

NOTES TO CORRESPONDENTS AND READERS.

There seems to be some misapprehension on the part of old subscribers...

For the past two weeks names have been coming in pretty freely...

Our Premium is giving good satisfaction. A Minister writes: "Your offer is a most generous one..."

THE YEAR BOOK will be forwarded to parties who ordered copies as soon as published...

We occasionally receive a letter without a name. Last week we received two money letters...

British American Presbyterian. FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1876.

SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

In our last week's issue we referred in an editorial upon this subject to an address of the Kingston Sabbath Reformation Society...

EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.

A meeting of this now famous Christian organization was held lately in Belfast. An exchange says there was a large attendance...

"The Rev. T. Y. Killen, Belfast, then moved that the members of the conference have heard with the greatest satisfaction of the work of awakening and revival with which God has been blessing many places in these and other kingdoms..."

The condition of Christians in Turkey occupied a prominent place in the Conference of the Alliance. The Rev. William Wright, missionary of the Irish Presbyterian Church at Damascus, was present at the meeting...

hoped, may lead to more vigorous action.

A letter was received from the Italian branch of the Alliance, asking for the next Conference to be held in the city of Rome. This was supported in an earnest speech by a delegate from Italy...

A POOR MAN.

There lately came to a close in the city of New York, at the advanced age of eighty-five, a life that may well permit a moral if it cannot adorn a tale. In those days when the race for riches is so general and so eager, it is instructive to read the public estimate after his death of one who succeeded in this struggle to a degree perhaps beyond any man of his time...

Some men who have amassed great riches have lived lives of true nobility in the discharge of the social and public duties of life. The process of becoming wealthy has been one that has developed and improved them in almost every way.

W. B. Astor inherited \$20,000,000 to begin with, and it became, it is supposed, at least five-fold. How was it done, and what kind of a man did it make of him? It was accomplished in part by the value of property, caused by the rapid growth of New York city, so that his whole work was just watching, using and hoarding.

We learn the following interesting item from the annual report of the "Woman's Christian Union," Chicago, held last month, in the hope that it may lead to the spread of a similar work amongst ourselves. The society was formed in March of last year. It originated in a call made by a lady at the noon-day prayer-meeting for a temperance meeting to be held in one of the churches.

a spark of true nobility, or a drop of the milk of human kindness, would choose to stand in his place, or have attached to their memory the loathing and contempt such a life and character excite.

ANNUAL MEETING G. D. SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

The Grand Division of Sons of Temperance held their annual meeting on Dec. 7th at Braintree. In the Grand Scribo's report allusion was made to the importance which the question of Prohibition was assuming, as the ultimate and only effective remedy for the evils of intemperance...

In the evening a large public meeting was held in the hall of the Y.M.C.A. On the platform were the leading members belonging to the Order, and several friends from the United States.

After a stirring and animated contest, the following were elected office-bearers for the ensuing year.

Rev. J. W. Manning, Almonte, was elected G.W.P. for next term; John McMillan, Toronto, G.W.A.; Thomas Webster, Brantford, Grand Scribo; Rev. John Finch, Whitevale, Grand Treasurer; Rev. Donald Fraser, Port Elgin, Grand Chaplain; Byron J. Wade, Clinton, Grand Conductor; John Bingham, Tyrone, Grand Sentinel.

It was on motion of Representative G. M. Rose, seconded by Rep. Thomas Carwell, it was resolved, with only one dissenting voice, "That the Representatives of the Order of the Sons of Temperance in Ontario, in Grand Division assembled, highly approve of the series of resolutions passed by the Convention of Temperance men, held in Montreal during the month of September last, and do hereby pledge ourselves as individuals, and as a Grand Division, to do our utmost to spread the principles therein set forth, and further, to support all candidates for Parliament, who, if returned, are prepared to advocate Prohibition in the Legislature of Ontario and of Canada."

Schemes were discussed with regard to future action, and it was resolved to continue the lecture work, and organize new Divisions.

