

THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

VOL. 22.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11th, 1893.

No. 41.

Notes of the Week.

New Zealand, which is already so far advanced in its experiments in single tax and other Socialistic legislation, will be the first part of the British Empire in which women will be allowed to vote on exactly the same basis as men. A bill has just been passed by the Parliament of New Zealand, which provides that every person of the age of 21 and upwards, shall be entitled to a vote in parliamentary elections. The interpreting clause states that the word "person" referred to above shall include women as well as men.

The death of Jeremiah Porter, in his 90th year, removes one, who, beyond his remarkable record as a pioneer minister, has a historical connection which is interesting just now. He went to Chicago before there was any Chicago, and was chaplain at old Fort Dearborn. His first sermon in 1833, is said to have been the first ever preached in the territory of Chicago. There was then less than 300 inhabitants in that place, and the old preacher used to say that he might then have bought almost any of the land on which Chicago is now built for a dollar and a quarter an acre.

The World's W.C.T.U. will hold its second biennial meeting in the Memorial Art Palace, Lake Front Park, Chicago, Ill., beginning October 16, 1893, in connection with the World's Columbian Exposition Congresses, and the National W.C.T.U. will hold its twentieth annual convention in the same place on succeeding days. All National societies of the W.C.T.U. are entitled to send delegates to the World's Convention in the proportion of one for every one thousand members, and State societies will be represented in the National W.C.T.U. Convention by one for every five hundred members, besides the general officers.

The British Association which has been holding its regular annual meeting in Nottingham, has elected Lord Salisbury President, to succeed Sir Archibald Geikie. An invitation for the association to visit Toronto at the earliest convenient date was favorably discussed. A resolution was adopted pledging the association to entertain the invitation if suitable arrangements could be made. It may be pointed out in this connection that the only meeting ever held outside the United Kingdom by the association since its organization in 1831, was held in Montreal nine years ago. The next meeting of the association will be held at Oxford, beginning on August 8, 1894 and lasting for a week.

On November 8th, Prof. Theodore Mommsen, the eminent German jurist and historian, will celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of his doctorate. A number of representative students in the chief European countries have formed a committee to arrange for a commemoration of this occasion, and they now invite subscriptions to a fund for the endowment of research and scholarship in Mommsen's special field. The ultimate form of the endowment will be settled by the historian himself. In 1880 Prof. Mommsen's library was destroyed by fire and some of his English admirers took up the happy idea of presenting him with a selection of classical and historical books printed in England to compensate him for some portion of his loss.

The recent occurrence of the Universal Peace Congress at Chicago, leads the Christian Leader to speak of American Services to Peace. The founding of Pennsylvania is referred to, also the labours of Dr. Noah Worcester, who has been called the "American Apostle of Peace," Dr. Channing, William Lodd, of Maine, Dr. Beckwith, Elihu Burritt, and others, the poems of James Russell Lowell and Whittier. The spirit and conduct of many Presidents have been in sympathy with this great cause, so much so that since 1815, thirty-five disputes which had arisen between the U.S. Government and other nations have been settled by arbitration. President Grant is quoted as saying, "I look forward to an epoch when a court recognized by all nations will settle international differences, instead of keeping up large standing armies, as is done in Europe," and succeeding presidents have acted nobly on this grand principle.

Ottawa has caused to be prepared and distributed an illustrated souvenir to mark its rapid growth of which its citizens may justly feel proud, so far as it has depended upon them. It sets forth that the city owes its origin to the commencement of the Rideau canal under Col. By, in 1826. From that date till 1854, it was known as Bytown. Then it was made a city and called Ottawa, having at the time a population of about 10,000. In 1857 Ottawa was selected as the capital of Canada, and in 1859 the preparatory work toward the construction of the parliament buildings was begun. The corner stone was formally laid in 1860, and five years later they were completed. Ottawa claims now a population of 50,000 without Hull, which is practically a suburb and has over 11,000 people. In 1867 the total valuation of Ottawa was but \$5,167,686 and it is now \$18,616,985. The customs revenue has quadrupled in the same time. People in all parts of the Dominion feel a patriotic interest in the capital of the country and will always be pleased to learn of its growth and prosperity. It is really a beautiful and interesting city.

It is difficult for us in Canada to realize the vastness of our sister colonies soon to be embraced in the great Australasian Commonwealth. The following figures we quote from the correspondent of the Christian Leader: The total area in square miles of Australia, including Tasmania and New Zealand, is 3,075,238, and the population is 3,801,050 by the census of 1891. The leading religious denominations are Church of England, Roman Catholic, Presbyterian and Wesleyan, Primitive and other Methodists, who in percentage to the total population rank respectively as follows, 39.1, 21.1, 13.0, 9.5, 4.6, and 0.3. The Church of England is as strong as all the other Protestant Churches together. Presbyterians in 1891 were not quite up to the half million. Methodists and Baptists are growing more rapidly than the population. In three colonies the Presbyterians increased more rapidly than the population; in the other four there was decrease. The English Church increased in two and decreased in five colonies. The Roman Catholic body decreased relatively in all the colonies, there being but little R.C. immigration, and the younger generation leaving the body as in America. The Methodists are making particularly rapid progress in South Australia.

