

we take to anything else, we lose our power and shear away the locks that make us strong." "Let the advocates of the organ," says a writer, "give the statement consideration, for when the gospel was first corrupted, lost amidst the dark days of the Romish apostasy, the poor blinded monks and friars must have a substitute, and so they gave great attention to the art of organ building instead of preaching the gospel. The itching ears of the people must be tickled, hence organs were built and used." A few years ago, at a public meeting or convention of the Protestant Bishops of the United States, it was unanimously decided that the use of instruments of music in the churches has had the effect of almost wholly banishing congregational singing, and that that necessary part of divine service was now almost wholly performed by the organ and choir. If willing to acknowledge the fact, a large majority of our Church assemblies in Canada might well pass a similar resolution. "Thus saith the Lord, stand ye in the way, and see and ask for the old paths. Where is the good way and walk therein, and ye shall find rest to your souls: but they said (and they are saying so still) we will not walk therein." (Jer. 6: 16.) J. C. C.

The Interview.

OUR reporter called early on No. — the other morning, with the intention of interviewing him. Having adjusted his jack-knife and primed his pea-gun, in order to make sure of his prey, our representative gained entrance and found the No. engaged in dispatching a few business cards. Our readers may be interested to know that No. — is a man of medium stature, commanding presence and converses easily and fluently in several generally-unknown languages, especially in Hebrew. The reporter having introduced himself and stated his errand, the No., after a little wincing, consented.

"What are your impressions of the country?" This was a mere preliminary. After a moment's reflection, in which his thoughts were evidently 'drifting' to domestic scenes, the No. muttered something in which the words "Our Jack" and "Peek-a-boo," could be faintly heard.

"What will be the result of the recent strike?" This was a *bona fide* question. "The Senate will be constrained to grant the petition of the strikers for shorter hours. The immediate effect will be a ravenous absorption of the capital stock on the books. The market will be at once 'glutted.' Yet it is safe to predict that literary wares will thereby be increased in value in a few weeks. The ultimate effect will be seen, perhaps after the lapse of ages, in the complete abol—"

At this point the reporter interposed, not wishing to be thought revolutionary, yet anticipating the meaning.

"What estimate would you form of a criticism that the P. C. J. 'devoted all its attention to religious matters, and was too ministerial?'"

This was intended as the crucial test. The No. saw that it was a "poser," and straightway began to figure on it. The problem, however, involved such a complexity of fractions that it was given up. After showing how air was weighed, the No. thought that the case in hand would have to be left to mechanical science for a future solution.

"What should be the minimum sum sufficient to save a student from the imputation of meanness and yet satisfy the man who all-too-smilingly presents to him a subscription list?"

At the mention of these last words a pair of hands, involuntarily and by sheer force of habit, slid into a corresponding pair of pockets. A sliding-scale was suggested as the only expedient which could meet the difficulty.

"What would you consider the average mental and bodily state of a Montreal audience in the following circumstances: Above their heads the sounds of stage thunder, in their midst the fumes of smoke—"

Here the reporter hesitated for the air around was redolent of the fragrant weed. He at once recollected a maxim that "silence was golden."

The interview was continued at further length, many questions of the day being discussed. Among other topics the point arose as to how fast the articulate sound of the word "soap" would travel through a speaking tube. It was agreed that actual trial should be made and that the result should be determined by the time which would elapse before anybody would mount to the head of the stairway with the article desired. The point had to remain unsettled. At last the reporter thinking that his visit was long enough betook himself to pastures new, after having assured himself that No. — had never been in league with the 'mysterious No. 1' of newspaper fame, while the No. by way of relaxation, retired to study the ancient topography of Palestine. K.

Our Local Note Book.

THE Examinations are the great centre of—we were going to say attraction—but have our doubts. Everybody is whispering, in muffled tones, of the probabilities bound up in the lap of time. Midnight oil is being lavishly consumed. Alarm clocks may be heard at early matin hours. Success, we wish, to each and everyone.

THE Music Lectures have come to a sudden halt. It is fair to state that Prof. McLaren is not responsible for this. He has freely and willingly given his time and attention to these Lectures. We hope some means may be adopted by the authorities to have them successfully revived.

OWING to the effects of his recent illness, Prof. Coussirat has been obliged to meet his Hebrew and other classes at his own house.

THE following is the list of preachers who have already taken part in the Sabbath Afternoon Services. Rev. Principal MacVicar, Prof. Campbell, Prof. Scrimger, Rev. A. B. Mackay, Rev. Prof. Murray, McGill College, Rev. N. MacNish, D.D. LL.D. Rev. Dr. Jenkins, Rev. J. S. Black and Rev. G. Burnfield, B.D., complete the list.

THE course of lectures, under the auspices of the Women's Missionary Society, has been very successful in every respect. The last of the series was delivered last Tuesday night. The experiment will doubtless be repeated.

A LOVER of the Fine Arts called on us the other day with a stock of wares. Our *connoisseurs*, with their severely critical taste, were not enthusiastic enough to invest.

THE Theologues are casting about for mission fields. In a few weeks they will be scattered over the Dominion, from the Saskatchewan River to Prince Edward Island. We believe that Messrs. Currie B. A., Shearer, Martin and Leitch intend to find their way down to the Atlantic Coast.

MR. J. P. GRANT has been engaged to supply the pulpit of Knox Church, Cornwall, during the ensuing summer.

MR. A. LEE has been appointed to the charge of Russelltown and Covey Hill for the coming summer.

AT MISSIONARY meetings, held last month in Erskine and Stanley Street churches, Messrs. D. G. Cameron and E. F. Seylaz delivered interesting addresses, the