Very favorable notice was taken of the work done by the Ontario Temperance and Prohibitory League, and it was highly commended for introducing to Canada lecturers from Great Britain. The President, Mr. Robert Maclean of Toronto, and two of the lecturers, Mr. William Bell, of York, England, and Mr. D. Ramsay, of Glasgow, Scotland, attended during the session, and helped in various ways to assist in the public meetings and in the private deliberations.

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The society was formed in March of last year. It originated in a call made by a lady at the noon-day prayer-meeting for a temperance meeting to be held in one of the churches. This meeting was large and enthusiastic. A committee of fifty ladies was formed, and appointed to visit the city council to protest against the repeal of the law prohibiting the traffic in liquor on Sabbath. That appeal was denied; but a society was formed which has been doing good work.

The attendance has varied from seven to three hundred, numbering at present from seventy to eighty daily. After having attended more than one hundred of

these meetings consecutively, with scarcely a day's absence, I desire to put on record to the glory of God, my estimation of the marvellous manner in which the interest of these meetings has been sustained the entire period. Without the attendance of clergymen, except in very rare cases, sustained by women and reformed men, coming together strangers—the one theme temperance and salvation by Christ—I have never yet seen a meeting other than interesting and refreshing.

THE MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT GRANT.

This important annual state document was presented to the Senate and House of Representatives on the 7th inst. It is very significant of the importance the subject is assuming, that the first matter specially noticed after a flattering contrast between the position of the country now, and as it was one hundred years ago, is that of the Public Schools. It is well known that fears are beginning to be very generally entertained in many States that the Romish Church is about to make an attempt to divert a portion of the public funds from their originally intended use to the support of schools, in which the tenets of that church may be taught as a part of a secular education.

"No sectarian tenets shall ever be taught in any school supported in whole or in part by the State, nation, or by the proceeds of any tax levied upon any community."

Attention is also drawn to the immense amount of church property—\$100,000,000—and to the rapidly increasing amount of it, which bears no share in the public burdens, and it is suggested that laws shall be made allowing no property whatever, except church edifices and burying places, to escape untaxed. The fact that by the year 1900 the amount of such property untaxed will foot up to \$800,000,000, shows clearly the folly of the principle of not taxing it, and the President points out that such a state of things continuing might lead, as it has led in other States, to sequestration as a State necessity.

Strong and most emphatic opinions are also expressed respecting the necessity of rooting out polygamy and other equally shameless and destructive kinds of licensed immorality.

The state of foreign relations and the importance to the well-being of the country of the resumption of specie payments, are the other chief matters touched upon in the message.

Ministers and Churches.

PORT LEWIS.—On Sabbath the 5th of Dec., Mr. Malcolm Campbell and Mr. Donald Stalker were ordained to the eldership of St. Andrew's Church, Huntingdon, P.Q.

THE Rev. Burton, of Belleville, has been lecturing most acceptably before the Dundas Knox Church Self-Improvement Association. His subject was "Astronomy."

THE induction of the Rev. John Hogg, as pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Oshawa, took place on Tuesday of last week. A report of the interesting proceedings is crowded out of this issue.

HUNTINGDON, P.Q.—During the last eighteen months, 130 new communicants have been added to the roll of St. Andrew's Church. There is now a membership of 300, and under the Rev. Mr. Muir the congregation has been eminently prosperous.

THE Rev. Mr. Patterson having resigned his charge at Bobaygeon, Mr. A. Tully, on the recommendation of the Home Mission Committee, and in compliance with the earnest request of the people, has been appointed to labour during the next three months at Bobaygeon.

KNOX CHURCH, Woodstock, is to be furnished with chandeliers, so that the evening services may be held in that portion of the building instead of the basement, as heretofore. The ladies of the congregation have taken the matter in hand, the result is not at all doubtful.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, Peterboro', of which the Rev. J. M. Roger, M.A., was for many years pastor, was formally declared vacant last Sabbath week. Rev. Mr. Smith of Grafton, filled the pulpit, and preached a valedictory sermon, after which he went into the history of the Church, and Rev. Mr. Roger's connection

with it for the past forty-two years, and spoke in a very energetic manner, urging a conciliatory spirit on the part of all, and the necessity of speedily filling up the vacancy.

