

TRIAL TRIP.

In a few weeks THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN will enter on its SIXTEENTH YEAR of publication. Since its first appearance it has been a welcome visitor to thousands of homes, and in order that its merits as a Church and family paper may become known to a still wider circle of readers, THE PRESBYTERIAN for the remainder of this year will be sent to any one sending us Fifteen Cents in stamps.

Notes of the Week.

REFERRING to the announcement recently made in THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN, the *Christian Leader* says: Dr. George Bryce, professor in Manitoba College, who has in the press "A Short History of the Canadian People," is a Canadian born and bred. Such a work is greatly needed to improve the popular acquaintance in Britain with our oldest colony.

IN India, the memorial of the Queen's jubilee will take the form of a subscription to extend the operations of the association for supplying female medical aid to women, which has been established by Lady Dufferin. There could not possibly be a more appropriate memorial of Victoria's reign in her Eastern empire. Already Lady Dufferin's society is doing a large and useful work, but there is almost limitless room for its extension.

THE *Canadian Gazette* is authority for the statement that the co-operation of the Canadian Government has, it seems, been fully secured toward the establishment of the Imperial Institute. A telegram from Ottawa, dated the 29th ult., announces that the Government has decided, on the re-assembling of Parliament, to apply for a vote of \$100,000, as a contribution to the proposed Institute. It is further announced that, with their characteristic generosity, Sir George Stephen and Sir Donald A. Smith have each contributed \$25,000 to the same object.

WE learn from *L'Aurore* that the Rev. Mr. Amaron, formerly of Three Rivers, now of Lowell, Mass., has been compelled to resign the pastorate of the French Protestant Church there on account of the growing importance of the College, of which Mr. Amaron is principal. That institution now demands all his time and attention. His congregation regret his resignation, but in view of the interest of the College they have consented to its acceptance. The College was opened this month, when more students applied to be received than the directors were able to accommodate.

IT is a curious thing that, although repeated outrages have been perpetrated on the property of those who have been active in securing the adoption and enforcement of the Canada Temperance Act, no adequate punishment has been meted out to the perpetrators of these dastardly crimes. It is not to the credit of this law-abiding Province that buildings should be wrecked by dynamite and life endangered, while the conspirators escape the punishment they deserve. One thing certain, these outrages and terrorism directed against the promoters of temperance will rouse the people of Ontario in favour of prohibition, pure and simple.

THE Rev. G. W. Thompson, of the Free West Church, Aberdeen, in which the late Professor Binnie was an elder, paid a beautiful and discriminating tribute to his memory, on a recent Sabbath. Dr. Binnie's intellectual force, he said, was greater than many of his acquaintances supposed. No man more firmly rooted in the faith of Christ has ever existed in any of the generations; and his life answered to his creed. Mr. Thompson declared that he had never known a man more uniformly faithful to the call of duty. He never allowed weakness or languor to interfere

with the punctual and careful discharge of what conscience announced to him as a duty. He had well-defined opinions and convictions, and more than once felt impelled to engage in public controversy, but he never said an unkind or bitter word of any man.

ANY one who has attended any number of fall exhibitions this year, especially those held near a through line of railway, says the *Peterboro' Review*, must have been astonished at the number of men who were at those fairs with devices for drawing money from the pockets of all who could be induced to become their victims. Indeed, there would seem to have been a bold effort made— an organized effort even— to demoralize these fall exhibitions. At several of the fairs in this neighbourhood there were men who carried on a very questionable business unmolested, a business which was a very thinly-disguised kind of gambling. It is to be hoped that hereafter arrangements will be made at all fairs in the country to prevent any one even commencing operations with any gambling device, and to keep the grounds clear of any thing with an appearance of evil or the least demoralizing tendency.

THE *Magazine of Art* publishes this month an interesting article on "Art in Canada," as suggested by the Canadian pictures in the Albert Hall. The article is from the pen of Mr. R. A. M. Stevenson, and that it is thoroughly appreciative may be gathered from the two following extracts. While walking among the Canadian pictures you can imagine yourself in a good European gallery much more easily than you can if you were in the Fine Art Section of any other Colony. In another place the writer says: Though their (Canadians') best men are hardly better than Mr. J. F. Patterson, who belongs to Australia, it must be confessed that they have more of them than are to be found in any other Colony, and that they show a much larger proportion of work up to a fairly good standing. Three examples are chosen to illustrate the article:—"Good-bye," painted by Paul Peel; "Meeting of the Trustees," by Robert Harris, and "The Abandoned Nest," by P. J. Woodcock.

