

# THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

Vol. 25.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11th, 1896

No. 46.

## Notes of the Week.

On the fifth of February next Mr. Moody will be sixty years of age. It is proposed by his friends in recognition of his great services to the cause of religion to mark the event in some way agreeable to Mr. Moody's feelings and his interest in the advancement of the Redeemer's Kingdom. It is understood that he proposes to erect a church in Mount Herman, Northfield, where his young men's seminary is situated, the cost of which is to be \$25,000. One half of that money is to be got in the United States, and it is proposed to raise the other half in Britain. An influentially signed appeal has been issued and many will be glad to join in the good work of helping a Christian worker whose labours have been so blessed in two continents.

The office of Premier of Canada, Mr. Laurier finds, as others have done before him, no sinecure. It is worth something to have at the head of affairs a man both of the industry which his language at the Quebec banquet shows him to be, who has the aspirations for the Canadian people which he expresses, and dependence upon the Divine Providence to realize his aspirations. "I tell you sincerely, I have often regretted since the 11th of last July, when I was sworn in as First Minister, that the days in place of twenty-four hours had not thirty-six; but they had only twenty-four, and, without boasting, I believe I have well occupied each one of those hours. With time and with the assistance of that Providence in which I believe, that Providence immutable and eternal, immutably wise and immutably eternal, we shall give to the Canadian people all that we have promised—that is to say, general reforms, peace, harmony, concord and prosperity."

We get a very suggestive hint of what the members of non-episcopal bodies in Canada escape from by the absence here of a dominating, overbearing Church established and paid by the State, as also a most pathetic view of the hardships imposed upon clergymen of the episcopal persuasion by the occurrence of such a thing as that mentioned in the last *Christian World*: "The vicar of Stratford-on-Avon has solemnly communicated to the Press an intimation that he and his clergy have felt obliged to refuse the invitation of the Mayor to be present at the annual municipal banquet in consequence of his Worship's action last year, when he requested a Baptist minister to say grace, although the vicar, who has always done so on previous occasions, was present. The Mayor is a Baptist, who is to be re-elected, and he naturally invited his own pastor to say grace, which we should have thought every rational man would have judged was the proper thing to do."

Several things are very evident with reference to the Armenian situation as it is regarded in Britain. There is an absolute unanimity of desire to do something for the Armenians, an almost universal recognition of the unusual difficulty of the situation, and of that lying in the way of the Government acting singly and independently of the action of other great powers, a strong and single-minded wish on the part of men of all parties to avoid saying or doing anything to harass the action of Lord Salisbury, with the difficulty and delicacy of whose position all sympathize. It is some relief and comfort to learn, on the authority of the *Times*, that, "It is now known, to the satisfac-

tion of most sensible and well-informed people, that negotiations are proceeding, upon the initiative of Her Majesty's Government, and that there is reasonable ground for hope that Austria-Hungary, Russia and France will join with us in bringing pressure to bear, as far as possible, upon the Sultan, to compel him to give effect to the reforms which are needed for the security of the Christian populations."

The cause of the Armenians continues still to occupy a very large amount of public attention in Britain without leading as yet to any very definite steps being taken to call the Sultan to account, or to put a complete and final stop to his infamous proceedings. Our latest exchanges from England give an account of a very large and enthusiastic meeting held quite lately in St. James's Hall, London, as a protest against further Armenian massacres, to strengthen the hands of Lord Salisbury, and hasten active measures for their protection. A hundred provincial mayors on the platform, a very large number of M.P.'s and clerical representative dignitaries of different bodies, and letters of regret for absence from distinguished men gave it a national character. The mention of Mr. Gladstone's name and the most significant passages in his letter were greeted with a tremendous storm of applause and ringing cheers, which were again and again renewed. The meeting which packed the large hall was addressed by many leading men, and not till after eleven o'clock did this most remarkable and significant gathering disperse.

The election which took place last week in the United States was amongst ourselves remarkable in several respects. It aroused, as no election in the great republic has ever done, a most deep and absorbing interest over the whole Dominion; the loudly proclaimed confidence of victory by both parties was most perplexing to the public mind; the belief also prevailed among thoughtful men that whichever side won, the real sources of trouble will be left still at work, and now it is felt that the utmost wisdom will be needed to guide safely through the dangers that still threaten it, the ship of State. We believe that throughout Canada the feeling was universal among all who take interest in American politics, of deep and sincere anxiety for the stability and well-being in the best sense of the great neighboring state. Now that the battle involving issues so vital to the very life of the country has been decided, it is a matter for rejoicing and thankfulness that the victory is so decisive. That has again been shown which has so often been shown before, that in any great and decisive crisis there is in the country such a body of sound sense, of solid, honest character and of true appreciation of the responsibilities of popular government, as to allay the fears of friends, and put to rout and shame the evil predictions and wishes of all who would rejoice to see popular government prove a failure. The victory is a splendid one, and will go far to restore a confidence in the future of the nation which was beginning in many quarters to be shaken.