On Thursday the 9th inst., a number of the friends connected with the Markdale congregation took possession of the house of Mr. Thomas Campbell, where the Rev. John A. McAlmon boarded, and after unloading their sleighs and cutters of numerous baskets, they proceeded to present Anna with a beautiful cutter and buffalo-robe, amounting in all to the value of \$70. After which a very pleasant evening was spent by all. The table was soon spread with an abundant supply, which was also apparently enjoyed by all present.

LEARNERS Presbyterian Church, Colborne Township, one of the congregations in connection with Knox Church, Godorich, was opened on Sabbath, 5th Dec., services being conducted in the morning by Rev. J. Sioveright, in the afternoon by Rev. H. Ure, and in the evening by Rev. J. Y. Hartly. The Church is a neat frame building, and great spirit and liberality have been shown by the Presbyterian community in the neighbourhood in the erecting of it in a very short space of time. A social meeting was held on the Monday evening following, which, like the meetings on the previous occasion, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, was largely attended. The proceeds of the opening services amounted to \$181, leaving a debt of \$60, which it is expected will be liquidated within the week. The Church is not yet entirely finished, but it is the intention of the Building Committee to proceed with the work as expeditiously as possible.

Correspondence.

Dr. Campbell's Case.

EDITOR BRITISH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN.

Sir,—As an allusion by one of your correspondents to the case of Dr. John McLeod Campbell is not strictly connected with my letter on the Confession, I prefer to refer to it separately. It is quite true that a number of Evangelical ministers united with the "Moderators" against Dr. Campbell. It is not, however, quite correct to identify Dr. Chalmers with a movement with which he had no sympathy, not even being present at the Assembly where Dr. Campbell was deposed. He always was and continued to be till his death a warm friend of Dr. Campbell's, and must have sympathized to some extent with the teaching for which his friend was deposed, since he pronounced the work of T. Erskine on the "Freeness of Gospel," containing the same teaching, "the most delightful book that ever was written."

Your correspondent has noticed one of my reasons for inferring a considerable change of opinion in Scotland in respect of the doctrine for which Dr. Campbell was deposed. He has not referred to others. I do not know whether he would call Mr. Moody also a "semi-Polagian." But certain it is that Mr. Moody preached throughout Scotland this very doctrine, with the express sanction and endorsement of numbers of the most eminent and earnest Scottish ministers. It was the fullness and directness with which he preached this doctrine which was the very life and power of his successful preaching. Yours, etc., A LAY PRESBYTERIAN.

Hymnology.

EDITOR BRITISH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN.

I think we ought to keep agitating the question of the Hymnology for the united church. Every one, except a few that are prejudiced, admits the unsuitableness and insufficiency of our present collection of psalms and paraphrases. There is not sufficient variety in them. There is a difficulty in finding anything suitable to certain subjects. People of culture not accustomed to our version of the psalms, dislike them. They speak of them as doggerel. They say the beauty of the psalms is spoiled. Our church is not for the Gael alone, who through early use may esteem this version, but it ought to adapt itself to all classes and nationalities.

We have not uniformity in this matter. Congregations that belonged to the Kirk use a collection of hymns in addition to the psalms and paraphrases. Most of the congregations that were formerly U. P., use another collection. Some that were Free Church make use of the English Presbyterian Hymn Book. In some churches Sankoy's Hymns are used at the prayer meetings; in others a collection made by the late Wesleyan Church.

Would it not be better for the united church to take action and authorize and recommend a good hymn-book? The "Presbyterian Hymnal," prepared by a committee appointed by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States, is an admirable collection. The music is set to the words. It was mainly prepared by Dr. Duryea. We have no man in Canada so admirably qualified for the work. We take Dr. Hodge, an American, as our standard and leader in theology. Why go to England or Scotland for our Hymnology? The Americans are their acknowledged leaders in this respect. I hope this matter of the Hymnology of our church will soon be happily settled. D.

A GREAT FIRE took place in New York, Dec. 9th, involving a loss of \$920,000.