

THE Canadian Union Messenger.

"As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger."

VOLUME 5.

LORNE PARK, ONTARIO, JANUARY 5, 1905.

NUMBER 1.

SILENT FORCES.

H. I. MORSE-FARNUM, PETERBOROUGH, ONT.

Unconscious of the good enwrought,
Unconscious of the ill;
With careless hand or careful thought
We weave life's pattern still.

We come and go, we meet and part,
Breathing the amber air,
Plying the task with aching heart
Or smiling prospect fair.

As in one garden blossoms shoot,
Fed by the self-same power,—
Each from its own peculiar root
But every one a flower,

Some light, some dark, some high or low,
Fragrance diversified,—
So God, who made, has bid us grow
And labor side by side.

If sphere be small, or sphere be great,
The work be more or less,
It matters not; the estimate
Is based on faithfulness.

The tinted petals of the rose,
Its aroma and grace,
In solitude and stillness grows,
And grows, and grows, apace.

And thus the character appears,
Of word, of deed and thought,
Of all one sees, or feels, or hears,
Our fabric rare is wrought:

These silent forces, working still,
Most surely educate;
Yea, tip the scales for good or ill,
Setting the dye of Fate.

Then let the Words of God be thine,
His will thy counsellor;
On daily life the stamp Divine,
Of faithful follow!

So may we meet to part no more
No chilling mists between,
As anchoring on the farther Shore
Each sees as he is seen.

THE EVERLASTING COVENANT.

The two Covenants mentioned in Gal. 4:21 are sometimes spoken of as the Covenant of Grace, and the Covenant of Works; but we are inclined to think that this distinction is not warranted by facts. We prefer to think of them both as Covenants of Grace, and we believe that the Bible will bear us out in thus considering them.

Neither the Old Covenant nor the New Covenant is mentioned as such before the days of Moses at Mt. Sinai. The new covenant is not mentioned by that name until it is foretold by the prophet Jeremiah in his 31st chapter. The Old Covenant, whatever it is, originated at Mt. Sinai. "The Lord our God made a covenant with us in Horeb. The Lord made not this covenant with our fathers, but with us, even us, who are all of us here alive this day." Deut. 5:2,3.

The Covenant here mentioned is the one called in Scripture, the Old Covenant,— "the one from Mt. Sinai, which gendereth to bondage." Gal. 4: and it is plainly stated as not having been made with their fathers, though a covenant had been made with them, as will appear from reading Deut. 8:18. "But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God, for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers as it is this day."

From these scriptures it is evident that the Covenant sworn unto the fathers was distinct from the Old Covenant made at Horeb. It is also evident that the Lord designed to establish the Covenant, sworn unto the fathers, with the people who had the Old Covenant made with them; and therefore the study of the Two Covenants involves a study of the Covenant made with the fathers. What was that Covenant? The Apostle Peter gives the answer to this question in his remarkable sermon preached at the time of his healing the impotent man at the gate of the temple called Beautiful. He says, "Ye are the children of the prophets and of the Covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed."

This Scripture identifies the covenant made with the fathers, with the promise made to Abraham. Gen. 12:1-3; 22:15-18. This promise was renewed to Isaac, Gen. 26:4; and to Jacob, Gen. 28:13,14.

See also Ps. 105: 8-15. This thought is confirmed by the testimonies of the New Testament Scripture, where the Covenant made with Abraham, and the promise made to him, are used interchangeably, and spoken of as identical. "And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect. For if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but God gave it to Abraham by promise." Gal. 3: 17, 18.

In addition to the fact that the Covenant and the promise are identical, we wish to notice another point. The statement is made in verse fifteen that "though it be but a man's covenant, yet if it be confirmed," it cannot be added to, nor disannulled by anything that any other man can do after the confirmation. The force of the statement is in the contrast between a man's covenant, and God's covenant. It may be stated in this way: If a man's covenant is so unalterable after it is once confirmed, how much more so is God's covenant after it has been confirmed.

What was God's covenant confirmed?—Read verse "And this I say that the covenant that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul that it should make the promise of none effect." The object of this statement, in addition to showing that the covenant or promise, was confirmed, is to show that the covenant was in nowise affected by the entrance, or addition, of the law, four hundred and thirty years after. That which was promised, the inheritance, and of course everything that is implied in that term, is to be secured by the promise, or covenant, and in no other way, notwithstanding the entrance, or addition, of the law four hundred and thirty years after; because when a covenant is once confirmed "no man disannulleth or addeth thereto" "even though it be but a man's covenant"; but this is God's covenant, and it "was confirmed before of God in Christ."

