progress has been made in the mission field. Since the day of Pentecost a vast host of humanity have heard the glad tidings of salvation—a work which may be regarded as a distinct fulfilment of the Saviour's commission. The beginning of the modern missionary movement, however, dates from the year 1792. The converts to Christianity in heathen lands one hundred years ago did not exceed three hundred; now, at the close of the century, they number nearly nine hundred thousand. And counting adherents, the number of Christians in heathen lands rises to three millions. Throughout the world the number of nominal Christians is four hundred millions—no small number indeed, as compared with that early assembly of Christians—the twelve men and the Master in the upper room of the Holy City.

WHAT IS YET TO DO.

But great as is the number of nominal Christians, the number of non-Christian and heathen is much greater. If there are four hundred millions of nominal Christians on the globe, there are at least one thousand millions of non-Christian. What a multitude in darkness, blacker than night! It is estimated there are eight hundred millions of people outside of Canada who have never yet heard the name of Jesus, of whom eighty thousand are dying every day. Call the roll! India, population 287,000,000; Christians, 300,000. China, population 430,000,000; Christians, 30,000. Japan, population 40,000,000; Christians, 35,000. Africa, population 200,000,000; Christians, 600,000. Whole nations practically unevangelized: Anam, population 20,000,000; Afghanistan, 8,000,000; Soudan, 100,000,000. Tibet, Mongolia and Arabia are lands with great populations, which have scarcely been touched by the influence of the Gospel. What a dismal sight! A crowd of human beings standing hand in hand, and reaching around the globe eighteen times, who have never heard the glad message of Jesus and his love. Surely there is something yet to do! "Why stand ye here all the day idle?" "Look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest."

HOW TO DO IT.

1. Stop unwise and unnecessary expenditure as a nation, and divert the means thus saved into proper channels. For example, the whiskey bill for Canada stands at nearly \$38,000,000. The leading societies of Canada contributed for missions in 1891, the sum of \$350,632. This sum would not pay Canada's liquor bill for four days. The drink bill of the United States for one year is one billion dollars, and the tobacco bill six hundred million dollars. The same country contributes for missions in one year less than five millions of dollars. Now, missions cannot be carried on without money, and if professedly Christian nations squander money in this prodigal fashion on unnecessary things, and withhold their means from the extension of the Gospel, it will be a long time indeed before the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of our God and of his Christ.

2. Adopt systematic, persistent and liberal giving to missions. Introduce into your



All communications for this Department should be sent to the General Secretary of Sunday-schools and Epworth Leagues, REV. A. C. CREWS, Wesley Buildings, Toronto.

HOW TO ACCOMPLISH MOST GOOD FOR THE SCHOLARS.

Good work requires good officers, and a pastor should secure his best church member, all things considered, for the position of superintendent. He needs to be more than a Christian, more than popular, more than social, more than a lover of children; he must be energetic, forbearing, well-read, of business experience, and must have had a good training in the various branches of Sunday-school work. His individuality must awaken all sympathies and hold them in a bond of Christian union. He must possess the ability to unlock the qualifications and the good-wills of his co-workers, as they should possess the power to unlock the hearts and confidences of their pupils. By tact and judgment he must ever manage well. He must plan ways and means for financial support and due entertainment of the Sunday-school. A Sunday-school cannot be well run without money any more than without charity. He should have the choice of his assistant superintendents, of whom every school should have two or more, who can be relied upon to fill important vacancies on a moment's notice. Harmony everywhere is highly essential to good work and good results.

For good results we must also have system everywhere. Order is heaven's first law, and a Sabbath-school can accomplish nothing without it; we need system in assembling, in arrangement of classes, in adjourning to classrooms, in returning, in collection and distribution of libraries and papers. Without system all our efforts must be much discounted, and little is done in the Sunday-school hour. Librarians and secretaries and other officers should study how best to cause the least possible disturbance of and interference with the teachers and classes. Libraries can be left in convenient places before the school opens. Libraries and papers can be best distributed by aid of the teachers immediately after closing.

Since ignorance leads to sin and wisdom leads to holiness and heaven, we should all strive valiantly for the spread of all truth. Teachers should be zealous students of the Bible and of aids to Bible knowledge. They should be well-informed in general matters, and well acquainted with the lesson for the day—its facts, its surroundings, its divine truths. Time is too precious and opportunities are too few for saving souls to allow of teachers coming unprepared before the classes. If you neglect preparation so will your pupils.

Intermediate classes must be small. So seated as to sit in a semi-circle with their faces away from those who might distract their attentions. Separation as far as possible will prevent disturbances. Separate rooms and screens or folding doors should be used where possible. Pupils should be urged to use Bibles and leaves as well, with respect to the lessons, teachers should always require certain knowledge from the pupils—at least the Golden Text and Lesson Outlines. So much must be given, but the lesson truths must be taught and emphasized. Many may easily be led to Christ by faithful teachers. By asking favors of your pupils lead them to ask favors of you. Intermediates need most careful teaching, yet with them most good can be done. They have reached the age of choice and freedom, and if shown the beauties of all truth will prefer righteousness in all its forms.

Infant classes should have a large room, suitably arranged and cheerful. They should, as far as possible, be participants in all exercises. It is trying to them to sit passively even for short periods. I believe that it would be best to have them assemble by themselves, and have their own opening exercises. The songs usually sung are beyond them. To interest them we must make much of them.

Infant songs serve well for storing their minds with good thoughts. The small catechism should be taught. After re-assembling give them a part in the programme. Omit one of your closing songs and have one of theirs instead. Let them make themselves heard, and they will in many ways help out the Sunday-school. They love activity, then let them be active along useful lines.

For senior scholars much tact and forbearance are needed, if we enlist their interest and control their energies. Only thoroughly consecrated men and women should be entrusted to lead them to Christ. The classes should be well separated from others, and not too large for the person in charge. No teacher should have charge who does not possess the respect and esteem of the pupils. In some cases, but not always, it works well to have teachers of one sex take pupils of the opposite sex. A teacher, by engaging in church work and labors of love and self-denial, should show his or her pupils the way to do likewise, remembering that example is often more forcible than precept. On men-of-war all hands have specified duties, and as every living church is a gospel-ship, let us provide work, create responsibility, and require of all a faithful performance of the same.

Do you teach the catechism of our church in

your school? If not, why not? You are missing a great opportunity for doing good. Get it; examine it; learn it; teach it. Such information so well arranged goes a long way for good, and towards making Bible scholars. If possible, give prizes in the forms of Bibles every few months, and thus encourage all to study.

In class work, by all in your power, have the pupils use Bibles as well as leaves. Familiarity with the Bible is essential if we are to create a love for its truths, and a reverence for things sacred. Have the class hunt up the Bible references to this end. Have at least the Golden Texts committed to memory, and regularly require them from each and every pupil. If they but learn fifty-two Golden Texts a year they are doing well.

Have the pupils take part in the singing, and sing yourself. Use hymns and tunes specially prepared for Sunday-school work and well adapted to it. Use only those books in song service that have small editions as well. Then the pupils can secure the small books and commit the words to memory at home. A good mind to be kept pure must be stored with good thoughts, and sacred hymns have their balm for weary, sin-sick souls.

