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GENERAL AGENT FOR THE
BRITISH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN
REV. A. MILNE, M.A.
P O Address
Box 660, TORONTO, ONT.

NOTES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We are sorry "C" is so disgusted at what seems a very innocent thing; and one he would watch the gentlemen in question are in no case responsible We are loth to the least inclined to play the ecclesiastical Justice to any one, but we feel we may say we rather like notes of summer trav el or preaching tours, when written in an interesting and instructive fashion and would be pleased if we had more of them. The C. P. Church, as well as others, have lost much from information of the Assemblies of different localities not being generally diffused We are obliged to "C" however, for his hints. Of course the most of his letter is a sarcastic joke which he never meant for publication

L.—We cannot say how many of the Presbyterian ministers of the Dominion are personal abstainers. A good many of them are, but not so many of them as there ought to be. In this, as in any other movement which has account it something of novelty, there will be found a propelling number of comparatively young men. After some years of age, habits and opinions get comparatively fixed, and but few even among the unmarried are after that period very open to the adoption of what they regard as novelties, if not absurd.

"A Layman, Dundurn, Wis.—We cannot spare any more space for the case referred to by our friend in Bristol.

T.—We have not heard of the heretical sentiments. If you are quite sure of them, protest against them in the usual way. But surely you can expect your letter to be published. Try your hand at the Presbytery before you appeal to the public through the press.

G.—There are too many ministers always ready to offer their services as candidates in vacant congregations, and there are also too many ready to play the patron in a small way, and give congregations the benefit of their opinions about the fitness of the different candidates, but how is the evil to be remedied? If common sense and ordinary modesty were there these things would not be. When they are not, you have no material to work upon for the abatement of the nuisance

British American Presbyterian

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, 1873.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

Sir Samual Baker had by last accounts arrived at Suez and will soon be in England, where no doubt a most cordial welcome awaits him.

A rather important point is under discussion in New York. Comptroller Green has refused to pay out any money for denominational schools, and according to the Charter he is understood to be right. For years past schools of this description have received about $100,000 annually. Of course the Roman Catholics are indignant.

The discussion over the Commission appointed for the investigation of the Pacific Scandal has during the week been keen and bitter. As we anticipated, the prosecutors before Parliament will decline to appear before the Commissioners. They will stand upon what they regard as the violated privileges of Parliament, and will not voluntarily do anything to "condone" what they regard as a crime.

The German ecclesiastical laws are being enforced by the authorities with all vigor and impartiality, especially so far as the training and appointment of the clergy are concerned. The Archbishop of Posen, who has shown himself rebellious, has been notified that seeing he has not complied with the laws in connection with the ecclesiastical seminaries in his diocese, as far as these are concerned the exemption from military service is withdrawn, so that henceforth no ordination as deacon or Presbyter will save their inmates from military service.

The English Cabinet becomes, if possible, more really weaker and weaker, in spite of the changes in its personnel that have recently taken place. Mr. Gladstone, who a few years ago was the strongest minister England had seen for more than a generation, keeps the plain path on sufferance than any thing else. No doubt it is thought that the accession of Mr. Bright will add immensely to the power and influence of the ministry, but very much doubt if it will. John Bright is not the man he once was, nor does he wield the power over the people he once did. As has been well said, he is more likely to some as a Tyrtæus to die with the discomfited Tarquins, than as a Hector to turn the battle from the gates. Whoever is Minister of I and retrogression is impossible.

The Pope has been publishing another allocution which is very much like all his previous efforts. It is a mournful outcry about the suppression of religious orders in Rome, and of course a denunciation of the judgment of the Church upon all who have been concerned in the passing of those laws or who will aid in enforcing them. Hear how the old gentleman curses, as if he had been living three centuries ago :—

"We are forced by the duty of vindicating the rights of the Church, by the solicitude of warning the careless, and by very charity for the guilty to raise our voice and to declare to all those who have not hesitated to propose or to approve or to sanction this aforesaid most iniquitous enactment, and to all communicators, promoters, counsellors, adherents, executors, or purchasers of ecclesiastical property, that whatever they have done or may do is to no valuable account, but void and null. And not only so, but they are, in the act of any participation whatever, cast and all of them, stricken with the major excommunication, and with yet other ecclesiastical pains and penalties, according to the sacred canons, apostolical constitutions, and decrees enacted by general councils, and especially by the Council of Trent, and that they have fallen into the most terrible vengeance of God and are walking in plain peril of eternal damnation."

