

British American Presbyterian

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY AT TORONTO, CANADA.

TERMS: \$2 a year, in advance. Single copies, 10 cents.

C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, Publisher and Proprietor. Office: No. 103 Bay Street.

Single insertion (for less than one month) 10c. per line (including) each insertion.

Office, No. 103 Bay Street, (Late Telegraph building).

NOTES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- Rev. Wm. Cochran—Paper received. Will appear if possible, next week. Rev. R. C. Moffat. Thanks. Will appear in due course.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 1878.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

In Canadian politics there is nothing of any importance to chronicle.

Our neighbors have been and are greatly exercised over the Indian massacre and cry loudly for the extermination of the Red Men.

It was expected that the Pope was about to come to the close of his earthly pilgrimage, indeed our report was to the effect that he was dead, but that his death was concealed till his successor was appointed.

ANTI-UNION MEETING.

We do not think it necessary to make any lengthened remarks upon the anti-union meeting which was last week held in this city, and the resolutions adopted at which we published in our last issue.

There are some, not many we hope, in perhaps all the negotiating churches, who would much rather that the Union move-

ment should break down, but they have not the courage to avow publicly their wish. It would look so ill, they think, even to seem to be in opposition to what all profess to regard as so good in itself, and so much to the glory of God, if it can possibly be arranged. Far better open hostility than the timid time-serving support which everything of that sort comes to.

We cannot bring ourselves to believe that there are many in the Kirk who sympathize with those that proposed and adopted the motions passed at last week's meeting; but if there are, far better to delay the Union than to accomplish it by making more denominations instead of fewer.

ROMAN CATHOLIC SQUABBLES IN QUEBEC.

We have once and again noticed the hot war that has for some time been going on in the neighboring province among those who, if we were to believe their own account of matters, never quarrel with each other, and are never broken up into parties and sects like those naughty Protestants.

Then came Father Braims celebrated sermon at the golden wedding of the Bishop of Montreal, in which claims to clerical supremacy worthy of the days of Hildebrand were ostentatiously advanced and endorsed by the newspapers of the clerical party.

The Jesuits are in the meantime foiled, but we think they will eventually have things very much their own way.

To the Editor of the Canadian. ARCHBISHOPRIC OF QUEBEC, April 18, 1878.

I send you, with a request to publish, a letter from His Eminence Cardinal Barnabo, respecting the deplorable controversies, which have taken place among the Catholics of this Province, through the medium of newspapers and pamphlets.

Nouveau Monde and France Parleur, and I requested an expression of opinion on this species of polemics against which I had so long protested in vain.

The Sacred Congregation ordered me to address directly to each one of the Bishops of the Province, a letter similar to that which I have received. I published that all may know, throughout the diocese, what are the intentions of the Holy See.

Accept, &c., E. A. ARCH, Quebec.

Letter of His Eminence Cardinal Barnabo, Prefect of the Sacred Congregation of the Propaganda to Mgr. E. A. Taschereau, Archbishop of Quebec.

Most Illustrious Reverend Lord

It has come to the knowledge of the Sacred Congregation of the Propaganda that in Canada and more especially in the Ecclesiastical Province of Quebec, there have of late been frequent quarrels of opinion, carried on in newspapers and pamphlets, and that the authors of these writings, each one abounding in his own sense, do not spare each other reciprocal injuries, and fear not to censure and overwhelm with outrages persons differing from them in sentiment, and sometimes even enjoying episcopal dignity.

Aware that such excesses cannot take place without great scandal to the faithful and without provoking the contempt of heretics, who rejoice greatly over the dissensions among Catholics, the same Fathers have ordained to urge strongly and conjure in the Lord each and every one of the prelates of the said Ecclesiastical Province, to use all their efforts towards banishing quarrels of that nature from the pamphlets and papers edited by Catholics, to proceed against those who shall be found guilty in this regard, and, if need be, to forbid the reading of such journals by the faithful.

Ministers and Churches.

At the annual meeting of the Turkish Aid Society in London, last month, there were three Americans among the speakers, Revs. T. C. Trowbridge and H. N. Barnum, missionaries of the A. B. C. F. M., and Professor Seelye, of Amherst College, now on his way home from his trip to India.

The Pittsburg Banner gives a list of about a dozen prominent pulpits in the United States that are filled by preachers from abroad, and attaches some significance to the fact. It mentions Drs. Hall, Taylor, Ormiston, and others, and finds in them a type of ministers which the American system of theological training seldom produces.

souls above all things. The pulpit, family visitation, and the various interests of the Church, make up the calling to which they are most enthusiastically devoted; and, says the Banner, the preaching and pastoral care which spring from such discipline and convictions is just what the people need, and what, in the main, they prefer.

The latest Ritualistic innovation relates to funerals. At the obsequies of the daughter of a church-warden of St. Matthias, Stoke Newington, the vicar, "censed the coffin, which had two lights at the head and two at the feet."

The total number of members of the Methodist Episcopal Church is 1,459,471, and the total number of Sunday-school scholars is 1,278,471, leaving an excess of members over scholars of 179,807.

