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## The Church and the People.

Dr. Macdonell's appeal last Sunday week in St. Andrew's, Toronto, in favour of trying to make our churches more attractive to the poor, by the abolition of offertories and the rendering of all pews free during at least one service each Sunday will meet with much sympathy. If religion means anything, if its doctrines are true, and if an eternity of bliss or pain irrevocably follows good or evil actions done in the short life on earth, it should permeate every home in the land, and every impediment between its enjoyment and the great mass of the people should be swept aside. Anything tending to class distinction is totally out of place in God's Whatever involves the expenditure of money bears more or less the nature of such distinction, and is a barrier to some, who shrink from attendance at church where payment of even the smallest sum is looked for, they in many cases scarcely having enough to keep body and soul to-To such, religion should be especially welcome; but they dread to be considered as intruders in pews paid for by other people, and as paupers for not contributing to the collection plate. The cherches do not begin to reach the great masses of the poor. Radical means must be employed; and perfect freedom from expense should be the first measure adopted.

# General Sherman.

In the lamented death of General Sherman the United States loses one of its few great military leaders. Destined and educated for the profession of arms, he entered the army fifty-one years ago, and (with the exception of a few years of private life) he served his country faithfully and well until his retirement in 1884. Like all other great professions, there is a brotherhood in the military calling, not limited by country or language; and true soldiers of every nation will sorrow at the loss of a man who was conspicuous throughout the greatest civil war of the century for calm judgment combined with dash in carrying out the movements on which he had decided. His great march to the sea overshadowed his previous work; but it is possible that undue prominence attended this feat, in view of the known condition of the Confederacy at the time-prominence that involved lesser merit being granted for the hard fighting of earlier years. The almost simultaneous, deaths of General Sherman and Admiral Porter appear a sad coincidence as being the removal of the most prominent figures in the army and navy of the great republic.

### Aristotle's Lost Work.

The discovery of a lost work of Aristotle by the British Museum authorities bids fair to be the literary event of the century. That such a book or manuscript—treating on the Constitution of Athens—existed at a period contemporary with the great philosopher is undoubted, although it has

been a debateable question among savants whether or no the work really emanated from his pen; the consensus of opinion being, however, in favour of his authorship. Be that as it may, the work had been referred to by many writers of antiquity; and its identity with the papryus rolls now accidentally acquired by the Museum bears so many proofs, that all doubts as to their genuine character must The treatise unfortunately is imperfect, the opening chapter being missing, and the concluding ones much mutilated; but the body of the work is intact. It is pleasing to note that already the text of the recovered volume has been reprinted by the authorities, and is now being published with an introduction and copious illustrative notes from the pen of an able scholar. Facsimiles of the work are also in course of preparation, and will be issued to those specially interested in the subject.

### The American Press on Canada.

To those of us who possess anything of pride in Canada, and a sincere longing for the rapid growth and expansion of national sentiment, it is galling to see the rather contemptuous manner in which the American press concur in sneering at our institutions and in expressing—in terms more or less offensive—their belief that our ultimate fate will be to become incorporated in the United States. Well-informed on most subjects, they singularly fail to correctly measure the feeling of the Canadian people on this point. To a great measure this can be attributed to the fact that newspaper men, as a rule, can necessarily find but little time for visits to comparatively distant localities, such as Canada is to the average American; and when they do favour us in this way the visit is usually limited to a hurried rush through our principal cities. It is safe to say that not one in fifty stays here long enough to guage public opinion on the subject of national sentiment. Those who have, know, and are usually honest enough to clearly state, that the annexation of Canada to the Republic is a thing so repugnant to the average Canadian that the idea of the thing brings a hot flush to the face. We respect the United States as a nation, admire the wonderful progress she has made, and have many dear friends among her citizens; but, apart from pride in the institutions of our country and knowledge of its superior government, we inherit too much patriotic feeling and national pride to wish to exchange a British birthright for a foreign alliance. A Canadian annexationist is a man who sells his patriotism to the highest bidder, and as such is deserving of all the contempt that can possibly be given. His place is not here, but south of the frontier; and the sooner he is made to feel this fact the better for the country. One of the last American papers to express itself on the subject is the New York Saturday Review, usually a well-written paper, but whose article on this subject displays the densest ignorance on the part of its author as to Canadian sentiment, coupled with a virulent hostility to England which one would have thought was confined to a lower grade of newspaper. The writer unwittingly pays the highest possible compliment to SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD; while his zeal has led him into making statements as to the results of a war between Britain and America, which must deeply impress those aware of the vast military and naval preponderance of the United States.

### The Jamaica Exhibition.

The success of the great West Indian Fair appears to be beyond question. Favoured with a brilliant opening, under Royal auspices, the exhibition has been and is undoubtedly the greatest event in the Island for many years in spectacular, social and commercial senses. It is especially pleasing for us to note that the Canadian exhibit is incomparably ahead of any other, and the result cannot fail to bear substantial trade results in the near future. It is well that our best efforts should be put forth in recognition and and encouragement of such exhibitions in our sister colonies, under our own flag; it gives a life and intensity to that unity of the Empire towards which so many minds are now eagerly looking.

# The Dominion Illustrated Prize Competition, 1891, QUESTIONS.

FIRST SERIES.

- 1.—State where mention is made of the war of 1812, and give particulars as concisely as possible.
- 2.—Give details of the announcement of forthcoming books by Canadian authors.
- 3.—Where is mention made of an unfinished work by an English writer now dead.
- 4.—Describe briefly a midnight scene in the forest, and state where men tioned.
- 5.—Some habits of a well-known English novelist are mentioned. Give particulars.
- 6.—Where, and in what connection is mentioned the most prominent poetess of this century.

NOTE.--All the material ner cessary for correctly answering the above questions can be found in Nos. 131 to 135 of the "Dominion Illustrated," being the weekly issues for January.

The second series of Questions will be given in our issue of 28th February.