The Italian Governments in the meantime moves on in its course. Whether the curses of the Pope, acting on the superstitious fears of the ignorant, will have any effect remains to be seen.

CHURCH EXTENSION

The Presbyterians of Canada, if they would not be found unfaithful to the great work entrusted to them, must be up and at it. The work of Home Missions is every year growing in importance and magnitude. The tide of population flows into our waste places with ever increased volume, and the Gospel must follow—may, must accompany these hardy pioneers. Mercy to hold one's own is to go back, and to come to the newly settled regions of our land only when "it is too late," as was the old motto, is but to do the work by halves. On all sides the fields are white to the harvest. In fact the very success of the Missionaries is making increased effort indispensable. What is to be done with Manitoba and the west? Surely the openings that are presented there are not to be neglected. We have a fair and inviting field, and shall the men or means be wanting to cultivate it with activity and success? The region round Lake Superior must also be attended to. If we cannot do more than we have been doing, better give it up at once. All that is being done at present is merely to help others to reap the harvest Presbyterians have sowed. Such letters as the one we published last week, from Mr. Rennelson, tell their own story. Through the neglect or thitherness of the churches, our pioneers are in danger of becoming heathenized, and by so much as this is the case our country is weakened and dishonoured.

Then up in Muskoka there is a like necessity for workers and outside help That region, like the Lake Superior shores, is becoming a favorite resort for summer travel, and bands of campers out are, year by year, taking their summer flight northward. Are Christian summer residents in those regions doing anything to find out the spiritual state and necessities of the people? Surely they ought, and surely they could, without doing much to interfere with the pleasure and benefit of their summer holiday. It would be an additional attraction to these favorite resorts if the means of grace were within easy access, for surely church members are not pleased to be out of reach of the church bell for a couple of months. Our well-to-do friends, who have come by yearly trips to be familiar with the Sault Ste Marie and Prince Arthur's Landing, Silver Isle, and so forth, ought especially to interest themselves in the spiritual advancement of these regions, and the patrons of Muskoka ought to do the same. Other denominations seem to get plenty of money for the support and extension of Home Mission work, and we are sure the Presbyterians won't allow themselves to be behind.

In a few weeks the students will be withdrawn from their different missionary fields. What is to be done afterwards? Is the work to be, as usual, given up for the winter? We sincerely hope not. There is no doubt the probability of having too much denominationalism, but there is also the possibility of having too little

JOSEPH ARCH.

Few of our readers have not heard of Joseph Arch and his cause. A year or two ago that man was unknown and now it has become celebrated almost the world over. Joseph Arch is a plain, unlettered, but thoughtful and resolute English peasant who has set himself the mighty task of emancipating and elevating the class to which he belongs. A decent earnest man, Joseph has been for many years an ever-growing power among the laboring classes in the region where he has his residence. He has been a local preacher, a leader in revivals, an attractive and effective speaker, a modest, hard-working, sympathizing friend and neighbor. He has come gradually to see the odious contrasts which the rural peasantry of England has been kept for ages. His spirit has been stirred within him, and at last he has put himself at the head of his brother tillers and has been welcomed with enthusiasm by these hitherto dumb masses as their spokesman and representative. The work thus carved out for him is a very formidable one. The landlords and farmers are banded against all the peasantry who dare to join the laborers' unions, and threaten a general eviction of these people from their wretched cottages during the coming winter. Joseph Arch, however, does not mean to be put down, and to all appearance is not likely to be. He is coming to America—both to the States and Canada—to see what openings are presented to farm-laborers on this side of the Atlantic, and if he find things as favorable as have been represented, he says he will not rest till he has drained off by thousands, and hundreds of thousands, the peasantry of England to plough the fields and reap the harvests of America in circumstances much more favorable than apparently is possible for them to-day in what is usually called "Merry England." We wish the sturdy peoples tribune all success. A large migration of that class to America will benefit immensely both those who go and those who remain.