Prayer is another factor of much power. Open your senior classes at least with a few words of prayer with bowed heads. It will prepare you and some of your pupils for the lesson work. Carry your pupils daily in prayer before the throne of grace. As others prayed earnestly for our salvation, shall we not pray for others? Teach the Lord's Prayer, creed and the Commandments. Have the whole school repeat them at times at the close of the opening prayer. All teachers should be called upon to open with prayer, and should be ready on a moment's notice. Remember if your voice is heard in prayer close by your pupils it will have its due effect, while prayer regularly given by any one person has not the same effect. Above all pray for God's guidance and blessing in the performance of your duties.

Lastly, never lose sight of the greatest aim of all Sunday-school work—the salvation of souls. In every way show that you hope for this, you pray for this, you desire it more than anything else. After Sunday-school service have your weekly or bi-weekly prayer-meeting for all who wish to stay; you will thus meet the anxious ones and point them heavenward. Don't overlook this, it is most of all important. Many will be anxious that we know not of until by attending they declare themselves concerned about their souls. Souls will be led nearer to the Saviour day by day, and in his own time God will perfect his own work. Let us all pray for better preparation and fuller consecration, so that we may be instruments in the hands of God for the ingathering of the youth of our land as the "golden sheaves" of the future, which labor is beyond doubt the noblest calling of the human race.

(The above is an abridgment of a paper prepared by the Central Methodist Sunday-school, New Westminster, and read at the seventh annual convention of the Epworth Leagues and Sunday-schools of British Columbia, at Chilliwack, B.C., May 21 to 24, 1898.)

LESSON 12—JUNE 19.

THE RISEN LORD.
Matt. xxviii. 8-20.

Golden Text.—"I am he that liveth, and was dead; and behold I am alive for evermore."—Rev. i. 18.

Home Readings.—Monday, Matt. xxviii. 1-10. Tuesday, Matt. xxviii. 11-20. Wednesday, John xx. 1-10. Thursday, John xx. 11-18. Friday, Acts i. 1-9. Saturday, 1 Cor. xv. 1-11. Sunday, Rev. v. 6-14.

EXPOSITORY.

8. "They departed quickly . . . and did run"—Or "ran." Recovering from their amazement, filled with mingled feelings of fear and joy, they rushed away, running to bear the word to the downcast, sorrowing disciples.

9. "Jesus met them"—On the way back to the city. "All hail"—A common form of greeting. "Took hold of his feet"—Thus having stronger evidence of the reality of his resurrection than before. "Worshipped him"—Feeling that his death and resurrection had now placed him where such reverence was proper. The word worship, however, in the Greek applies chiefly to the attitude of the body. It may possibly be, therefore, in this case that the worship was simply an expression of their overwhelming joy.

10. "My brethren"—A new designation of the disciples, which declares to them his consoling sympathy; makes known to them that he, as the Risen One, had not been alienated from them by their flight and treachery, but that rather they are summoned by him to become partners in his resurrection.—Lange.

11. "Behold, some of the watch came into the city"—The time when these men went into the city is noted. It was while the women were on their way to tell the disciples. It is also stated that "some of the watch" only went to the priests. How numerous the watch was we are not informed. As the watch had been set by the priests themselves (Matt. xxvii. 65, 66) it made its report to them instead of to Pilate. It was a startling report that they made; a celestial apparition, a rocking tomb, themselves frightened into unconsciousness, when they recovered the seal broken, the stone rolled away and the tomb empty.

12. "So they were assembled with the elders."—Consulting together, as Matt. xii. 14; xxvii.

1. over the very event which they had anticipated and for which they had called for a guard. "They gave large money"—Silver pieces, probably shekels—referring to the quality as well as quantity, and counselled to account for the disappearance of the body by declaring that his disciples came by night, etc. This was a vain excuse. If they slept, how did they know who had taken the body? If they acknowledged sleeping on their watch, how could they hope to escape the stern penalty of their delinquency? The discipline of the Roman army would not brook such a breach for a moment. The expedients of sinners are woefully inconsistent.

14. "If this come to the governor's ears"—Or be investigated—inquired into by the governor—we will persuade him, which could be done by bribery, or the exercise of that same influence by which the condemnation of Jesus was secured, and secure you—see to the omission of penalty. There is contemporaneous testimony to the venal character of Pilate, and that he accepted bribes.

15. "So they took the money"—which always has a persuasive influence, and did as they were taught, possibly saying nothing at all until the disciples began to proclaim the resurrection of Jesus, telling their story to combat the facts. This saying—the soldiers' account of the resurrection—is commonly reported . . . until this day—the time when Matthew was writing his Gospel, about thirty years later. It was the only explanation afforded by the enemies of the Lord of the resurrection. All other hypotheses of skepticism have been the inventions of later ages. If this were the only explanation possible to men who were upon the ground and actors in the great drama, we must be impressed with the vanity of it.

17. "And when they saw him, they worshipped him"—Dr. Broadus says: "This was not merely homage to a king (as in Matthew ii. 2; ix. 18, and often), but probably involved the conviction that he was divine. Thomas had already expressed his personal conviction to this effect. (John xx. 28.) Even the Saviour's bodily appearance seems to have been, since the resurrection, so altered and spiritualized (see above) that they felt more inclined than formerly to worship him, besides the awe with which he was invested by the fact of having raised himself from the dead. (John x. 18.)" "But some doubted"—Doubted—that is, until he came near—whether it was really he. As this was perhaps the occasion when more than five hundred brethren were present, it is likely that the skeptics here spoken of were some of these other brethren, and not the apostles. "Whoever the doubters were, we may feel confident that their doubts were removed by the words that follow, and by the ascension and pentecostal gift."

18. "All power is given unto me"—Or, "all authority hath been given unto me." It was something more than mere power that Jesus had received. It was the right to rule. It included all the authority and privileges and power of a king in heaven and on earth. He could therefore speak with divine authority. His commands were supreme over the subjects of his kingdom.

19. "Go ye therefore"—"Go" implies an aggressive warfare. The Gospel army must move upon the nations. Every church and every disciple must understand that they have marching orders. Any congregation that is content to enjoy past conquests and sits down to rest, employing its energies to preserve, develop and strengthen what it has already secured, shuts its ears to the command. "Teach"—They are to make disciples, or pupils, and scholars of Christ; not great philosophers, but "babes in Christ Jesus," who have entered the school of Christ and are taught afterwards. "All nations"—Not the Jews only, but all nations. Christ came to be the Saviour of the world. His is a universal religion. "Baptizing them"—The rite by which those who believe upon him, should be formally enlisted and enrolled in the school of Christ is baptism.

20. "Teaching them to observe all things"—The nations of this world are to be trained to observe—to do—all things whatsoever Christ commanded the disciples. All the heathen—all the nations of this world—are to be brought into a great Christian school, where Christ's people are to be the teachers. This mission field is immense. Who is sufficient to overcome the obstacles? "I am with you always"—Not far away at times and present at other times, but present "all the days." The task is impossible to man, but "with God all things are possible." Matt. xix. 26. There are to be many failures, great tribulations, sorrows, disappointments, but a crown at last.

