

"I will not deny Christ. There is no other God but one, and Jesus Christ is the Redeemer of the world. He loved me and died for me, and I love Him with all my heart."

The poor child at last fainted beneath the repeated strokes, and they cast the torn and bleeding body into the mother's arms, saying, supposing that he was dead, "See now what the love of Christ has done for your Christian boy."

As the mother gently pressed him to her crushed heart, she answered, "That love will take him from the wrath of man to the peace of heaven, where God shall wipe away all tears."

But the boy had not yet passed over the river. Opening his eyes, he said "Mother, can I have a drop of water from our cool well?"

As he closed his eyes again, the mother said, "Already, dearest, thou hast tasted of the well that springeth up into everlasting life. Farewell; thy Saviour calls for thee. Happy, happy martyr! for His sake may He grant thy mother grace to follow in thy bright path."

To the surprise of all, after they thought he had breathed his last, he raised his eyes and, and looking to where the elder martyr was, he said, in almost a whisper, "There is but one God, and Jesus Christ whom He has sent." With these words upon his parched lips he passed into God's presence, where is fullness of joy, and to His right hand, where are pleasures for evermore.

Are you, my dear young friend, a Christian? If not, you can become one now. That same Jesus who suffered and died to save that little Roman boy, suffered on the Cross for you, and is ready to give you a new heart, so that you will love Him so much that you would be willing to die a death of suffering rather than deny Him.

THE SCHEMES OF THE CHURCH.

The Rev. Dr. Warden writes as follows, under date 13th March:—In looking over the book of contributions for the Schemes of the Church, for the current ecclesiastical year, I find that a very large number of congregations have not yet sent contributions to one or more of the Schemes. The following is a statement of the number of congregations that have not contributed for the respective Schemes:—

Home Mission Fund.....	340
Augmentation Fund.....	385
Foreign Mission Fund.....	376
Widows' and Orphans' Fund.....	437
Aged and Infirm Ministers Fund....	468
Assembly Fund.....	420
Colleges.....	501

The ecclesiastical year terminates next month. The books close promptly on the afternoon of Friday, the 30th., April. I intend printing a detailed list of all contributions received during the Church year for the Schemes, from the congregations, Sabbath Schools, etc., arranged according to Presbyteries. Ministers and Congregational Treasurers will kindly take note that no contribution received after the 30th April, can appear in this year's books and accounts. R. Warden.

A LITTLE TOO LONG.

How much easier it is to write or speak at length, than to write or speak briefly! Greater ability and greater experience are requisite to put a thing compactly and comprehensively, than to spin it out unduly, or to take twice or ten times as many words for its expression as are absolutely necessary. In a prayer-meeting talk, in an anniversary address, in a written article, there is always danger of saying too much; there is almost never a danger of being too brief. A hundred writers and speakers err by overdoing, where one errs by cutting short. It is a great thing to keep always within due limits; and it is worth any man's while to strive to that end. An old minister, reviewing his pastoral labors before his people, said modestly: "My friends, I am sure I've done many foolish things in my lifetime, and I know I've done some very wrong things; but by the grace of God I've never done a long thing." It would be well if more of us were watchful, as we go on in life, in order to make such a record as that good man's.

LOOKS INTO BOOKS.

PRESBYTERIANISM: its Nature, Struggles and Successes, by Rev Marcus Scott, B.A.

This is a neatly gotten up booklet containing a series of papers on the interesting subject of Presbyterianism, in which the rev. author tells many of the great facts connected with the subject in a clear and easy manner. Much may be learned from the book and it ought to be widely read by the young. Necessarily the chapters are outline sketches but Mr. Scott shows how adequate a grasp he has of the whole subject, by seizing on the salient points. The Scripture basis of Presbyterianism is set forth, and then, the trials and triumphs of the Church in Ireland, Scotland and America and in other countries, are touched upon in a style at once lucid and absorbing.

PRESBYTERIANISM: By Rev. John Macpherson, M.A. Toronto: The Fleming H. Revell Co.

Few if any of the text books for Bible classes issued by T. and T. Clark excel in interest and value those written by the cultured author of this handbook. Mr. Macpherson is a man of learning and a man of letters and his work never fails to fascinate the thoughtful and intelligent reader. This little book is one of the author's best. There are no superfluous sentences and with conciseness there is clearness and comprehensive treatment. A better book from which to get a knowledge of what Presbyterianism and the distinctive structure of the Church are could not easily be obtained, if indeed, obtainable in such a convenient form and compass. Young People's Societies will find it a boon and a profitable investment.

AMERICAN PRESBYTERIANISM IN ITS DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH, by Rev. R. M. Patterson, D.D., LL.D. Cloth, price 50 cents. Philadelphia, Presbyterian Board; Toronto, N. T. Wilson.

This interesting little publication of 132 pages is divided into two parts, the first dealing with Presbyterian organic development and progress in Pennsylvania, and the second dealing with the beginnings, struggles, expansion and divisions of Presbyterianism in the nation. The statistics given are very interesting even to those outside of the United States. The closing chapter will be found both interesting and instructive to members of the Church in Canada as well as in the States.

The Copp, Clark Co., of Toronto, have just issued the two latest volumes of Bell's Indian and Colonial Library of which they are the Canadian agents. The books of this series are always of interest being clearly printed, neatly gotten up, and at a reasonable price, viz., \$1.25. The first is by G. Manville Fenn, "Cursed by a Fortune," and well sustains the reputation of the author as an interesting writer of fiction. The second, "Devil's Dice," by Wm. Le Queux, author of "The Great War in England in 1897," "The Great White Queen," etc., is a society novel dealing chiefly with the modern temptations of society, which are clearly described by the following quotation from Xavier de Maistre, "The men and women who lightly stake their souls for love or gold are reckless of the infinite chances and never reflect that the Evil one throws loaded dice."

PHARO: a Romance, by Anthony Hope, author of "The Prisoner of Zenda," etc. Illustrated by Henry B. Wechsler. 8 vo., pp. 306. \$1.25. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company. Toronto: The Copp, Clark Co.

Anthony Hope knows how to tell a story so that one does not tire in the hearing of it. A ventures of the most hair-raising nature are his forte; while they are, in their plots, as sensational and as impossible, they are elevated by the talent of a born story-writer.

Plots for which other writers would choose a setting of the Middle Ages, or make absurdly improbable, in Anthony Hope's hands works out so easily and naturally in the last end of this nineteenth century. Materials for the development of the story are always at hand. If not, it requires only a stroke of his pen to create a kingdom in the heart of Europe, or to raise an island from the depths of the Mediterranean, and you look up your atlas to get your bearings, and wonder if the map is wrong when you find they are not put down.

This latest story of this writer is located on an island created for the purpose, and it serves its purpose excellently well. Interest is awakened at the very start and sustained throughout; and one whose pulse is not quickened by the perusal of its successive chapters is cold-blooded indeed. The story is illustrated with numerous pictures, some of which might have been left out without detracting from the value of the book.

Harper's Weekly for Saturday is the Inauguration Number and appears in a handsome illustrated and illuminated cover. Among the illustrations might be mentioned, the President taking the oath of office, the President and his Cabinet viewing the inaugural procession from the front of the White House, and the closing feature of Inauguration Day. This valuable weekly which is at all times interesting may well be congratulated upon this special effort.