THE PRESBYTERIAN COMMISSIONERS.

The Rev. William Cochrane, of Brantford and the Rev. Robert Ure, of Goderich the Commissioners sent to Manitoba by the last Assembly, start on their homeward journey by the steamer Selkirk to day, Aug. 16th. Since their arrival in the Province, they have visited nearly all the mission stations connected with the Presbyterian Church, and held several conferences with the Presbytery and friends of higher education, in regard to the removal of the colleges from Kildonan to Winnipeg, certain conditions being complied with by the friends in Winnipeg. We have no doubt that our townspeople will rejoice in the establishment of a first-class college in Winnipeg, and give to it all requisite encouragement and support. The Commissioners express themselves delighted with the country, and their return to Ontario will no doubt be followed by a large emigration from such portions of the country where they may address audiences during the winter, on the resources of our rapidly growing Province —"Free Press."

Before this paper reaches our subscribers the Commissioners will have, in all probability, safely returned to their homes. Mr. Cochrane's instructive letters, we have good reason to know, have been perused with much interest in these columns, and having been extensively copied into the local press, they have had a very widely extended circle of readers. There is no doubt that the visit of the Commissioners will have the effect of encouraging the friends in Manitoba, while, at the same time, the Church throughout the older Provinces will receive, in their official report, valuable and much needed information respecting the position and prospects of our cause in the Nor West.—Ed. B. A. P.]

SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

We are glad to notice that a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals has been established in Toronto under very favorable auspices, and has already proceeded to actual business. There is much room for its labors, and we most cordially wish it all success. Those who wish to co-operate in the work and better put themselves in communication with the agent and inspector, Mr. John Barcourt, who will always be found in Shuftesbury Hall from 2 to 5 p.m.

Book Notices.

EDINBURGH REVIEW FOR JULY

Has eleven papers of full average merit—a good many of them, in fact not so heavy as the "Edinburgh" rather delights to deal in in these its latter days.

BRITISH QUARTERLY FOR JULY

Is an exceedingly good number, with the usual reasons of the principal publications of the quarter. There are a great many books one can't purchase, and would not care to possess, even though the money were forthcoming, and of which it is yet desirable to have some idea. Such an idea can be supplied by the "British Quarterly" in a more effective manner than by any other publication that comes to our table.

BLACKWOOD FOR AUGUST

Has another instalment of the "Parisians;" another paper on the Spanish War; a very appreciative sketch of Schiller; a visit to Albion, and an article on the Gladstone ministry "dragging out a wretched existence." With a good many things contained in this last article some who are not generally regarded as Conservatives will strongly sympathize. Mr. Gladstone's ministry has used up its popularity with dreadful rapidity.

THE WESTMINSTER REVIEW FOR JULY,

For a wonder does not show its bitter hostility to Christianity quite so promiscuously as usual. With all their claim to "breadth," and of course "sweetness" and "light," as well as calm, judicial impartiality, there are no more bitterly prejudiced and one-sided writers than those who air their ideas in the "Westminster." at any rate when anything relating to revelation is under discussion. Calvinism, especially, is the red rag, which constantly sets them bellowing with quite as much reason as those that are said to be easily excited by a more material article of the same color; but not with much more.