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS.

1. What desperate efforts men make to shut out the truth which would bring peace and gladness to them, for this life and the next. A small part of the effort these priests put forth to prove Christ an impostor, would have convinced them of the truth of his claims. They put their fingers in their ears, and ran away lest they might believe and be saved.

2. How much evil the misuse of money has wrought in the world. It secured the betrayal of Jesus, and made men willing to lie about his resurrection. And ever since that time it has gone on exercising an influence for evil. There are men who are willing to engage in any undertaking, however cruel or vile, if "there is money in it."

3. The church must be aggressive. It must go. It must go to sinners—that are near at hand, to the "highways and hedges," to those who do not come to church, and it must reach abroad to the destitute of other lands.

League the "pray, study, give" plan advocated by the Forward Movement for Missions. Last year our young people's societies raised for missions considerably less than \$8,000, which would amount to about eleven cents per member. If they had given on an average two cents per week per member, they would have raised over \$68,000, an amount over and above what they did contribute to send out seventy-six married missionaries to China and Japan. What possibilities there are in this systematic two cents per week per member for missions in our young people's societies! By all means adopt the plan at once if you have not already done so.

3. Let each Christian endeavor to bring to Christ one unsaved soul each year. The results of this divine work are astonishing. Starting with one disciple it would take but one generation to reach the whole world at its present population, and allowing for natural increase on the supposition that each convert should reach an additional soul each year with the Gospel. Beginning with one Christian, and supposing that the number would be doubled at the end of each year, it would take only thirty-one years to reach over two billions of souls, a number five hundred millions more than the present population of the world. Let every League in Methodism inaugurate this win-one movement, illustrated in John 1. 35-47.

4. Read, ponder, pray over, and fulfil our Lord's commission, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." You cannot go, then send. God has not equipped you for this work of going to the heathen; he has not opened up your way towards the proclamation of the truth in the regions beyond. True. But he has equipped others and opened up their way, and they are waiting to be sent. Thousands are waiting to go with the glad message across the seas. It is your duty, Leaguers at home, to send by the contribution of your means those whom God has called, and thus hasten the glorious day when his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the river to the ends of the earth.

GENERAL EPWORTH LEAGUE FUND RECEIPTS FOR 1897-98.

Previously reported, \$147.14.

TORONTO CENTRAL DISTRICT.

Elm Street, \$2; Queen Street, \$2.35; Broadway, \$3; New Richmond, \$2; St. Paul's, \$2.12; Agnes Street, \$2; Davisville, \$1; Willowdale, \$2; Newtonbrook, \$1; Thornhill \$2; Richmond Hill, \$2; Maple, \$2. Amount from district, \$23.47.

TORONTO WEST DISTRICT.

Parkdale, \$5; Euclid Avenue, \$4; St. Albans, \$3; Bathurst Street, \$4; Trinity, \$2.50; Wesley, \$2; Clinton Street, \$2; Perth Avenue, \$1; Epworth, \$1; Westmoreland Avenue, \$1.10; St. Clarens Avenue, \$1; Centennial, \$1; Islington, \$1; Zion, \$1; Mimico, \$1; Davenport, \$1.20; Toronto Junction, \$1.37; Lambton Mills, \$1. Amount from district, \$34.17.

ALGOMA DISTRICT.

Sault Ste. Marie, \$1; Korah and Goulaire Bay, 50c.; Port Findlay, \$1.20; St. Joseph's Island, \$2; Thessalon, \$1.50; Day Mills, 20c.; Gore Bay, 50c.; Little Current, 50c.; Manitowaning, 54c.; Manitoulin South, \$1. Amount from district, \$9.

HAMILTON DISTRICT.

Hamilton, Centenary, \$2; Hamilton, Gore Street, \$2.50; Wesley, \$2; Hannah Street, \$2; Barton Street, \$1.50; Emerald Street, \$1.15; First, \$1; Dundas, \$3; Caledonia, \$1; Glanford, \$1; Case, 55c.; Ancaster, 50c.; Bowman, \$1; Binbrook, \$1; Ker, 80c.; Bethel, \$1.29; Millgrove, \$1.31. Amount from district, \$23.60.

ST. CATHARINES DISTRICT.

St. Catharines, St. Paul, \$2; Collin's Hill, \$1.50; St. Catharines, Welland Avenue, \$3; St. Catharines, Niagara Street, 75c.; Louth and Grantham, \$1.66; Merriton, \$2; Thorold, \$2; Niagara Falls, South, \$2; Niagara Falls, \$1.17; Niagara, \$1; Niagara (Vlrigil appointment), \$1.25; Queenston, \$1; Beamsville, \$2; Grimsby, 50c.; Smithville, 95c.; Tintern, \$2.55. Amount from district, \$25.33.

COBOURG DISTRICT.

Cobourg, \$4; Port Hope, \$2; Welcome, 59c.; Plainville, \$2; Baltimore, \$1. Amount from district, \$9.59.

CARMAN DISTRICT.

Carman, \$1; Treherne, \$3.05; Holland, \$2.45; Glenboro', \$1.30; Balduv, \$1.45; Miami, \$2.30. Amount from district, \$11.55.

BROCKVILLE DISTRICT.

Brockville, Wall Street, \$3; Brockville, George Street, \$2; Prescott, \$1; Kemptville, \$1; Lyn, \$2; Mallorytown, \$1.05; Escott, \$1; Lansdowne, \$1; Athens, 75c.; Addison, \$1; Bishop's Mills, \$1; Spencerville, \$1; Delta, \$2; Elgin, \$2. Amount from district, \$19.80.

STANSTAD DISTRICT.

Stanstead, \$2; Compton, 50c.; Hatley, \$1; Beebe Plain, \$1.05; Coaticook, \$2; Barnston, 50c.; South Barnston, 50c.; Magog, \$1; East Bolton, 50c.; Mansonville, \$1. Amount from district, \$10.11.

WATERLOO DISTRICT.

Waterloo, \$3.56; South Stukely, \$1; Knowlton, \$1; West Brome, \$1; Cowansville, \$1.50; Dunham, \$2; Granby, \$2. Amount from district, \$12.06.

MATILDA DISTRICT.

Iroquois, \$2; Morrisburg, \$2; Matilda, 60c.; Inkerman, \$2.83; Westerville, \$3.03; Winchester, \$2.50; Winchester Springs, \$1; Aultsville, \$2; Moulinette, \$1; Grantley, 80c.; Cornwall, \$2. Amount from district, \$19.76.

Total, \$193.44.

News of the Week.

Monday, May 30.

Tenders amounting to \$57,240 were let on the new Victoria Hospital at London.

The Washington negotiations have been completed, and Sir Louis Davies has returned home.

The Sovereign Orange Grand Lodge of British North America is in annual session at Ottawa.

Hamilton Council has decided to take steps towards securing the control of the local street railway.

Dominion Bank notes supposed to be a portion of the proceeds of the Napanee bank robbery, have turned up at Winnipeg.