PULPIT, PRESS AND PLATFORM.

Jonathan Hayseeds: Christ's spirit gives men bravery; the devil's bravado.

Ruskin: Hundreds of people can talk for one who can think, but thousands can think for one who can see.

Carlyle: Labour is life; from the inmost heart of the worker rises his God-given force—the sacred celestial life-essence breathed into him by Almighty God.

Ram's Horn: God can put more light and cheer into the humblest religious home, than the devil can put into the biggest saloon with an electric light.

Agassiz: Every great scientific truth goes through three stages. First, people say it conflicts with the Bible. Next, they say it had been discovered before. Lastly, they say they always believed it.

Great Thoughts: Look not mournfully into the past; it comes not back again. Wisely improve the present; it is thine own. Go forth to meet the shadowy future, without fear and with a manly heart.

Bishop Henry W. Warren: Surely, knowing that alcohol is evil, only evil, and that continually, what shall we do about it? Why, banish the wine-cup, dash it away at once and forever. And let all the people say, amen!

Rev. W. A. Walton: The worker's power was the power of the Spirit of the living God. That could only be got in answer to earnest prayer. They would have the power to work, just in proportion as they welcomed and received the truth of God's word.

Philips Brooks: We are holding every doctrine of the Christian faith more firmly than in any century preceding; and there is not a doctrine that men will not hold more firmly in the next century if they become possessed of the enthusiasm of humanity.

Westminster Endeavourer: If we would accomplish something "for Christ and the Church" we must bear in mind that our influence depends upon what we are. If we would make our life a power for good, it must be a true life. We must be in heart and in our manner of living what we profess to be.

Montreal Witness: But we verily believe that if the working classes were polled, it would be found that denunciations of ministers, who are on the average, as earnest, as faithful, and as weary workers as those who denounce them, have not the sympathy of the majority of the working classes, who know honest, faithful work when they see it.

Rev. Arch. Bell: Sunday-school teaching is a mental discipline. The work of teaching operates beneficially on the emotional as well as the intellectual nature. A wise teacher soon learns to exercise self-control. He who could not govern his scholars, could not teach them; he who could not govern himself, could not govern others.

Christian Endeavour: Some one once said to President Hayes, "It is a glorious thing to be president; the presidency means immortality." "No," replied Mr. Hayes, "the presidency is only an opportunity for immortality."

So it may be said of the Christian Endeavour Society; its membership, its members, its prayer-meetings are not alone its glory, its immortality: these things are means—an opportunity.

Morning Star, Boston: By the last report, the National Government received from the different sources connected with the manufacture and sale of spirits and fermented liquors, an average of \$1.93 to every inhabitant of the United States. For Maine alone, the average is a little less than four cents per inhabitant.

Rev. R. F. Horton: Along with study the preacher needs meditation. Study is contemplation of things seen, meditation the contemplation of things unseen. The minister must live inwardly near God if he would point others to Him. Meditation is not passive, but active, does not follow the path of least resistance, but presses on its way, past all obstacles, steadfastly setting its mind on God, the moral law and the life apprehended in Christ.

Wm. E. Gladstone: If asked what is the remedy for the deeper sorrows of the human heart, what a man should chiefly look to in his progress as the power that is to sustain him under trials and enable him to confront his inevitable afflictions, I must point him to something which, in a well-known hymn is called "The Old, Old Story," told in an old, old book, and taught with an old, old teaching, which is the greatest and best gift ever given to mankind.

President D. C. Gilman: The experience of a single generation in systematic development of manly sports, gives us reason to believe, that if in the coming decades, colleges would encourage handicraft, as they have been promoting arm-craft, legercraft, and chestercraft, corresponding gains would be made. Its value is already recognized in some of our high institutions of learning. The physician must learn to handle delicate instruments with precision, the astronomer must guide his glass, the biologist collect his materials. Everyone who desires a liberal education should be taught to draw.

Spurgeon: See the spider casting out her film to the gale; she feels persuaded that somewhere or other it will adhere and form the commencement of her web. She commits the slender filament to the breeze, believing that there is a place provided for it to fix itself. In this fashion should we believingly cast forth our endeavours in this life, confident that God will find a place for us. He who bids us play and work, will aid our efforts and guide us in His Providence the right way. Sit not still in despair, O son of toil, but again cast out the floating thread of hopeful endeavour and the wind of love will bear it to its resting place."

Rev. F. W. Robertson: In former days when power was on the side of the few, the flatterer was found in king's houses. The balance of power has changed. It is now not in the hands of the few, but in the hands of the many. I say not that this is the best side conceivable; there might be a better than that. We would rather have power neither in the hands of the privileged few, nor in the hands of the privileged many, but in the hands of the wisest and best. But this is the present fact, that every day is carrying the tide of power more strongly into the hands of the numbers; for which reason there will be ever found flatterers on the side of the many.