It illustrates the endurance of woman that of the first company of missionaries who went to the Sandwich Islands in 1819, the three that survived latest were the widows of Thurston, Whitney, and Ruggles. Two of those have recently died, leaving only Mrs. Thurston to tell the story of that wonderful year.

A pastor's wife in one of the towns of Nova Scotia has, doubtless, proved herself, both by word and deed, a most estimable and devoted woman, as the ladies of her congregation have lately presented her with a handsome gold watch and a complimentary address as a token of their esteem.

It is generally understood in Toronto that the members of St. Andrew's Church intend to build a very fine church on a new site, which it is understood will be more central and convenient for the great bulk of the congregation. Through the able and acceptable ministrations of the Rev. D. J. McDonnell such a step has become absolutely necessary.

On the 10th of March, the first annual meeting of the Bible Society in Rome was held in the Argentine Theatre of that city. That building is the largest of the kind in Rome, and was crammed in every part to the very utmost of its capacity.

It was understood at once that the doctrine of the Infallibility was to be the subject of the orator's address; and the applause broke out afresh more violently than ever. His whole speech was an eloquent invective against the Pope, who was declared to be no prisoner in the Vatican but rather the gaoler there of the Gospel of God.

KNOX COLLEGE.

We are glad to understand that the contributions for the re-building of Knox College still come in with considerable liberality. The amount from Toronto is now upwards of \$17,000, made up entirely of large subscriptions.

We believe Professors Caven and Gregg are about to start for other localities to bring the matter under the notice of the liberal friends of Theological Education throughout the Province, while the smaller and more numerous contributions can be collected in Toronto by other instrumentality.

With the encouraging amount of success which is attending the efforts of the worthy Professors, it would be well that they enlarge their ideas and aim at not only rebuilding the College but also providing an endowment for its different chairs. We believe the whole could be accomplished, and perhaps more easily now than at any other time.

Book Notices

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE for March is fully an average number. The Parisians increases in interest as it proceeds, though we must be permitted to think the whole style of both narrative and dialogue is somewhat stilted and unnatural.

There is a point we may just as well notice at this comparatively easy stage of our Editorial labours. We refer to the desire which a good number of book publishers have to secure a lengthened advertisement and favorable notice of their wares on the very moderate terms of a copy of their publications. It seems to be taken as a matter of course that newspaper proprietors should give up their space to such notices with a great deal of alacrity and gratitude, though the books in question may never be advertised in their columns at all.

We give the following illustration to show how this works. There lies before us at this moment a copy of a sermon—price 10 cents—published by a New York firm, with a printed label attached, requesting the Editor "to send a copy of the notice." The sermon is a very ordinary one, though by a New York Presbyterian D.D.—of no importance to us either for edification, instruction or circulation, while the object of the publishers in sending it was simply a commercial one.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Price. Includes 'copy of the paper and postage' for \$1.50 and 'Net' for \$1.47.

as our contribution to this worthy bookseller for the advertising of his literary venture.

We submit that this is too much of a good thing. Yet this is what takes place only too often in the experience of all newspapers. There ought to be something like equality. Let booksellers advertise their wares like other tradesmen, and if they think any of their books are worth a review let them send a copy of such and look in due time for a notice of them, either favorable or the reverse, not as a quid pro quo for the volume but as an expression of honest opinion upon its merits, and when no notice is taken let them be thankful that matters are no worse, and that the condemnation is, at any rate, only a silent one.

The protracted debate in the English House of Commons over what is known as the "Burials Bill" has not been without interesting and significant speeches, the interest being heightened by the religious character of the question. The Bill is a measure of the Dissenters, and simply provides that when a Dissenter is buried in a graveyard belonging to a parish in the Church of England, the burial service may be conducted by a Dissenting minister and not by a clergyman of the National Church, as now required by law.

The whole debate appears to have turned upon the point whether the great Nonconforming body in England has any rights which the Established Church is bound to respect. Some members were evidently of the opinion that they had none. Sir H. Croft declared, in a somewhat amusing speech, that, for his part, he did not wish to keep the Dissenters out of the churchyard. He agreed with a clerical friend of his, who, being asked if he would bury a Dissenter, said that he would bury them all. (Laughter.) But the majority of the House have been found upon the side of equal rights, as the Bill has passed to a second reading by a considerable majority.

Among the notable speeches thus far has been Mr. Disraeli's, who places himself against the Bill, and appeals to his Dissenting fellow-countrymen not to make war upon the ecclesiastical institutions of the land. He tells them that in spite of the superficial aspects of the religious life of the people of England, they are essentially a religious people and full of reverence and affection for the Church. He wishes the Dissenters to resist in their opposition to the National Establishment, and find in it a faithful and sound ally. He would have both sides united against the common enemy of infidelity and religion that is marching boldly over the Continent, and whose poisonous distillations have already found their way into Great Britain. This speech was received with great cheering, but it did not turn a single vote against the measure.