The War Eagle Mining Company has declared a dividend of one and a half per cent. per month, which is equal to 18 per cent. per annum.

A petition was filed against the return of Mr. W. C. Moscrip, Liberal, as member for South Perth at the recent election.

The City Council, of Toronto, passed a resolution recording the deep regret of the people of Toronto at the death of Mr. Gladstone.

On Saturday last the Queen sent the following message to Mrs. Gladstone:

"My thoughts are much with you to-day when your dear husband is laid to rest. To-day's ceremony will be most trying and painful to you, but it will be at the same time gratifying to you to see the respect and regret evinced by the nation for the memory of one whose character and intellectual abilities marked him as one of the most distinguished statesmen of my reign.

"I shall ever gratefully remember his devotion and zeal in all that concerned my personal welfare.

(Signed) "Victoria, R. I."

Tuesday, May 31.

Rear Admiral Dewey is losing men from disease almost daily. Smallpox and dysentery are said to be rife in the American squadron.

Mrs. Sternaman will begin an action against the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company to get possession of the \$1,000 insurance on the life of her husband.

Not until an army of 100,000 men is thoroughly organized, drilled, and equipped will the main invasion of Cuba take place. This is President McKinley's decision after careful consideration of all the conditions.

At the meeting of the French Cabinet M. Hanotaux, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, announced the signing of the commercial agreement with the United States. In so doing he pointed out that the arrangement was indicative of the friendly sentiment which the two Governments showed in their reciprocal desire to improve the commercial relations between the two countries.

A despatch, which has just been received from Santiago de Cuba, states that the American squadron, under command of Commodore Schley, which has been blockading the port for a number of days, began to bombard the fortifications at two o'clock this afternoon, the evident intention being to reduce them in order to get at Admiral Cervera's squadron at anchor in Santiago Bay.

Wednesday, June 1.

A shock of earthquake was felt at Montreal.

The refrigerator railway car service will go into effect on Monday next.

The western abattoir buildings at St. Henri were destroyed by fire. The loss is \$100,000.

The Campana, of the Quebec Steamship Company, is ashore seven miles below Fame Point.

The Ontario Medical Association opened its eighteenth annual meeting in the Normal School, Toronto.

There is a run on the Bank of Spain at Madrid, which is causing great alarm, and promises the most serious results.

A disease resembling leprosy has made its appearance among the Indians of the Rainy Lake country.

English journals of all shades of politics favor the proposed settlement of international questions affecting Canada and the United States.

The recruiting for the first army of 125,000 called for by President McKinley is practically completed, there being now but 1,000 short of the number.

The schooner, Jane Gray, which sailed from Seattle for Kotzebue Sound, with 61 persons on board, foundered, about 90 miles west of Cape Flattery, while lying in a moderate gale. Thirty-four passengers were drowned.

A Broad Statement Affecting Business Men.

It is stated by reliable statisticians, who have made a study of it, that during the last quarter of a century only three out of one hundred merchants have made themselves independent by their exertions as business men. If your wife and family have to endure bad luck with you, what will they have to endure without you? Think that over long enough to make up your mind to get your life insured, and then attend to it at once.

All praise to the man who protects his family with a life insurance policy, says an exchange. Just so, and plenty of blame for the man who does not. Let him become blameless in this respect forthwith.

The compound investment policy of the North American Life Assurance Company, Toronto, is peculiarly adapted to meet the wants of business men, as it specially provides for the loan to the insured of the eleventh and subsequent premiums, and should death occur within the investment period selected (fifteen or twenty years, as the case may be), the full face of the policy is payable; it further provides, in the event of the death of the insured within the investment period for the return of the eleventh and subsequent premiums paid, together with the full face of the policy.

Business men should at once investigate this advantageous system of investment insurance by either securing an interview with one of the company's representatives or by addressing Wm. McCabe, Managing Director, North American Life Assurance Company, 112-118 King Street West, Toronto.

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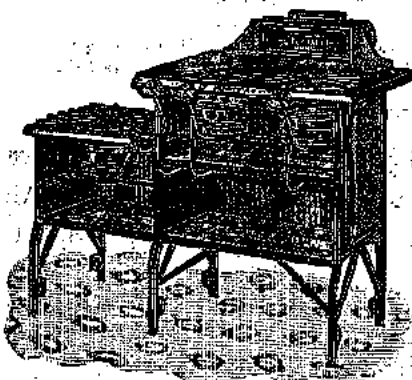
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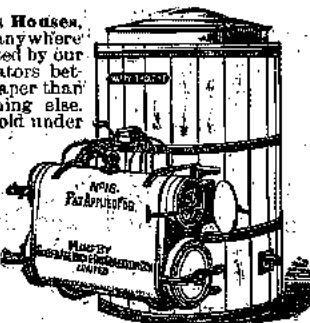
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Wheat, red, per bush	\$0.88	\$1.01
Wheat, goose, per bush	\$0.82	\$0.93
Barley, per bush	\$0.35	\$0.36
Pears, per bush	\$0.57	\$0.58
Oats, per bush	\$0.35	\$0.35
Rye, per bush	\$0.00	\$0.54
Buckwheat, per bush	\$0.09	\$0.48
Turkeys, per lb.	\$0.12	\$0.14
Ducks, per pair	\$0.50	\$0.75
Chickens, per pair	\$0.40	\$0.75
Geese, per lb.	\$0.07	\$0.08
Butter in lb. rolls	\$0.12	\$0.13
Eggs, new laid	\$0.10	\$0.11
Potatoes, per bag	\$0.60	\$0.65
Beans, per bush	\$0.80	\$0.90
Onions, native, per bag	\$0.60	\$0.75
Hay	\$8.00	\$8.50
Straw	\$0.00	\$0.70
Beef, hinds	\$0.06	\$0.08
Beef, fore	\$0.04	\$0.05
Lamb, spring, carcass	\$3.00	\$6.00
Lamb, yearling, per lb	\$0.00	\$0.10
Mutton, per lb.	\$0.05	\$0.08
Cheese, per lb.	\$0.07	\$0.09
Dressed hogs	\$6.00	\$6.25

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Milk cows, each	\$22.00 to \$42.00
Export cattle, per cwt.	\$3.75 to \$4.25
Butchers' fancy cattle, cwt.	\$3.90 to \$4.00
Butchers' choice cattle, per cwt.	\$3.50 to \$3.75
Butchers' good cattle, cwt.	\$3.00 to \$3.30
Bulls, per cwt.	\$2.50 to \$3.75
Stockers and Feeders, per cwt.	\$3.20 to \$3.90
Export sheep, per cwt.	\$3.50 to \$4.00
Butchers' sheep, per cwt.	\$3.25 to \$3.90
Yearling lambs, per cwt.	\$4.75 to \$5.00
Bucks, per cwt.	\$3.00 to \$3.50
Spring lambs, each	\$3.00 to \$5.00
Calves, per head	\$3.00 to \$5.00
Choice bacon hogs, per cwt.	\$5.00 to \$5.05
Light hogs, per cwt.	\$4.70 to \$4.75
Thick fat hogs, per cwt.	\$4.65 to \$4.70
Sows, per cwt.	\$3.00 to \$3.25
Stags, per cwt.	\$2.00 to \$2.25

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A Short Study of Our Advertising

The buying community and this store of ours are good comrades. One result of it is that you must have frequent news of what is doing here. Therefore, advertising is not a choice—it is a necessity.

