

# THE CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.

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## EDITORIAL JOTTINGS.

We direct special attention to the letter of the secretary of our college. It was our privilege to be present at the opening exercise on Thursday evening, Sept. 18. The attendance in the college hall was certainly in advance, both in number and enthusiasm, of what we have formerly experienced: the unusually large number of students entering has filled many hearts with hope. We have been praying for greater interest in our college work and some of us seem surprised at the prompt answer. Well here we are with just what we want, men in training for Gospel work, what a blessing! What responsibility! God grant that pastors and churches may prove equal to the blessed opportunity. The opening address was given by a former editor of this magazine, and secretary of the college, the rev. F. H. Marling, now of New York. We shall find room in our next for some of his touching words. Regarding the teaching staff we may say that Dr. Jackson will be invited to give a course of lectures on Congregational Church History and Polity; Mr. Wetherald, of St. Catharines, a series of illustrations on the practical use of the English Bible, and the editor a course on Apologetics. A re-arrangement of the other subjects among the professors will, with this aid, cover fairly the year's work and give time to learn by experience regarding future adjustments.

THEY have in the great London a statutory Bank holiday, not the semi-eclesiastical ones, but a special holiday akin to our civic holiday, or the "annual picnic" say of R. R. employees. This year's was early in August, and appears to have been a day of unclouded sunshine and healthful breeze. That we may have some little conception of such a holiday in the modern metropolis let our readers calmly consider the following figures.

The trains of the Great Eastern alone conveyed 113,000 to places more or less remote. From the stations of the London and Brighton Company 25,082; 80,000 had been carried off by three o'clock in the afternoon by the London Steamboat Company; 60,000 revelled amidst the beauties of 'Kew Gardens; 50,000 disported themselves on Hampstead Heath, where a large contingent of the Salvation Army sought to make conquests and to win recruits; 50,000 explored the wonders of Hampton Court; 60,000 contented themselves with the more accessible attractions of Clapham Common; 30,000 found their way to the Alexandra Palace to see the fireworks and the Maori King; as many plunged into the rural glades of Epping Forest, 40,120 resorted to the Crystal Palace; 12,000 went to see Madame Tussaud's renowned wax-work wonders and thrilling horrors in their new and magnificent home; more than 6,000 feasted their eyes upon the grandeur of the State apartments at Windsor; 9,000 enjoyed the historic curiosities of the Tower; 30,000 crowded the beautiful grounds of Finsbury Park. It would be but the tedious repetition of figures equally immense were we to specify the numbers who invaded the various holiday resorts and risked suffocation or liquefaction in crowded places of amusement.

Yet this very happy state of things has its drawbacks; what all seek together none find. Rest and peace are thus found only at home. Indeed we often wonder what rest beyond change our fashionable watering places yield. We had recently a four days' drive through the country away from railway whistle, and were led to feel that rail and boat with their facilities, excursions and their excitement, keep us from seeing the real beauty of our Canada, which this fall has been an Eden gem on our earth.

DR. PARKER does not profess narrowness, and his address as Chairman of the Union in