No Governor-General of Canada has left behind him more genial memories than Lord Dufferin. He has now reached his seventieth year and after a long and highly distinguished career in the public service of the nation has retired to well-earned repose, crowned with honours, having filled and with uniform success, nearly every post of distinction in that line of service to which his life has been de-

voted. Before leaving Paris a testimonial was presented to him by the British residents in the city and on the Continent. The French people also testified to their great regret at the loss of an Ambassador who had resided among them for five years on terms of the greatest friendship and goodwill. According to his lordship's desire his home-coming was made as quiet as possible. At Clondeboye, however, says the *Belfast Witness*, "The vicinity of the house and the entrance to the grounds had been decorated with bunting, and his lordship and estimable lady were greatly delighted in once more beholding the home they love so much, and where they will now permanently reside. Lord and Lady Dufferin were most genial with their employees, shaking hands with many old and tried servants of the ancestral home."

It is unnecessary to say to our readers, but the fact is worth noting, that a great amount of attention has been given by all our large and representative papers, to the election which has just closed in the United States and resulted in such a decisive victory for the Republican party and sound money. In all that has been said we have not seen one unkind word, or anything but a feeling of sympathetic concern and interest for the good of the country by the triumph of the men and party which advocates and stands up at all hazards for the preservation of the national honesty and honour. The feeling in Canada and in the old world is well expressed in these sentences from the *Mail and Empire* of Tuesday the 3rd inst.: "Not only the United States itself, but the whole world awaits with intense interest the answer which the event will give to-night to this question. Whatever it is, while the American people may regard it as their own doing and their own business, it must be of vast international consequence. It must have the effect either of reassuring capital and enterprise or of wiping off billions of assets and convulsing commerce. It cannot but have a powerful influence to tranquillize or stimulate the revolutionary elements in the populations of Europe. Consequently, on the other side of the Atlantic as on this, the outcome is expected with uneasiness."

The report of Sir James Grant on his return from a visit of some duration to Great Britain is very cheering to Canadians and makes most agreeable reading: "Canada now stands very high in the estimation of the British public, whose attention was recently drawn to this country by the glowing reports made on the gold fields. In the clubs and hotels of London it is quite a common occurrence to find capitalists returning from Australia, South Africa, and New Zealand, on their way to the gold fields of British Columbia, Kootenay, and Manitoba, Ontario. Reports of experts sent out by British capitalists have been of such an encouraging character that next year fully two millions of money will be directed towards Canada to help in the development of these resources. The tide of emigration is also flowing, and no country has a brighter future in that particular than Canada." Sir James met most of our late Governors-General, and all of them, he testifies, "take a deep and abiding interest in the prosperity of the Dominion." While they are friends at court and can do much for us, Canadians must never forget that the prosperity of Canada depends above all else, under God, upon our own energy, character, perseverance, pluck, loyalty to ourselves and patriotism to the great Dominion which is ours, and the empire we are all proud to belong to.

## PULPIT, PRESS AND PLATFORM

Lutheran Observer: Be what you would have people think you are—your reputation will then take care of itself.

Ram's Horn: If we are branches of the True Vine, and feel the edge of the pruning knife, it is God's way of telling us that we are to bear more fruit.

Bible Reader: To confine our reading to a few favorite books of the Bible is to confine ourselves to partial views of God. It takes the whole Bible to reveal God.

Interior: There may be higher traits in God than those exhibited on Calvary, but no seer or sage has ever imagined them. Take the sacrificial purpose out of Calvary and the sublime beauty and divine glory is gone out of the gospel.

Cumberland Presbyterian: It requires a more delicately adjusted judgment than we possess to discover the difference in the degree of dishonesty—if there be a difference—between borrowing money which is never paid and borrowing books which are never returned.

Religious Telescope: Theosophy, properly defined, is metaphysical, esthetic, and moral idiocy; and Christian Science, so-called, properly defined, is idiocy in all matters pertaining to metaphysics, esthetics, and morals. So there you have the difference between these two modern fads. Do you see it?

Rev. J. Morlais Jones: The heroes still live in every street, and chants to which angels listen are sung on cottage hearths. Enthusiasm is not dead. Men still believe that there are grand ideals to be followed, and sacred causes to fight for. The battle of faith is often tragic, but its triumph is as possible as when Browning, with his invincible optimism, faced it.

Sunday School Times: Faithful preparation is as necessary to the conscientious performance of a duty as it is to the intelligent performance of a duty. The teacher who slurs the lesson in preparing for his class will slur it again when he comes before his class. We cannot be untrue to our conscience when only the eye of God is upon us, and expect God to keep us true to our conscience when other eyes are upon us.

The Interior: When our Lord said, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God," it is probable that He referred to the general inheritance of peace which is coming, but yet to fully come, to the earth. At the same time, while peacemakers do not receive the whole earth as a reward for their well-doing they generally get as much as they need, and a considerably larger slice of it than those who delight in war.

Philadelphia Presbyterian: Christian contentment creates cheerfulness of mind and brightens every condition in life. It secures the divine favor, love and blessing. It fosters conscientiousness, conserves morals and delivers from numerous temptations and ills. Thus viewed, it is a prize worthy of every honest effort, a golden crown which should circle every brow, a glory which should adorn every character, and a treasure which should enrich every life.