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SCIENCE AND RELIGION. *A. F. Kempf,*

During the past month the city of Montreal has been favoured with the presence of men illustrious in every department of science from all parts of the American continent. A scientific synod has been held in which the fruits of the past year's labours have been reported; in which unsettled questions have been debated; and in which savans from the United States, Canada and Britain have compared notes, have marked the progress of the past, and surveyed the field of future research and discovery.

We need scarcely say that papers of the deepest interest were read, that far-reaching and comprehensive views of physical phenomena were expressed,—all indicating the zeal and energy with which men are pressing into the secrets of nature, and seeking conquests over the elements and powers of the material world in which the Creator has given them a birthright dominion. It was interesting to see so many veterans of science assembled together. Their very appearance marked them out as verily *working-men*. Gentlemen they were in their whole demeanour, but with nothing of the trim and cut of the too refined. They appeared like men resolved to do the work in which they were engaged, and to do it in such a way as that future generations would say that it *was done*, and that too for all time. These men are no holiday amateurs. The deep indented furrows, the evidences of severe and protracted thought, which mark their countenances, clearly indicate this. Many even of the younger members have a stoop in the shoulders, and an apparent infirmity of body, as if they had bent under burdens grievous to be borne, but which only indicate the devotedness with which they have applied themselves to their favourite studies. No assembly of divines that we ever saw bore in their appearance such unmistakable marks of severe and persevering labour as did these votaries of science. We cannot but further note the cordiality and friendship which pervaded all their intercourse with one another. In the discussions there were no jarring, no jealousy of one another's fame, and no depreciating of one another's attainments. There was, besides, an absence of pride or boasting. Simplicity and humility of charac-