All the pleasure, accommodation, advantage or convenience you get out of the store rests upon a single point—selling goods. The goods must sell in ever-increasing volume, or the store cannot keep step with its own past. Ours to sell, yours to buy. But you must be told how and what you can buy best, else our special goods and your special wants wouldn't meet.

The cadence of the step in military movements comes from the marching music. The advertising is the music by which the store marches—just now it is playing the double quick.

These lines are sample values, and if you write for any of them you may rest assured of prompt response. Please always remember that you are asked to send back goods that may fail to suit you. This liberal treatment means we want your correspondence regularly and permanently.

LADIES' BLOUSES.

In the hot summer months a gingham or muslin blouse is a necessity as well as a luxury. We have a selection such as will suit all purses. On the second floor, table after table shows forth beauty of design and make from all the centres of fashion and you will find our values better than ever before.

American Percalé Blouse

Waists, made on yoke, detached laundered collars and attached laundered cuffs in plaids and stripes, great value, special.50c

Scotch Gingham Blouse

Waists in very latest plaid, check and stripe designs, some with self-detached collars and some with white self-attached cuffs, beautiful goods, at \$1.00, \$1.35 and.\$1.50

Muslin Blouse Waists,

choice of designs, very latest colorings and makes, some with tucks, pleats and frills on shoulder, dainty goods, at from \$1.25 to.\$2.50

SPECIALS IN LADIES' SKIRTS AND SUITS

Ladies' Linen Crash Skirts, full sweep, 7 gore, plain \$1.25, 3 rows white braid \$1.50

Ladies' White, Blouse

Duck and Drill Skirts, full sweep, beautifully made, special. \$1.35, \$1.50 and.\$1.65

Ladies' Fawn Bicycle

Suits, blazer coat, divided skirt, a wonderful bargain, special.\$3.50

WASH GOODS.

These few items are merely suggestions of the values represented in our immense showing of popular wash fabrics, other lines such as Zephyrs, Gingham, Navy Blue and White Ducks, Plain and Fancy Linen Suitings, Bicycle Suitings, are splendidly assorted and come direct to us from the manufacturer, which means you need only pay a small fraction over mill prices.

8,000 yds. Fancy Dress Sateen, light grounds and small figures, and fancy striped zephyrs, fine goods and the regular 12c quality, special.6c

3,500 yds. Extra Quality

Dimitry Muslins, large assortment of desirable patterns, splendid washing goods, regular 15c quality, special 7c

36-in. Scotch Madras Cloth, a fabric of elegant fineness, New York style, in plaids, checks and roman stripes, the 20c quality, the lowest they have been is 15c, clearing at.12c

Table of Fancy Lawns

Grass Cloths, and Prints, fast colors, large assortment, special. 5c

32-in. Organdy Lawns, a cloth of fine texture, in navy blue and white, and black and white, floral design, also grass linen shades, with colored floral designs, positively fast colors, regular 12c, special.9c

COLORED DRESS GOODS.

46-in. Armure, in grey and fawn, regular 65c, for.35c

46-in. Wool Diagonal, in grey and fawn, regular 75c, for.35c

46-in. Figured Lustre, fawn only, small neat design, regular 85c, for.35c

52-in. Bicycle Suitings, in grey, green, blue and steel, all-wool, regular 75c. and 85c, special.50c

52-in. All-wool English Coating Serge, navy, special.65c

NEW BLACK DRESS GOODS—FOR SUMMER SKIRTS.

42-in. Mohair Stripe, special.50c

44-in. Mohair Stripe, special.60c

44-in. Mohair Stripe, special.65c

44-in. Mohair, fancy, some very pretty designs, at \$1.00 and.\$1.25

44-in. Silk and Wool French Novelty, special.\$2.00

The Robert SIMPSON Co. Limited

SECTION 15

TORONTO, ONT.

News of the Week.

(Continued.)

A despatch from Sherbrooke says the trend of travel on the Boston and Maine Railway has been completely reversed by the war. Trains with extra cars attached, loaded with returning Canadians, pull into the station at that city at the rate of 125 a day. The people are coming home, and the rush back to their native land shows no signs of diminishing. On the other hand the emigrant travel south is at a minimum. It is estimated that fully 5,000 returning Canadians have been brought into Sherbrooke by the Boston and Maine during the past forty days. Most of them are on their way to their homes in Quebec district, along the Quebec Central and Intercolonial Railways.

Thursday, June 3.
The twelfth annual meeting of the Canada Congregational Woman's Board of Missions is in progress at Paris.

The camp at Chickamauga will be enlarged to accommodate 75,000 men and will be made the general supply station for troops on the Florida coast.

A conflagration at Peshawur, a fortified town of India, capital of a district of that name in the Punjab, which was not mastered for twenty-four hours, has destroyed 4,000 houses, doing damage to the amount of four crores of rupees (about \$20,000,000.) This is supposed to be the greatest fire on record in India.

The report of the commissioners who inquired into the charges made by workmen employed in Crow's Nest Pass Railway construction was brought down. The commissioners find that the company and the contractors have not complied with the terms of the contract signed by the workmen, and that a most shocking condition of affairs, amounting to barbarity, in the treatment of the men, has been in existence.

The Spanish Government has made a protest to the British authorities against the shipping of Canadian coal from British North America to San Francisco, and also against the shipping of coal from Nova Scotia to Atlantic ports. It is understood, however, that Spain's protest has not proved of any avail. The subject was referred to the Canadian authorities, who, upon investigation, learned that the coal shipments both from British North America and from Nova Scotia were in the ordinary course of commercial transactions.

Friday, June 3.
A great banquet was held in London to promote the cause of Anglo-American unity.

The Montreal police raided bicyclists who were out without lanterns. Twenty-five were gathered in at one police station.

An American boat, said to be the Merrimac, a collier, was sunk in trying to enter the harbor. She was torpedoed.

In Congress Representative Hale said the war with Spain would cost the United States between \$700,000,000 and \$800,000,000.

The twelve months' agreement on rates entered into by the trans-Atlantic lines in June, 1897, has expired, and rates may now be cut.

The voting in Victoria and Tasmania, in Australasia, has resulted in the adoption of the Federation Bill. The result in New South Wales is still doubtful.

Saturday, June 4.
The immediate delivery of specially stamped letters will be commenced about July 1.

The United States Senate has passed the war revenue measure with an amendment placing ten cents a pound on all tea imported into the country.

Governor Blanco has announced that all newspaper correspondents who fall into the hands of the Spanish in Cuba will be treated as spies, which means that probably they will be shot.

Admiral Sampson has officially reported that the collier Merrimac was deliberately sunk in Santiago harbor with a view to blocking the exit of Cervera. At Madrid the sinking of the ship is being celebrated as a Spanish victory.