SCRIBNER FOR SEPTEMBER,

Among other interesting articles has one entitled, "The Scholar in Politics," which will well repay a careful perusal It denounces in language very vigorous, but not too much so, the silly affectation and snobbishness of those who think that it is a degradation to meddle with politics. "What I wish, says the writer, "is meant upon, first of all, is the essential worth, nobility, primacy indeed, of the liberal pursuit of politics. It is simply the highest, the most dignified, the most important of all earthly objects of human study. Next to the relation of man to his Maker, there is nothing so deserving his best attention as his relation to his fellow man." In the following paragraph some very truthful remarks are made about the non-politicals.—

"We deplore the evils of politics. Our tastes are offended by their turmoil, our morals outraged by their deceit and dishonesty. They are coarse, they are vulgar, they are demoralizing, they are degrading. It is all true, and all the more it is your duty to go into politics! The man who complained of his termagant wife that there was no living with her or without her, was the exact type of the American scholar who stands outside the political arena, daintily sniffing at the odors of the conflict, and wondering how he can get beyond their reach. That is just what he cannot do He can shirk his part, and entail upon himself, his friends, and his descendants an added misfortune: but one of two things is imperative he must bear the evils of politics yearly growing more corrupt and unbearable through his neglect, or he must take hold to make them better. He must suffer the errors of an ignorant policy, or he must help to shape a wise policy. He must permit the less intelligent to govern, or he must bring intelligence to the affairs of government."

Quite true all the world over, quite as true in Canada as elsewhere. Whether or not we meddle with politics, politics most certainly will meddle with us, and the man, the scholar, or the patriot who professes to know and care nothing about politics, only exposes his own folly, and proclaims his own shame.

THE CANADA CHRISTIAN MONTHLY, A REVIEW AND RECORD OF CHRISTIAN THOUGHT, CHRISTIAN LIFE, AND CHRISTIAN WORK.

Two numbers of this new periodical, for July and August, are now issued. It comes in the room of what was entitled "Good News," stopped by the untimely death of the publisher and Editor, Rev. Robert Kennedy, but is quite different in its plan, as the above description will show; and while "Good News was excellent, the "Christian Monthly," going from the first two numbers, promises very well as to literary merit, and valuable instruction Like its predecessor, it is to be undenominational, confining itself to subject matter acceptable and attractive to all truly Evangelical Christians. Its liberal motto is "In things essential, unity; in things indifferent, liberty; and in all things charity or brotherly love." And thus, also, like "Good News," which was evidently appreciated, it should find a ready entrance into Christian families, though bearing distinctive Gospel relations outwardly. We would bespeak for it an extensive circulation in this Dominion, feeling assured that it will furnish a monthly spiritual repast of diversified, pleasing and beneficial reading. Its Editor is the Rev. James Cameron, Presbyterian Minister at Chatsworth, who shows himself well qualified for his work. The price, paid in advance, is $1, including postage. At the end of the twelve months, it will form a handsome volume of 576 pages, all the matter worthy of being preserved and re-perused.

Never was there so much necessity for a broadcast supply of really profitable reading, in pamphlet and book form, as in these eventful times, when useless, yea, very pernicious reading, has come in everywhere as a wide-spreading flood, and is doing vast service of mischief for the Satanic enemy of souls, to their ruin In proof of this, we would specially point to an article in the August number, on "Infidel and Impure Literature." The article is an extract from a most impressive address delivered at the late meeting of the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, by the Very Dr Duff, of high missionary fame in India, and still taking a prominent part in missionary and all good work in his native land, Scotland.

Orders for the "Canada Christian Monthly" are earnestly solicited, to be sent to the Editor at Chatsworth, or the Rev Andrew Kennedy, London, acting for western Ontario.

Ministers and Churches.

A new Presbyterian Church at Russell's Station, Tay and Medonte, one of the Missionary fields of Knox College Students Missionary Society, was opened on Sabbath, the 17th inst. The Missionaries of the Society, Messrs. Acheson and Frizzell, occupied the services, collections amounted to $20.—Com.

The Manitoba *Free Press*, of a recent date, says:—The Rev. Mr. Cochrane's lecture, on Wednesday evening last in Knox Church, on "Scotland's Hero Martyrs," was one of the very best efforts in the lecturing line ever made in this province. The attendance was very good. Mr. Duncan Sinclair occupied the chair.