IN July last, the incumbent of Christ Church, Gananoque, placed eucharistic and vesper lights upon the communion table of that church. A large majority of the congregation at once memorialized their clergyman to remove the lights, but without avail. Subsequently Archdeacon Lauder visited the parish with a view of settling the difficulty, and it was supposed the matter was satisfactorily disposed of. Recently the pastor, with the assent of the commissary of the bishop, replaced the candlesticks, it being understood that they were not to be lighted for the present. The anti-ritualists then sent a deputation to wait on their clergyman, with the result that no satisfactory conclusion was arrived at. Then some twenty of the low church party waited on the rev. gentleman, evidently prepared to push the matter to the last extremity and take the candlesticks from the altar by force, if it need be, on his positive refusal to acquiesce with their requests. They, as a body, entered the chancel of the church and carried them off. The clergyman and the few choristers present resisted slightly, but met with no violence.

THE annual convention of the Canadian Intercollegiate Missionary Alliance will be held in Montreal, October 28-31. The object of this Alliance is to encourage among students in general, theological students in particular, an active interest in, and, as far as possible, a consecration to mission work, both home and foreign. The Alliance embraces the theological colleges in Toronto, Woodstock, Kingston, Cobourg and Montreal. Other colleges are expected to join shortly. The first convention, held two years ago in Toronto, was very successful in drawing more closely together the students of the different colleges, and in stirring up in them an enthusiasm for missionary work. Papers by students will be read during the day

sessions. The claims of Medical Missions will be presented at a public meeting by Mr. L. D. Wishard, of New York, college secretary of the International Committee of the Y M C A. Mr. Wishard will also hold a conference with medical students concerning this subject. A returned missionary, who has laboured for eleven years in East Turkey, has been engaged to address a public meeting on Saturday evening, October 30.

THE annual meeting of the Hamilton Home of the Friendless was held in that city last week. Mr. Malloch occupied the chair. The Mayor and the following clergymen were present, in addition to a number of ladies and gentlemen interested in the Home, Revs. D. H. Fletcher, R. J. Laidlaw, S. J. Hunter and Jos. Odery. The annual report, presented by the Secretary, states that the affairs of this institution at the close of the eighteenth year of its work offered no cause of discouragement. In no year since its inauguration in 1868 has the chief aim of the work—namely, the reclaiming of fallen women—been more successful, several young women having gone out to take places as domestic servants, principally out of the city, who are giving satisfaction to their employers, and evidencing a sincere desire to lead better lives. In addition to this many little children have been received and cared for and some have been adopted into respectable families. The report of the Treasurer shows that the receipts for the year amounted to \$1,655.55. All this has been spent excepting the small balance of \$10.76, now in the treasury. The officers for the year were then elected. Most of them are well known in connection with religious and philanthropic work.

THOUGH, as might be expected, the *Christian Leader* is an admirer of Spurgeon, it does not permit its critical insight to be biassed by its affections. It says: We smile at the quaint rhymes of John Bunyan; but the contrast between Mr. Spurgeon's prose and poetry is even stronger, and not so amusing. "It is a perilous thing to have a poetical son," says Mr. Spurgeon, and the truth of the saying becomes all the more apparent when the father happens to be the editor of a magazine. In the October number of the *Sword and Trowel*, nearly eight pages are devoted to a contribution in verse by Thomas Spurgeon. "It seemed in the judgment of several impartial judges to be too good to lose. The poem is so clearly the fruit of earnest study, and is so aglow with the poetic fire, that we do not hesitate to accept it, in the belief that it will be a great treat to many of our loving friends." So writes the poet's father; but we confess we have not been able to discover any poetic fire in the elaborate composition, which has for its subject the most memorable voyage of St. Paul. Here is a fair sample of the rhyme:

Soon as the ship is fastened to the quay
The men of Myra solve the mystery;
For it transpires that she from *Cæsarea*
First touched at *Sidon*; then they had to steer
Past Cyprus, *underneath* that island's lee.
Because the western winds were contrary.

A parenthesis in another passage is too good to be lost:

The greetings past, the latest tidings told,
The bustle over, on the wharf there strolled
Centurion Julius of the Augustan band;
He, and the soldiers under his command,
All bound for Italy, their own dear home,
With Eastern prisoners (also bound) for Rome.

Here is another gem:

But who was Paul? How comes it, too, that he,
Although a prisoner, walks at liberty—,
Quite fetterless, while at his *either* side,
Beloved Luke and Aristarchus stride?

At the climax, when we look for some of the "glow," this is what we find:

Close on three hundred souls—a hapless host—
Stand safe but shivering on Melita's coast!

Why hapless when they were saved? It is one of the curiosities of literature that a master of prose composition like Mr. Spurgeon should be so totally devoid of the capacity of distinguishing poetry.