

the record itself does, as the first special revelation of God. The Christian theist need, therefore, be under no fear of being deprived of his god by the doctrine of evolution."

The address was closed with these words:—

"The old distinctive doctrines and principles of Christianity, as all admit must in their essence remain unaltered. But they are yet capable of being, and they ought to be presented in new aspects, and in fresh relations to man's mind and life, as the increase of knowledge, the progress of civilization and of science, the moral needs of the world, and the maturing of the Christian consciousness may require. The duty of the Church, accordingly, is always to work and watch and pray and hope, that the outcome of all the changes which we are sometimes disposed to recoil from will simply be 'the removing of those things that are shaken—that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.'"

The extracts are of interest to us in Canada as showing the attitude on these questions of the Moderator of a General Assembly at the Antipodes.

We observe among the ministers who have demitted their charges during the past year the name of Rev. A. Constable Geikie D.D., L.L.D., of Bathurst (retired on account of age), a brother of an esteemed elder in our church, Dr. W. B. Geikie, Toronto. The address to the Queen was passed with much enthusiasm, capped by the singing of a verse of the National Anthem. The various reports were on the whole satisfactory, although the church there is no stranger to a scarcity of funds, any more than here, and to ways and means—financing—considerable attention was given.

Knox College Knox College Calendar for the session of 1897-1898 has been issued and as usual contains the information necessary to students intending to take a theological course. The usual scholarships are open in the several years and these we commend to the attention of all who purpose entering the college next October. The session begins in the second week in October and ends early in April 1898.

Roman Catholics in the United States. Rev. D. Dorchester, D. D., writing in *Zion's Herald*, gives the following interesting figures regarding the comparative growth of Roman Catholicism in the United States:

	Roman Catholics.	Evangelical.
1870	1,091,000	20,029,183
1880	6,767,330	32,197,880
1890	8,579,956	11,170,881
1891	8,806,618	13,653,811

The Roman Catholic gain, 4,206,648; Evangelical gain, 25,631,956; or 21,427,008 more than the Roman Catholic gain.

Religious Instruction in Schools. The Free Church of Scotland has appointed a special committee to enquire into the state of religious education in the Board or Public Schools. They are to act in conjunction with the Sabbath School Committee and will issue a public report. It is pointed out that the two principal difficulties in the way of further and more thorough religious instruction are: (1) the fact that only too many elementary teachers are persons with no interest in religious or spiritual matters; and (2) the already too great requirements of the Education Code in other branches, which leave little or no time for additional religious instruction.

Lieut.-Governorship of Ontario. Among the names suggested by the Ottawa correspondent of the *Globe* for the position of Lieutenant Governor for Ontario is that of Mr. W. B. McMurrich, Q.C., the oldest son of the late Hon. John McMurrich, whose memory is still green in the hearts of the membership of the Presbyterian Church, for his many and valued services rendered during his lifetime. Mr. McMurrich has, like his father, been a warm Liberal, and has taken a very prominent part in the many contests carried on by his party during the past quarter of a century, running twice as a candidate himself—once in West Toronto about the year 1882, when he contested the riding with ex-Mayor

Beatty, and later on, in Muskoka, against Lieut. Col. O'Brien, who defeated him with the narrow majority of thirty votes. Mr. McMurrich is energetic—full of enthusiasm—a good Canadian and occupies a social position that fits him for the performance of the many social duties that devolve upon the occupant of Government House, while Mrs. McMurrich, it goes without saying, would prove a most popular hostess. There is no doubt the appointment would be a compliment to the great body to which Mr. McMurrich belongs and in whose work he takes so active a part, for should the appointment be made, he will be the first Presbyterian to occupy this position.

The Westminster Standards. The Westminster Celebration by the General Assembly of the United States (Southern) has evidently taken a deep hold of the people and already has been productive of good. It is gratifying to know that the chief credit for originating and working out the idea is due to a Knox College graduate, the Rev. Professor F. R. Beattie D.D., Louisville Seminary, and that his wise guidance from beginning to end is heartily recognized by the church he so fervently and ably serves. The programme included the delivering of eleven formal addresses by distinguished men, under three heads, viz: (1) Historical and Descriptive, (2) Expository and Critical, (3) Influence Prelation, etc. A writer describes the addresses in these terms: "Regarded as a whole, I doubt if such a series of addresses upon one general topic (The Westminster Standards), was ever before delivered upon this continent. They evinced the most careful and thorough preparation, were expressed in elegant and beautiful diction, and were delivered the most part with impressive eloquence." The addresses will be collected into a volume which will be edited by the Rev. Dr. Beattie. They ought to prove of interest to Canadian Presbyterians.

The Niagara Conference. From the 7th to the 13th inst., the Bible Conference will be held at Niagara-on-the-Lake. The seven days are devoted exclusively to the study of the Bible. Such study has been the peculiar aim of this Conference from the beginning, while other interests touching the Kingdom of God have always received prayerful and sympathetic attention. A devotional meeting at 9.30 a. m., followed by some theme pertaining to the Holy Spirit, opens each day of study. A still earlier morning meeting for praise and prayer is held daily. The portions of the Word to be considered this year will be in the Minor Prophets and the Epistles of Paul to the Churches. Special subjects of Christian life and services will also be discussed. The following named teachers are expected to be present: Drs. W. J. Erdman, Philadelphia; E. P. Goodwin, Chicago; F. E. Howitt, Hamilton, Canada; W. G. Moorehead, Nenia, Ohio; G. C. Needham, Brooklyn; H. M. Parsons, Toronto; C. I. Scofield, East Northfield, Mass.; E. F. Stroeter, New York. As to *entertainment* and *accomodation*, attention is called to this request, that all, if possible, remain the full seven days, the conference not closing until the night of the last day. The request is made in view of many considerations due to those who entertain the guests.

* In connection with the introduction of the New Hymnal congregations may have many copies of the old one in fair condition. To make every possible use of these a list has been prepared by which the number of the hymn in the old Hymnal corresponding with the one in the new book is found at once. These will be sold at the low price of 35 cents per 100—or 40 cents by mail. They can be obtained from Rev. W. Burns Room 90 Confederation Life.