

# THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

VOL. 22

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15th, 1893.

No. 46.

## Notes of the Week.

The organization and the opening of new schools throughout the country districts of Manitoba still keeps pace with the growth and ever-widening settlement of the province. During the last few weeks, since the close of the summer holidays, fifty new schools have been started; for the same period last year there were forty-seven organized. The total number of schools now in the province is 871, and from a careful estimate nearly every district in Manitoba two miles square, that contains within its borders ten children of school age, has a neat school structure presided over by a Manitoba-certificated teacher.

The London Scotsman, a new weekly newspaper, the first number of which was issued on Saturday, Oct. 7, contains a long article over the name of Mr. Robert Wallace, M.P., its editor, headed "Hitting Below the Belt," and dealing with what that honorable gentleman regards as a personal attack by the Speaker, based on Mr. Wallace's attitude towards the Home Rule Bill. The writer submits that his action "is construable, and ought to have been construed, as an honest endeavor to give effect to a conviction that has something to be said for it, and an attempt to secure a better solution of the Home Rule problem than was arrived at in the hastily altered bill."

On October 18th Cardinal Gibbons celebrated his silver jubilee in the episcopate with all the honours a loving people could bestow. The best-known acts of his Cardinalate have been connected with subjects which the Holy Father has always had at heart—removing the ban from the Knights of Labor, assisting the new University at Washington, extending Negro missions, and endeavouring to show that the Church is now, as always, the Church of the poor. His name has been connected with those of Cardinals Manning and Lavigne, the "dauntless three" who in union with the Pope have been adapting the outward machinery of the Church to the needs of the modern world.

News from New Zealand tell us that an electoral Act has been passed by the legislature of the colony, giving the franchise to all women over 21 years old. It is believed the women's voting power will strengthen the Conservative party who oppose the revolutionary projects in regard to land-holding. The temperance party also hope to get aid from the women. It is expected a large proportion of the women will appear at the polls. If the experiment is successful it will probably be adopted by other colonies. Of the 668,650 population in New Zealand, nearly one-half are women. The effect of this experiment will be closely watched in all the colonies and will no doubt influence their course in this matter.

In the Forum this month is an article by the irrepressible Dr. Briggs on "The Alienation of the Church and People." This is a subject on which a great deal may be said. The Rev. Doctor gives the most gloomy picture of the Church and the theology of the present day, Roman Catholic and Protestant alike. "The Church has lost," he says, "the confidence of the people in its ability to teach them the truth. The spirit of the age is entirely out of sympathy with the theology

of the denominations. Denominationalism is the great sin and curse of the modern Church. The denominations have accomplished their historic task. There is no longer any sufficient reason for their continued existence." In Dr. Briggs' opinion, "they should yield their life and their experience to a more comprehensive and more efficient Church plan, one that will embrace all that is best in each. Early in the next century we may hope that a new theology will advance to the front of human learning and will become once more the mother and queen of all truth. Then we may hope that the Church will have regained the confidence of the people in her divine authority, sanctity and catholicity."

Wherever the fame of the great Fair has reached, and especially wherever the English language is spoken, there will be a feeling of mingled sorrow and horror at the tragic event which marked its close, in the death by the assassin's bullet of the Mayor of Chicago. Sympathy with Chicagoans will be universal at the grief which this sad event brought to the city at a time which naturally would have been one of rejoicing and mutual congratulation at the, in many respects, successful close of one of the most gigantic enterprises of our time. All the circumstances make it at the same time both shocking and pathetic. The worthlessness of the man who did the deed and his reasons for doing it, the expected marriage, the bride-elect paralyzed with the sudden and terrible blow, a great city overspread with gloom, and a whole nation sympathizing with it, the sad message going out to the ends of the earth. Death at the close of such a gala day as Chicago has had, could anything almost illustrate more strikingly the vanity, the uncertain end of man's grandest achievements? It has a voice which seems to re-echo the saying of the wise man so often heard since it was first uttered, "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity."

The new Viceroy of India, Lord Elgin, whose father was so closely connected with the history of Canada, is Victor Alexander Bruce, ninth Earl of Elgin, who was born on the 16th of May, 1849, and succeeded to the title and estates as ninth Earl in 1893. He was educated at Eton and at Balliol College, Oxford, where he especially distinguished himself in classics; and in 1886 the University of St. Andrews conferred upon him the honour of LL.D. He is Lord-Lieutenant of Fifehire, and one of the University Commissioners for Scotland. For several years he presided over the Scottish Liberal Association. On the formation of Mr. Gladstone's 1886 Administration, Lord Elgin was appointed Treasurer of the Royal Household, and later on he was made First Commissioner of Works. A special interest attaches to the appointment from the fact that his Lordship's father held the same office. It will be remembered that the late Earl closed his career as an eminent diplomatist and statesman as Viceroy of India, having successfully held the position of Governor of Jamaica, Governor-General of Canada. Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary in two special missions to the Emperor of China, and the office of Postmaster-General in Lord Palmerston's Government, 1859. He was appointed Governor-General in January, 1862, but was compelled, on account of illness, to resign in the following year, and he died at Dhurmshalla in November, 1863.