The letter stolen from Senor Carranza at Montreal has been published. It contains some indiscreet criticism of the appointment of Admiral Camara and some references to the spy system in Canada. Carranza denies that this is an authentic copy of his letter.

THE T. EATON CO.

LIMITED

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Canada's Greatest Store.

Toronto.

Three Handsome Capes.

These jaunty Capes are for summer wear. They are among the latest arrivals in our Cloak Department. All elegantly finished garments, and up-to-date in every respect, and the prices are so reasonable.



Ladies' Stylish Capes, of black broche cloth, mohair and other mixtures, with jet and satin trimmings, satin lined, special at

\$5.00



Ladies' Pretty Capes, of black silk broche cloth, lined with silk mero, collar of silk ribbon and jet, special at

\$6.00



Ladies' Handsome Capes, of black moire velour, lined with black silk mero, chiffon ruching in collar, fronts and skirt silk ribbon bows, special at

\$7.50

You can make no mistake in ordering any one of these by mail. Every garment is exactly as represented, and the value the best within your reach.

Mail Orders Filled Promptly.

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LIMITED

190 YONGE ST.,

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Alphabet of

First Things In Canada.

A Ready Reference Book of Canadian Events.

By George Johnston

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Price, Limp Cloth, 50 cents.

The author has very generously placed with us five hundred copies of this exceedingly useful little compendium, the proceeds of sale to go to the benefit of the Superannuation Fund. The book will be found invaluable. Send for a copy.
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A First Book of Lessons for young and old, but especially for the man who has a vote—fully illustrated with his inimitable drawings.

—BY—

J. W. Bengough.

PAPER, POSTPAID, 25 CENTS.

A large demand is expected for the approaching Plebiscite Campaign.

REDUCED PRICE.

Methodist Discipline

As the General Conference meets in September, it is likely some changes will be made in the Discipline. We are offering the present edition at half the regular price.

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(Mrs. G. R. Alden.)

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CONTENTS: A Sermon that Bore Fruit—In Search of Truth—"Father's Tramp"—"I am Studying Truth"—Truth Under Difficulties—Varnish—Looking On—Squire Hartwell—Overturned Plans—"What Is Truth?"—Search Lights—Interrogation Points—Truth versus Falsehood—For Her Sake—Tangles—Revelations—Under Suspicion—Acts ix, 11—"Before They Call, I Will Answer"—Thorns—"How Good He Was"—What Ought I?—"The Naked Truth"—"I Have Started Out Now for Truth"—"In Every Respect, Save One"—Dismissed—Citizen or Sojourner?—One Season's Harvest.

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By REV. JOSIAH STRONG, D.D.

Author of "Our Country," and "The New Era."

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Dr. Strong discusses the danger arising from the vast movement of population towards the cities, and the growth of their preponderating influence in the nation, points out the principles which may be applied successfully to the solution of the great problems of modern society, and makes a ringing appeal for action.

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Author of "The Lilac Sunbonnet," "Cleg Kelly," etc.

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Mr. Crockett stands on ground that he has made his own in his romance of the Scottish Covenanters. The story opens in 1685—"the terrible year,"—with a vivid picture of the pursuit of fugitive Covenanters by the dragoons. The hero, who becomes a Covenanting minister, sees many strange and stirring adventures. The charming love story which runs through the book is varied by much excellent fighting and many picturesque incidents. "THE STANDARD BEARER" is likely to be ranked by readers with Mr. Crockett's most successful works.

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Odds and Ends.

Hungry Henry—"Don't you think it would 'Cervera' right if Sampson would 'Schley' him?" Chorus of Tramps—"Dewey" think so!"

"At what age were you married?" she asked inquisitively. But the other lady was equal to the emergency, and quietly responded, "At the parsonage."—(Ex.)

"Ain't I a little bow-legged?" asked the dubious young man. "Bow-legged?" said his tailor. "The idea! Your lower limbs, sir, are absolutely without a parallel."—(Indianapolis Journal.)

Mr. Romanz—"I tell you what, a baby brightens up the house, and that's a fact." Mr. Practicel—"Yes; we've had to keep the gas burning all night ever since ours was born."—(Tit-Bits.)

Cook (on the day after her arrival)—"Please, mum, I'm a bit fiery at times and when I am fiery I'm apt to be a bit rough spoken; but you needn't let that put you about—with a little present you can always bring me round again."—(Tit-Bits.)

Counsel (to witness, the father of a family)—"Why are you so certain, Mr. Smith, that the event occurred on such a date? May you not be mistaken?" Witness—"Impossible, sir. It was the day I didn't have to buy any of my children a pair of shoes."—(Ex.)

"I don't object to being called a pea-nut politician," said Senator Sorghum. "The pea-nut is at times a most palatable and desirable product." "Yes," said the candid retainer, with a sigh, "sometimes. But it takes a great deal of 'roasting' to make it so."—(Washington Star.)

The Court—"Has the defendant been notified of these proceedings?" Applicant for divorce—"I have published the notice in a newspaper of general circulation." The Court—"Well, I must be sure that she is notified. Send her a copy of the newspaper with the notice cut out."—(Puck.)

Smith—"Brown is getting to be quite absent-minded of late, isn't he?" Jones—"Why, I haven't noticed it." Smith—"Well, he is. The other day he happened to look in a mirror at home, and he asked his wife what she was doing with that fellow's picture in the house."—(Chicago News.)

An Atlanta man said to an old negro the other day: "Well, Ben, it looks like war, and I understand they're going to put the negroes right in front!" "Dat'll be all right, suh," he replied. "Ef dey puts 'em in de rear, de white folks 'ud run over 'em en kill 'em, so I dunno but what dey'd be safer right in front."—(Ex.)

"Is the editor-in-chief in?" asked a stranger, as he sauntered into the city reporter's room at eight o'clock in the morning. "No, sir," replied the janitor, kindly. "He does not come down so early. Is there anything I can do for you?" "Perhaps so. Are you connected with the poetical department of the paper?" "I am, sir." "Oh, what do you do?" "I empty the waste-baskets, sir."—(Milwaukee Sentinel.)

"Here's a brilliant newspaper man gone crazy." "What caused it?" "The trouble dates back to the Japo-Chinese war. He got through the awful mess of proper names in that, but then came the Graeco-Turkish war, and now the Eastern affair, with all the big powers mixed up, and he's become a jabbering idiot."—(Philadelphia North American.)

A story is told of an excellent old lady who lived in Concord, Mass., at the time of the great prevalence of Transcendentalism; and she was very much bewildered by the freedom and audacity with which many of her articles of faith were treated. But she finally came to this conclusion, "I don't care so much about predestination and free will, and all them sort of things; but, if they take away my total depravity, I shall feel as though I hadn't any religion at all."—(Ex.)

Rev. Sam Jones, the Georgia evangelist, was holding a series of meetings at a church whose pastor was noted for his lack of good looks. One evening, at a revival service, as he was talking about the sin of hypocrisy and duplicity, he—in a sudden gleam of characteristic humor—turned round to the pastor, sitting in the pulpit behind him, and said, amid a whirlwind of laughter: "Well, John, your congregation can never accuse you of being a two-faced man, can they? For the Lord knows that, if you had another face, you'd wear it, wouldn't you?"—(May Ladies' Home Journal.)