This point should be well considered; especially by those who imagine that the people to whom the law was given, sustain any different relation to the plan of salvation, than do those who lived before the giving of the law, or those who have lived since the days of Christ. One of the greatest evils that has afflicted the Christian church is the doctrine of justification by works. Though perhaps repudiating the idea that righteousness is attained by the law at the present time, yet it is supposed that a certain class of people, the Jews, from the giving of the law on Mt. Sinai until the time of Christ, attained to righteousness by the law, but that since the time of Christ, righteousness has been attained by faith; and when one preaches that the law must witness to

the righteousness which is attained by faith, he is at once branded as a "law preacher," and accused of teaching justification by works.

It seems to be utterly impossible for such to comprehend that one can plead for the perpetuity and binding obligation of the law without teaching that righteousness comes by the law. Because one preaches that in order to be a Christian his life must be in perfect conformity to the law, it does not necessarily follow that he became a Christian by his obedience to the law, nor that he teaches any such doctrine.

To be continued.

WEEK OF PRAYER.

Another "week of prayer" has come and gone. A few more such seasons and the last one will have come, and the faithful ones will be gathered home.

It was my privilege to meet with the companies at Woodstock, Onida, and St. Thomas during the week of prayer. I was at Woodstock during the first part of the week. The meetings were held at the homes of the members of the church. All were present at each meeting and were of good courage. Blessings and strength seemed to be imparted to each as the meetings progressed.

Through a misunderstanding I did not get to meet with the company at Ingersoll.

At Onida the meetings were held similarly to Woodstock. The Indian brethren were of good courage, and received rich blessings from the meetings. Some besetting sins were overcome. Brother Elem was ordained elder, and Brother Williams deacon.

The closing part of the week was spent with St. Thomas church. Here also, the spirit of the Lord was working upon the hearts of the people and all were much encouraged. It was the unanimous expression, that this was the best "week of prayer" of any. This is as it should be.

The offering here was more than double that of last year.

From this place I joined Elder Burrill at Selton.

A. L. MILLER.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

The regular time for the next quarterly meeting is Jan. 7 and 8. This will be a very important time with our churches, as it is the time for the election of officers for the ensuing year. Let all differences be put away, and let the Holy Spirit come in. "For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." The blessing comes in doing.

The officers to be elected at the business meeting held the following Sunday, are elder, deacon, clerk,

treasurer, and librarian. The duty of church officers was briefly presented in this paper some months ago.

Let none excuse themselves from attending the quarterly meeting, which includes the business meeting to be held on Sunday; for you will lose a blessing if you are not present.

At the business meeting, clear, itemized reports should be rendered by the clerk, the treasurer, and the librarian, and the finance of the church should be carefully looked into. The question of tithes and offerings may be profitably considered. A missionary meeting should follow, in which individual reports and experiences can be taken up for the encouragement of all.

In the choosing of officers, let the leader read the third chapter of 1st Timothy, and let careful and prayerful consideration be given, electing, as far as possible, persons adapted to the different lines of church work; and then let all take hold unitedly for the advancement of the work of God during the ensuing year.

W. H. THURSTON.

ONTARIO.

SHELTON.

We were with this church during the last half of the week of prayer and the week following. Elder Miller spent several days with us too. It had been more than eight years since we had visited them, save on one funeral occasion. We are sure that the apostolic plan, "Let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, and see how they do", is after God's order. We ought to have done so earlier.

During the latter part of the week of prayer meetings were held twice each day.

Fully one third of the church have moved to Michigan. This is one of the ways in which the Canadian people are paying the Michigan brethren for sending the truth to them. In this case the children went over to school, and they brought back such a good report that the parents followed. This greatly weakened the church; and when a church is enfeebled the conference feels it. However, some of the young people are planning to return and help build up the work, when they have finished their school courses. The lesson,—we should early provide proper educational advantages for our youth. We are very glad that we have such a good start at Lorne Park Academy. The next term promises a larger attendance than the school has yet had.

Elder Howe was with us when this church was raised up, and labored earnestly. We held meetings each evening, but the attendance was mostly our own people.

Sister Ida Watt was the only officer left. She has been faithful, and the Lord is raising up others to help her. At the annual election of church officers

Brother Samuel Abry was elected to lead the church, Ida Watt to act as clerk and treasurer, and Olive Pangburn as librarian. A new member has recently been added to the church. It is likely that one from here will attend the Academy at Lorne Park.

Their offerings amounted to \$12.85. They have also done considerable C. O. L. work.

Mrs. Burrill came the last Friday, and will remain for a week or two.