## PULPIT, PRESS AND PLATFORM.

London Advertiser: Last year, New York city paid \$4,000,000 for schooling, \$7,000,000 for amusements, and \$60,000,000 for drink.

F. R. Havergal: The more we sit at His feet and watch to see what He has to say to ourselves, the more we shall have to tell to others.

Lord Chief Baron Kelly: Two-thirds of the crimes which come before the courts of law in Great Britain are occasioned chiefly by intemperance.

Rev. Thos. Dixon: 32,000,000 of people in the States attend no church, and the Christianity of half the remaining 30,000,000 never gets through their clothes.

The Rev. Dr. Parkhurst: It is the business of New York clergymen to go where vice and sin are, and to see for themselves in order that they may be equipped for war against them.

Canadian Independent: There are extemporaneous preachers and extemporaneous hearers; the former never think of their sermons before they go to church, the latter never think of the sermon after they leave.

London Advertiser: We are glad to hear that Miss Frances Willard, according to Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson, is likely, after a sufficient rest, to have "the best ten years of her life work before her." Frances Willard is one of nature's noblewomen. Her name stands enrolled in the heraldry of God.

Presbyterian Witness: Seldom indeed has our Synod listened to such an address as that of Dr. Robertson on Thursday night. Such a man is a gift to the Church. Our columns are so crowded this week that we cannot give the barest outline of the speech; and indeed the personality of Dr. Robertson is a large element in his speeches.

The Templar: The editor enjoyed very much a three days' siege in the solid Scotch town of Galt, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday last. It is not difficult to find people who develop a greater enthusiasm in the way of public demonstration, but there is an intelligent appreciation of sound doctrine, and a business-like determination in all their efforts that is thoroughly delightful.

Rev. Marcus Dods, D.D.: "The Socialist says, we must have State regulation; the State must lay its iron hand on all industry, and compel employers and employed to hold right relations with one another." Christianity says: "If you are to work for permanent issues you must work from within. It is no good changing the form unless you change the spirit; it is the spirit that makes the form, not the form that makes the spirit."

Le Citoyen Franco-Americain: The war commenced last year, by the Canada Review, is being waged with vigour. The lawsuit of that paper against Archbishop Fabre, for damages is proceeding as fast as the slow course of justice permits it. The fact that the Archbishop of Montreal was obliged to appear in court, although he succeeded in securing a semi-private questioning, is quite an event for the priest-ridden Province of Quebec.

Presbyterian Witness: The Synod is to overture the General Assembly in favour of making it a regulation that all ministers at their ordination or induction connect themselves with the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund. This is right. The feeling in this direction is steadily and rapidly rising.

London Advertiser: The news comes from Scotland that the country is on the down grade as regards church-going. The statistics given show that in all the large towns the attendance at Sunday worship is much smaller than ten years ago. Glasgow shows the greatest falling off, with the lowest proportion of church members, of all the towns in Scotland. The strictest Sabbath observance anywhere in the world is still maintained, however.

Advance: The young man who patted the athletic clergyman on the back by saying, "I would like to have you for my pastor, for if I didn't do what you told me, you could make me," is hardly yet representative of the people. About the time I read of this complimentary speech, I was told of a business man on the street who said of our pastor, "Every time I see that minister's face it makes me think of pictures of Christ." I could not help contrasting the two remarks. Which was the greater compliment? Which would you rather have said of you?

Canadian Churchman: There is nothing on earth for which one ought to be more thankful than for having been brought up in a pure home. Such a home may be deficient in mere material comforts, but it has in it the forces on which great characters are nurtured. One of our noblest friends once said: "I was the son of poor parents, and from my youth up was insured to self-denial and hardship; but I do not remember ever to have heard a word from the lips of either my father or my mother that was not as chaste as snow. Better such a recollection as that than an inheritance of untold wealth."

Presbyterian Witness: Reference has been made to the utter obliteration of old division lines in our Church. Chalmers church, Halifax, has set an example in that way. Her pastor is of Church of Scotland antecedents, and former pastors were of "U.P." antecedents. The question of old times disturbs nobody. St. Matthew's has a pastor who was a Free Churchman, and no one is less attached to him on that account. Fort Massey is about to have a pastor of Church of Scotland antecedents. Similar interfusings are to be seen in perhaps all our Presbyteries. We would not think of them, except that the Chalmers Jubilee has led to interesting recollections.

Canadian Churchman: It is not easy to know how far to give way to the popular fashion for corrupting the Queen's English, and perverting ecclesiastical terms. A vigorous protest against the misuse of the words "Catholic" and "Bishop" is always in order; and so, also, the word "Curate"—properly meaning the clergyman in charge of a parish, not his assistant. The word "Church" has fallen among thieves, too, and is appropriated by sects who used to be content with the modest compromise of "chapel" or "denomination" or "society." Now it is used by Buddhists and Mohammedans!—though properly only applicable to the Lord's own apostolic "Bride" and Body.