"Tis True There's Magic In the (Cup) of It."

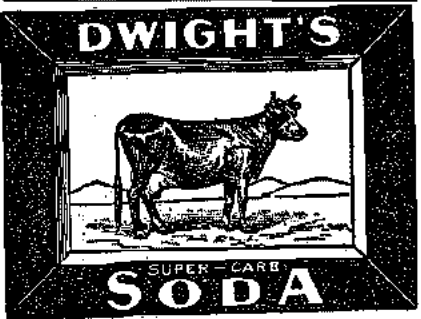
THE CUP QUALITY OF

"SALADA"

CEYLON TEA

Is Thick, Creamy and Flavoury—Pleases Every Palate.

In sealed lead packets only. By all grocers. 25c. 30c. 40c. 50c. 60c.



HONEY CAKE.

One large cup of sour cream or milk, two large cups flour, half teaspoonful Cow Brand Soda, half tea cup honey. First mix cream and sugar, add flour by degrees, then honey; mix well; add soda; beat a little longer; bake for half an hour; eat while warm.

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Hygienic Cocoa and Royal Navy Chocolate

Are becoming famous throughout Canada for purity and excellence.

CLIMAX "MACHINERY OIL"

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STAMMERERS!

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CHURCH & BYRNE, Principals.



The Ravages of Consumption

The White Plague on the Increase.

The remarkable increase of deaths from Consumption (tuberculosis) within the last few years is now attracting the attention and earnest consideration and study of the leading medical authorities of Europe and America, and the most strenuous efforts are being made to check its further development. Many eminent men suppose that consumption cannot be cured; but not so with that great scientist and chemist, Dr. T. A. Slocum, who asserts that this terrible malady has never been thoroughly studied in its various bearings; and says that consumptives are continually being sent to Sanatoriums with the hope of prolonging life for a short time, rather than for the purpose of effecting a cure. Dr. Slocum has made consumption a lifelong study, and he claims that not only can life be prolonged, but a complete cure can be effected, even in the last stages. The Slocum Cure is not an experimental remedy, but is the result of laborious study and practice—each ingredient in its composition having been selected for a special and powerful bearing upon the cause of this dreadful disease. If his remedies (The Slocum Cure) are persisted in for a reasonable time, a perfect and a permanent cure can be effected. If the reader is a consumptive, or has lung or throat trouble, general debility, or wasting away, do not despair, but send your name, postoffice, and nearest express office to The T. A. Slocum Chemical Co., Limited, 188 Adelaide Street West, Toronto, when three large sample bottles (The Slocum Cure) will be sent you free. Don't delay until it's too late—but send at once for these free samples; and be convinced of the efficacy of this great remedy. When writing for the samples, say you saw this free offer in the Guardian.



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LEGAL.

MILLS, MILLS & HALES, Barristers, Etc. Have removed to Wesley Buildings, over Christian Guardian Office. Telephone 1412.

ALFRED W. BRIGGS, Barrister, Solicitor, Notary, etc. Wesley Buildings, 33 Richmond St. W. Money to Loan. TORONTO.

MACLAREN, MACDONALD, MERRITT & SHEPLEY, Barristers, Solicitors, etc. Union Loan Buildings, 28 and 30 Toronto St., Toronto. J. J. MacLaren, Q.C., J. H. Macdonald, Q.C., W. M. Merritt, C. F. Shepley, Q.C., W. E. Middleton, E. C. Donald, Frank W. Maclean.

MEDICAL.

J. G. ADAMS, SURGEON DENTIST. Has removed from No. 1 Elm St. to 56 Elm St., Toronto. Telephone 2024.

DR. G. STERLING RYERSON, EYE, EAR AND THROAT, 60 COLLEGE STREET, TORONTO.

J. N. ANDERSON, M.D. Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist. No. 5 College Street, Toronto. Telephone 510.

DR. EDWARD ADAMS, "Homeopathist," 567 Yonge Street, north-east corner, Wellesley Street. Specialties—"Diseases of the Stomach and Bowels" and "Nervous System." Hours—9 to 10 a.m., 2 to 4 and 7 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays, 7 to 9 p.m. Telephone 3160.

DENTISTS.

DR. SWANN & W. C. ADAMS, DENTISTS. Have removed to 37 Carlton Street. Telephone 2418.

DR. E. GORDON McLEAN, DENTIST. 144 Yonge Street, Toronto. Telephone 88. Kent Chambers.

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TORONTO OPTICAL PARLORS, 88 Yonge Street, upstairs. A full line of spectacles and eyeglasses kept in stock at jewelers' prices. F. E. LUKE, Optician, with W. E. HAMILL, M.D., Oculist. Telephone 602.

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First-class workmen sent to any part of Canada. 361 Yonge Street, Toronto.

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and your thoughts are of shoes—not common shoes, but shoes that are right—shoes that are good to wear—fit easy—look well—and don't cost much—you naturally think of Blackford's, 114 Yonge Street. We can shoe the whole family and do it right.

Buy Your Clothes From Me

And help me keep my job. We are first-class on CLOTHING WORK. You will find me at

Follett's 181 Yonge Street, TORONTO.

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Special attention given to clerical dress. Fit, style and workmanship guaranteed. Prices extremely moderate. A trial solicited.

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COR. QUEEN AND PORTLAND STS.

Best Quality of Bread. Brown Bread, White Bread. Full Weight. Moderate price. Delivered daily. Try it.

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However aristocratic, looks better when handsomely engraved upon a fashionable visiting card of superfine quality and finish. We are the only manufacturers in Canada of

Wedding Goods

as stylish as the imported and much cheaper. Ask your Stationer to show you our newest style Cards and Note Paper—you will at once acknowledge their superiority over other brands.

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Is frequently caused by sleeping in unsanitary beds; and all mattresses containing animal fibre soon fall under that heading unless very frequently renovated.

The only safe plan is to use the Patent Felt Mattress, composed entirely of pure Egyptian white cotton felt, lapped and interlaced; these famous mattresses are perfectly hygienic and at the same time eminently comfortable. They will last a lifetime, and require no other attention than a daily turning and an occasional sun-bath.

\$15.00. Full double size.

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Baby's Own.

Babies like it—it's good for them. BABY'S OWN SOAP is certain in cleansing, so safe, and sweet in using. Keeps skin soft and healthy. Good for babies or old folks. Sold by all druggists.

THE ALBERT TOILET SOAP CO., MONTREAL.

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POSSESS ALL THE ESSENTIALS OF A PERFECT INSTRUMENT. THEY ARE MADE SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT FROM OTHER KINDS. * * * * * COMPETENT CRITICS PRONOUNCE THEM AS GEMS BOTH FROM A MUSICAL AND ARTISTIC STAND-POINT. * * * * *

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With an unbroken record for honest goods and honorable methods.

The name

KARN

Has never been put on poor Pianos or Organs. That's the kind of a house to buy from. By so doing you avoid all risk. The name of "Karn" is itself a guarantee of excellence.

