

THE CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.

(NEW SERIES.)

VOL. III.]

TORONTO, MARCH, 1884.

[No. 3.

EDITORIAL JOTTINGS.

A GLANCE over our "News of Churches" for the past few months, and notably the reports in our present issue noticing several annual meetings, must be encouraging to the well-wishers of our Zion. Steady, cheerful progress seems the rule. Our vacancies are being filled, indeed our Missionary Superintendent says they are all filled in Ontario, and seemingly well filled. With our College on a new basis, and a steady increase in our liberality, we may be able, ere long, to turn attention to fields now dead, and regain, under God's blessing, much of the ground we have lost. We are not going to prolong the refrain "'Twas tribulation ages since, 'tis tribulation still," but raise a strong Ebenezer, take fresh courage and go on, praising God from whom all blessings flow. "And this will we do if God permit."

THE annual conversazione and the banquet of the Toronto University and College, held during February, were both brilliant affairs, and assumed more than ordinary importance from the present discussion regarding further grants from the Provincial treasury. The Rev. H. D. Powis was present and spoke at the banquet, and no doubt represented true Congregational tradition and sentiment when he pronounced in favour of truly national education, and of making our Provincial University efficient in the highest degree. As Canada advances in prosperity and worth, her citizens will appreciate more and more the highest possible culture for such of her children as can devote time and talent to its attainment. In our present state it does seem preposterous that Ontario, with not two million inhabitants, should multiply universities, and it is more than doubtful whether more than one institution can maintain talent in her chairs that will keep abreast with our English colleges. True, the folly, if not something worse, of past

Governments forced the denominations into university work, and some consideration is due to institutions thus forced into existence: but true wisdom will seek to undo rather than to perpetuate the evil, and the example of our Methodist brethren regarding *Victoria* and *Albert* show it is possible to consolidate with due regard to vested rights, whilst the policy of our Presbyterian friends in continuing all her colleges at a wasteful cost of energy and wealth, ought to warn against that policy in Provincial endeavours. Confessedly the best equipped theological hall in the Dominion is the McMaster Hall of our Baptist friends, and that has been made possible by concentrating all available energies thither. If we would not fritter away the educational resources of this young country let us rally round our truly Provincial institutions.

VERY much sympathy is being shown for Rev. Dr. Wilson, of Kingston, late curate of a High Anglican church there. For expressing sympathy with and active participation in the work of the Salvation Army in that city, he was dismissed by his dean from his curacy. Of the wisdom of the dean's action we do not speak, but this much we would say: We confess to little sympathy with men who cling to the prestige and supposed apostolic sanctity of the Anglican Episcopate, and its fancied superiority, and yet claim all the rights and privileges of the Free churches. Dr. Wilson was, as we understand the matter, simply a curate. Ecclesiastically the responsibility rested not on him but on his superior. His superior officer would not assume the responsibility of his action and logically dismissed him. We humbly submit that outsiders have nothing to do with that family trouble. Had Dr. Wilson quietly accepted the position and earnestly gone forth to find another and more congenial field of labour, he would have had our undoubted sympathy, as it is, we confess