TORONTO EYE AND EAR INFIRMARY, 21 ADELAIDE STREET WEST.

This excellent institution was established in May 1867, and for six years, ending May, 1873, there were 1,813 poor persons from different parts of the province, who received gratuitous medical treatment for diseases of the eye and ear. The number of patients gradually increased from 104 the first year to 367 the sixth year. Many poor persons were quite blind, and if medical skill had not been charitably extended to them, would now be hopelessly blind. In some cases, when the father of a family had been so afflicted, the whole family would have been reduced to helpless pauperism, and made dependent upon public or private charity for their maintenance, but for the relief afforded at this institution.

The Toronto Eye and Ear Infirmary affords relief to the poor of every part of the province. It also affords valuable clinical advantages in ophthalm. and aural surgery to medical students, which cannot be obtained in any other institution in the Province. These students, as they settle in different parts of the country, carry the experience which they have gained at the Eye and Ear Infirmary into practice, and thereby confer a public benefit.

As already stated above, there is no charge for medical treatment or medicine, the only expense being for the In-patients board which is charged at $8.00 per week each person.

The Board of Management perform their labors without any remuneration whatever. The City Chamberlain, Mr. A. J. McCord, is the president, Mr. A. Dredge, Vice President; Mr. W. T. Mason, Secretary-Treasurer; and Messrs. Wm. Elliott, George Hague, (Bank of Toronto), John Nelson, W. J. McDonnell, A. R. McMaster, J. H. Mason, E. J. Palmer, Robert Walker, and Robert Wilkes, M. P., are Directors.

The medical staff is likewise unpaid.

The first on the list is Dr. A. M. Rosebrugh, a well-known authority, and of great experience in ophthalmic and aural surgery, he is ably assisted by Drs. Coleman and Reeve, while Dr. Caniff acts as consulting Surgeon.

The Eye and Ear Infirmary is partly supported by voluntary contributions. All annual subscribers of one dollar, and upwards are members, and entitled to vote at general meetings and elections. Any person subscribing and paying at one time fifty dollars, is a member for life, and entitled to the same privileges as annual subscribers.

At a recent meeting of the Board of Management, Mr. Francis Hart and his wife were unanimously appointed Superintendent and Matron of the Infirmary.

All communications to be directed to Mr. Francis Hart, Superintendent, Box 1360, Post Office, Toronto.

Mr. John Lovell, the enterprising publisher of Montreal, announces the early publication of a "Gazetteer of British North America." We have no doubt that it will be a very useful work, in every way worthy the reputation of the house from which it emanates.

The Rev. Newman Hall is engaged, with his people, in building, at a cost of $125,000, a new house of worship, which shall not be called, as heretofore, Surrey Chapel, but Christ Church, to hold 2,500 people, and to be surmounted with a tower which will cost $20,000.

There are at present but 16,000 Jews living in Palestine. The *Jewish Times* says: "They have no visible means of support; spend their time in idleness, praying, and Talmud reading, and foolishly gazing and sighing on the ruins of the Temple—eking out a miserable existence by the charity of the Jews of Europe, America, and Australia."

A touching incident has come to light in connection with the martyrdom of the Nova Scotian missionary (Gordon) in the New Hebrides. Just before he was killed by a native he had been at work on the translation of the Acts of the Apostles, and the last chapter he went over was the chapter on the stoning of Stephen.

An idea of the scarcity of foreign missionaries in India may be gained from the estimate of the Rev. Thomas Evans, of the London Baptist Missionary Society, that if the same proportions were maintained in Great Britain, there would be but sixteen ministers for all England, eight for Scotland, four for Ireland, and two for Wales.

In Lisbon, Portugal, the Presbyterians have purchased at public sale the "convent" of a suppressed religious body, and in spite of some threats of violence, they have already, under protection of government, taken possession and hold services in the building. Thus the quasi legal status of a Protestant church has been recognized, though full religious liberty has not yet been granted by the government.