KARN IS KING.

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MAKERS FINE PRINTING . . . INKS

The Bennett & Wright Co., Limited

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Steam and Hot Water Heating.

SANITARY PLUMBING

Smoke Testing a Specialty.

—Electric Wiring and Motors—

—Gas and Electric Fixtures.

72 Queen St. E., Toronto.

The Farm.

CANADIAN LINES OF GROWTH.

"Canadians should lay the lines of their country's development while they are masters of the situation, and before any influx of foreigners introduces the leaven of loose views on moral problems. We rejoice in purity, sobriety, intelligence and reverence. Let us have these made fast in the Home, the Church, the School and the Sabbath."—Christian Guardian.

There is no better way to lay the lines of Canada's progress and future prosperity than by cultivating the attention of the English farmers. The foreign element which may be induced to come to Canada's shores are not potent factors in building up the country with any material or national advantage. No doubt those of the foreign element who settle on farms make thrifty, and in a number of cases, prosperous farmers, but they cannot, nor do they assimilate for years with the large majority of the population of the country. They are exclusive, they do not branch out and become interested in the many enterprises which it is essential that they should identify themselves with in assisting to build up the country of their adoption. In speaking of this matter, we are not prejudiced against any—and for that matter—every nationality coming to Canada, but we cannot see why any extraordinary fuss and effort should be put forward to bring out foreigners to Canada. There are thousands in Great Britain who would take the advantage of adopting this country as their future home if the resources and climate, and other opportunities which offer themselves to the thrifty and experienced capitalistic farmer of Great Britain, where their language and their financial interests are all associated with the country, which they are leaving in coming to Canada, were placed before them regularly and not spasmodically. With the tariff changes in favor of our farmers, etc., we should reap the reward of our concessions by capturing the English market with our food produce, but we must cultivate the taste of the people by sentiment and national distinction.—The Anglo-Saxon.

FARM NOTES. (Selected.)

The vineyards in the Canary Islands—producing red wines—are worth \$750 to \$1,000 per acre.

A very little work in stirring the soil when weeds first begin to appear above ground will save great labor and trouble later on.

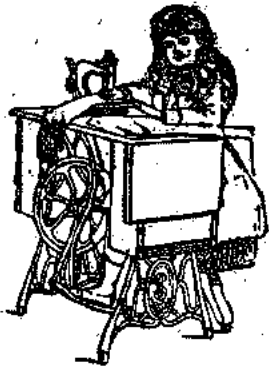
The American Poultry Association will meet in Toronto next January 10 to 14. The Poultry Association of Ontario will hold their twenty-fifth annual exhibition in the city at the same time. The largest show of fine poultry, pigeons, pet stock and cats ever held in Canada will be given. This will be the first occasion on which the American Association has met in Canada.

The cool and cloudy days of the first week in May, following the heavy rains of the previous week, had a good effect in preventing the soil from crusting, which would in many cases have been the result had warm, bright days prevailed. The recent showers and warmer temperature have given the crops a good start, and the prospect for the farmer is bright indeed.—Ex.

Mr. Joseph Stratford, General Manager of the Farmers' Binder Twine Factory, Brantford, delivered an address on Monday, May 23, to the largest crowd of farmers ever assembled in Palmerston. The address was in the interest of the Palmerston Co-operative Pork Factory. The speaker held the audience for about two hours, and much interest was manifested. Tenders have been asked for. Plans and specifications can be seen at W. J. Falconer's hardware store, Palmerston, after June 1.

What a wide difference, says the Buffalo Farmers' Journal, it would make with any farming community if a good, liberal co-operative system could be maintained. They are doing things better in some parts of Europe than we can hope to so long as co-operation is out of the question. The grangers have done what can be done to prove that our farmers will not unite to any general extent on such a basis. There is the suspicious member of the community, who will not join hands with his neighbors on any account; there is the careless one who will never keep

Sewing Machines of the Present



are very different from those of the past. Very few users of sewing machines know the technical differences; patents have expired on generic features, but "the world moves," and radical improvements have been made in sewing machines, so that the one of to-day shows a tremendous improvement on its predecessor. Women who have used both kinds quickly realize the difference between a cheaply made imitation of some ancient type and the modern light-running machine which is easily adjusted, does all kinds of work, and is always ready to go. The Silent Singer of to-day is the latest result of constant improvement in mechanical excellence. For practical use it compares with the old-time sewing machines sold at department stores much as a modern railway train surpasses a stage-coach of the last century.

Singer machines are so simple that a child can understand them; they are so strong that a bungler can hardly get them out of order. Every part is made with such scrupulous care, from the best materials, fitted in its place with the utmost exactness, and tested and re-tested so many times before leaving the factory, that it never gets the "fits" which try a woman's patience, destroy the fruits of her labor, and consume her time in vexing attempts to coax the machine to a proper performance of duty. Singer machines are sold directly from maker to user; they are guaranteed by the maker, always ready to furnish parts and supplies in any part of the world, and not by a middleman totally unable to render this service. Buy a sewing machine of the Present, and not one of the Past.

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in line, and then there is the other who wants to buy without paying. Until these elements can be reconciled, it will remain an impossibility to combine to any extent, in spite of the great advantages that are possible.

The dairy herd owned by G. F. Kimball, of North Haverhill, New Hampshire, consists of 19 cows, pure-bred and grade Jerseys. Six of them are heifers with their first calves. Two were fresh in April, '97, four in July and the remaining 13 in August, September and October. For the four months beginning in December, the nineteen cows gave 12,214 lbs. milk monthly, an average of 643 lbs. each, or over 21½ lbs. daily. The milk tested during the entire time 5½ per cent.—American Agriculturist.

Canadian breeders have special advantages in importing breeding stock from Great Britain at the present time, being free from the vicissitudes of war, and having the use of excellent steamship lines, carrying animals at reasonable tariff rates to Quebec and Halifax, where liberal quarantine regulations obtain, and ample and comfortable accommodations are provided for stock. Being happily free from distractions of either a public or social character, our people may peacefully pursue their avocations and avail themselves of the increased volume of business which is bound to come our way. Canada will continue to be the breeding ground from which pure-bred stock will be sought for the supply of the United States, and our breeders are awake to their advantage in this regard, and are preparing to meet the great demand which seems to be inevitable for high-class stock in all lines, as well as for farm produce, of which we are now in a position to supply the best in nearly every line and in large quantities. The prospect is that more stock will be imported this year than has been brought out for several years past.—Farmer's Advocate.



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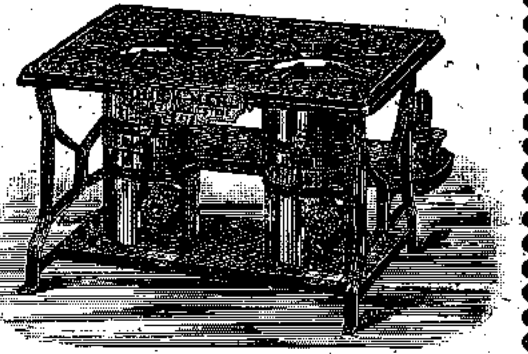
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