There is more work to be done. Others are being deeply impressed by the Holy Spirit. We labored to have the people sense the nearness of the coming of the Lord. It seems to me that this great truth needs to be emphasized in the minds of our people. Some do not see enough in the events around them to make them think that they have need to pay their tithes, or to make offerings to send the message of the Lord's immediate coming, to the regions beyond.

A. O. BURRILL.

IROQUOIS, KENYENGHEH, AND LYNDEN.

It was my privilege to meet with the above named churches during the week of prayer. The first two are the Indian churches on the Six Nation Reserve. The attendance was not large at either of these churches, but a good interest was manifested by those present. Two meetings were held each day.

Sister Belle Johnson has begun a church school at the Iroquois church, and is doing all she can to keep up the interest. It is hard to tell what the interest really is, because the school had to be closed by the authorities on account of diphtheria. So far, the attendance has not been large, but it is hoped that it will increase.

No church school has yet been started at the Kenyengheh church, on account of their inability to get a teacher.

When I arrived at Lynden, just at the beginning of the Sabbath, I found that my coming was rather unexpected. This was because none of them took the MESSENGER. Before I left all had subscribed for it, and some for the "good old REVIEW". Besides this they purchased a small amount of other literature.

A messenger was sent out on Friday evening to tell the brethren, and we had one meeting that evening. The next day two meetings were held. I think the whole company was present at both of these meetings. The reading by Elder Daniels was well received by all. They had been having the readings all the week, and hence were prepared to give a good offering.

B. B. NOFTSGER.

Eld. W. H. Thurston has moved to Ottawa. His permanent address is 555 McLeod Street, Ottawa, Ont.

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EUGENE LELAND, Editor.

TO OUR READERS:—

When requesting change of address, be sure to give both old and new address.

In case the paper is not received promptly, notify us and another copy will be sent.

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OFFICE NOTES.
ONTARIO.

Miss Victoria Robinson of London spent a part of a day with us on her way home for the holiday vacation.

Individual missionary report blanks have been sent to all librarians. We trust that these will be distributed and that each member will report to the librarian all missionary work done. See the report of the St. Thomas society in another place.

The annual offering has begun to come in. So far it is quite good. It may exceed last year's offering. One church has more than doubled its last year's offering.

Do not forget that January and February are the best months in all the year to do missionary work.

Mrs. W. H. Allems, Orillia, writes that it took her but a short time to sell 50 copies of Life and Health.

The prospects are that we can get all the "Object Lessons" we want in a little while.

On the eve of Christmas, it comes to my mind that the largest weapons of war manufactured on the western hemisphere, are the enormous guns made at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

B. B. NOFTSGER.

A MISSIONARY REPORT.

Below, I am glad to present the report of the St. Thomas missionary society for last quarter. It is the only report received last quarter that showed the amount of missionary work done. This is probably because the individual members did not report to the librarian. We hope that all will manifest an interest in this work, and report next quarter. Your librar-

ian has been supplied with individual report blanks, and can supply you. Ask for one.

Letters written

Letters Received

Bible Readings Held

Subscriptions Obtained for Periodicals

Periodicals Distributed

844

Pages of Books, Tracts, Etc., Distributed 1891

ST. THOMAS.

R. A. Heard, Lib.

B. B. NOFTSGER.

FIELD NOTES.

I spent the week of prayer with the Montreal and Ottawa churches, and we had very good meetings. The readings were appreciated, and the believers were much encouraged by them. Some not of our faith were present at the meetings in Montreal, and were much interested in the things presented. Faithfulness and loyalty, truth LIVED, will constrain unbelievers, and God will be glorified. Let every succeeding week be a week of working, watching, and praying, and fruit will appear as a result. "Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle, who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart." This, seen in the believer, will cause the unbeliever to see.

I met Elder Guthrie in Montreal the 18th inst., on his way home from Iowa, where he has been soliciting for the Farmington Academy. We spent the day very profitably in counsel. Elder Guthrie spoke once while in the city. On Monday he continued his journey for Williamsdale, where his return is eagerly expected, he having been absent nearly four months.

William Blythe, the deacon of the Montreal church, is again in the hospital, having undergone a second operation. He is in a very critical condition, but is hopeful, trusting in the great physician. He is pleased to be remembered by those of like precious faith.

W. H. THURSTON.

REPORT OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS
OF THE MARITIME CONFERENCE FOR NOV., 1904.

	TITHE	WEEKLY OFFERING.
HALLIFAX	9.25	4.25
INDIAN HARBOR	20.	3
HOPEWELL CAPE	56.	1.40
ST. JOHNS	65.	
FREDERICTON	36.60	9.01
INDIVIDUALS	8.30	
TOTALS	164.65	17.66

ALBERTA MCLEOD, SEC'Y.