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## THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN,

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## Notes of the Week.

SOME people entertain the opinion that a first-class weekly religious paper can be produced for a dollar a year subscription. It is, as has been over and over again demonstrated by actual and painful experiment, an utter impossibility. This is what an esteemed exchange has to say on the subject: A Baptist paper in New York, whose subscription price was one dollar a year, spent eighteen thousand dollars over its receipts, and then failed, and yet our friends sometimes say that the religious papers are too costly. It takes money to run a good religious paper, and considering the labour and expense incurred, we believe that our religious papers generally are the cheapest in the world.

SOME Chinaman has evidently been beguiling his leisure hours with a study of the American humourists. A pamphlet recently circulated in Hong Kong against Christian mission work affirms that "Europeans do not belong to the human race, but are descended from monkeys. This race of wild beings worships neither the Heavens nor the earth; they do not honour their parents nor have respect for their forefathers. They come into China under the pretence of preaching a religion, but really come to take the eyes and the brains of dying people, and the blood of children. With these they make medical pills, which they sell in their country, and in this manner secure shrewdness. Many of them take to politics." The last stroke is obviously intended for American politicians.

MR. F. B. STEWART, who takes a deep interest in the improvement of church psalmody, as convener, reports on behalf of the committee on the subject appointed by the Synod of London and Hamilton. He states that several demonstrations of the Tonic sol fa method of teaching have been given, and several trial classes are now in operation, all of which, so far, have been very successful and satisfactory to the committee. The committee would now confidently invite all congregations within the bounds, who feel their need of improvement in this essential part of worship, to make application at once to the convener. He adds that congregations who may be ignorant of the new method, and doubtful of their ability to raise a class, should apply for a public demonstration of the system by one of the teachers, the expense of which could be covered by a collection.

THE Executive Committee of the Canadian Evangelization Society has arranged a series of evangelistic meetings to be conducted by Mr. George Soltau as follows:—Bible readings at the Union Mission Hall each afternoon at four o'clock, from Thursday, October 23rd, till Friday, October 31st—subject, "Service for Christ in its Various Aspects", evening meetings in the Union Mission Hall from Sunday, October 26th, till Friday, October 31st; meetings and Bible readings in the west end of the city from November 2nd till November 11th, in the north end of the city from November 13th till November 22nd. The evening meetings in the north end of the city will be held in

the new Baptist Church, Bloor street, the Bible readings will be given in the school-house of St. Paul's Church. The Sabbath evening meetings will be opened at 7:15, so as not to interfere with the churches.

THE Annual Meeting of the Provincial Sabbath School Association, was held at Brockville last week. It was well sustained and full of interest. The meeting was held appropriately in the church in connection with which the first Canadian Sunday school was held, the first Presbyterian Church. An address of welcome was made by the pastor, Rev. George Burnfield, B.D., which was responded to by Mr. D. McLean, Toronto, Revs. Principal Grant, Dr. Jardine, S. B. Bernitz, and many others, took an active part in the proceedings of the Association. The indefatigable secretary, Rev. John McEwen, presented a most interesting report, showing that a great amount of effective work had been done during the year, that the large number of institute meetings held had been most beneficial and had contributed greatly to the promotion of the good work. The treasurer, Mr. W. B. McMurrich, was also able to present a satisfactory financial report.

It is not often that a person is privileged to be present at the celebration of his hundredth birthday. An unusual occurrence of this kind has just taken place. The large-hearted Jewish philanthropist, Sir Moses Montefiore, on Friday last, entered on his 101st year. From all parts of the world congratulations and testimonials have been sent to the esteemed Jewish centenarian. He now resides at Ramsgate, England, having all his life fought nobly for the emancipation of the Jewish people in various parts of the world. His great aim has been the restoration of the Hebrew Commonwealth in Palestine. He has visited Jerusalem several times, on the last occasion when in his eighty-seventh year. He has spent millions of dollars in acts of unsectarian charity, having not only inherited a considerable fortune, but added to the same whilst a young man. A hospital and a Jewish college in England stand as monuments to his name. During the past half century he has been the senior warden of the Portuguese and Spanish Congregation at London, which is itself the oldest and most celebrated of the Jewish congregations there. He is still senior warden. Isaac D'Israeli was a member of this congregation, and acquainted with Sir Moses, the name of Benjamin D'Israeli being on the registration book of the church.

WINNIPEG has had a visit from Joseph Cook. A large audience assembled in Knox Church to hear the renowned lecturer. Archdeacon Pinkham occupied the chair. Before proceeding to lecture on the topic announced Mr. Cook touched in kindly and comprehensive terms on the relations of Great Britain and the United States. These two nations were Christian allies. He concluded his remarks by advocating the substitution of arbitration for war, and municipal reform. After prayer by Rev. C. B. Pitblado, Mr. Cook then lectured on "God in Natural Law." The lecturer's object was to give intelligible and solid reasons for living as those do who see Him who is invisible. In giving the proofs from nature he laid down the principles that matter cannot originate force, motion or life, that all force originates outside of matter, that is in mind, and that natural law is therefore the fixed, regular, stated method of the Divine action. Having concluded his argument that all force and motion in matter originates in mind, and that God is omnipresent in matter, the lecturer next proceeded to treat of the omnipresence of the Divine Spirit in the operations of human consciousness. Consciousness has its laws, and we ought to be governed by them. The innermost thing in consciousness cannot be separated from the Divine Spirit. The deepest laws of consciousness make God spiritually tangible. He concluded with a reference to the teachings of materialism as being now discarded by most scientific men, particularly in regard to spontaneous generation, which he said, could not now be mentioned in scientific society without a smile.

THIS week the Fisk University Jubilee singers give three of their attractive concerts in Shaftesbury Hall. The manager, Mr. Henry Cushing, says: "Although the company is not now singing for the interests of Fisk University, it is not thought inappropriate to remind their friends and the public generally of their past service in building that University, at a cost of over \$150,000; and of the fact, that, owing to their liberal terms and great drawing power, churches, Young Men's Christian Associations, libraries, temperance and other organizations which have engaged them, have profited through their concerts, during the last four years to the extent of over \$60,000. Mr. F. J. Loudin, now in England, has issued a circular, declaring the company now in Canada impostors. The following answer, however, is a conclusive refutation of the charge: When Mr. Loudin secured the management, two years ago, the former high standards and traditions of the company were largely departed from, and secessions became numerous. Mr. Loudin is now in England with a company, several of whom have done honourable service, but not one of whom is an original Fisk Jubilee Singer, Mr. Loudin himself not having joined the company until 1875, four years after its organization. On the contrary, Miss Jennie Jackson, Miss Maggie L. Porter-Cole, Miss Minnie W. Tate and Miss Georgia M. Gordon, four of the original members, who carried the banner of song triumphantly through the first European campaign, are enrolled with this company, while Miss Laura Wells, Miss Millie E. Seals, and Mr. R. A. Hall are old members, and Miss Sammie Murfree, though a new member, comes direct from Fisk University. So it need not be a matter of doubt where the original company of Fisk Jubilee Singers are. Mr. Cushing has not severed his long connection with them; he has simply severed his connection with Mr. F. J. Loudin.

THE first Annual Convention of the Canadian Inter-Collegiate Missionary Alliance will be held at Toronto on the 30th and 31st instant and 1st and 2nd of November. The alliance of theological colleges was formed for the purpose of cultivating a missionary spirit among students before they enter upon the actual work of the ministry. All the colleges in Ontario and four in Quebec, have already joined the alliance, and an earnest effort will be made to bring in every theological college in Canada with every prospect of success. Eminent members of the different denominations will address the convention, as will be seen by the following programme:—Thursday, Oct. 30, 8 p.m.—Address of Welcome, Rev. Principal Castle, D.D., MacMaster Hall, Toronto. Address, Rev. John Potts, D.D., St. James Street Methodist Church, Montreal. "The Baptism of the Holy Spirit, the Need of the Church in Relation to Missions." Friday, Oct. 31, 9 a.m.—Devotional services; paper, A. W. Daniel, Wycliffe College, "Henry Martyn"; paper, A. Weir, MacMaster Hall. "Needs and Methods of Missionary Work in the North-West." 2:45 p.m.—Paper, Rev. J. C. Davidson, Trinity College: "Zenana Work in India"; paper, "Mission Work in Cities." 8 p.m.—Address, Rev. W. F. Campbell, Mission Secretary to the Anglican Church, Provincial Board of Missions. Saturday, Nov. 1, 9 a.m.—Devotional service, paper, J. L. Morin, Presbyterian College, Montreal. "Protestant Missions in the Province of Quebec"; paper, J. A. Jaffary, Knox College: "Missionary Work in Madagascar." 2:45 p.m. W. W. Andrews, Victoria College, Cobourg. "History of Missions in Japan." 7:45 p.m., address, Rev. Principal Grant, Queen's University, Kingston. Sunday, November 2, 11 a.m.—Sermon in Jarvis Street Baptist Church, Rev. J. W. A. Stewart, M.A., Hamilton; 3 p.m., Rev. G. H. Wells, Montreal; 7 p.m., sermon in St. James Cathedral, Toronto, Rev. Canon Dumoulin, Rector of St. James' Cathedral, Toronto. The following committee have charge of the work: Rev. W. J. Armitage, Wycliffe College, Chairman; W. H. Cline, MacMaster Hall, Secretary; J. C. Robinson, Wycliffe College; Charles Scadding, Trinity College; R. N. Hudspeth, Trinity College; J. C. Smith, Knox College; W. M. Walker, MacMaster Hall; J. N. McTavish, Queen's University.