

humanitarian or the opposite, but only on the basis of love for him. From our standpoint, then, we heartily agree with Professor Schmidt's eloquent sentences (p. 384): "The thought of Jesus may, in numerous directions, become a stronger force in the world than it has yet been. But far more potent than his was his wonderful personality. It cannot be defined; names and titles utterly fail to do justice to it. Its subtle influence cannot be explained, it can only be felt. The hearts of men burn within them, when he talks with them in the road. When he breaks bread with them their eyes are opened; and though he vanishes from their sight they can never forget Him. To have once come under His spell is to be His forever."

The year book of the Unitarian Church of the United States and Canada has just been published. This latest issue contains the names of 471 Unitarian societies in the United States and Canada, a net gain of five since last year, and of 549 ministers, 25 of whose names appear for the first time in this list. About half of the new recruits are graduates of either Meadville or Harvard Divinity schools, while the other half came from affiliation with evangelical denominations; two from the Baptists, five from the Congregationalists, and one each from the Episcopal, Methodist, Evangelical, and Lutheran bodies.

MUSICAL NOTES.

In order to make this department a success, it is hoped that all readers of the Dominion Presbyterian who are interested in church music will co-operate with Mr. Rickwood, by sending reports of musical services, and any other matters connected with the music of the sanctuary. Ministers are urged to bring the Dominion Presbyterian under the notice of their respective organists and choirs.

All correspondence relating to this department should be addressed to Cyril J. L. Rickwood, Box 221, Perth, Ont.

A typographical error in the recent article entitled "A plea for Better Congregational Singing," renders the meaning of a certain passage somewhat obscure. In the third column of the article referred to, the page should read, "Not every Hymn, etc., etc." instead of "Not every Hymnal." The importance of this correction will be better appreciated by an examination of the context.

The congregation of St. Andrew's church, Carleton Place, are losing the services of their organist and choir-master, Mr. Herbert Wildgust, L. R. A. M. He is a good all-round musician and has the advantage of being an accomplished soloist, which is very helpful to him in his choir-training. He has always been an earnest worker in the interests of church music, and will be sadly missed, not only by the St. Andrew's people, but by the community in general. Mr. Wildgust has caught the "Western fever" and is going to Winnipeg in the course of a few days.

Next week will appear an article entitled "Choir members and their duties," which we trust will be found interesting to all.

POLITICAL IMPURITY.

Queen's Quarterly is a journal that is acknowledged by outside critics to be a magazine that is creditable to the university and the country; and we are sure that the current number fully sustains its high reputation. For \$1.00 per year the Registrar, Mr. G. Y. Chowns, P.A., will send it to any address in this Dominion or the United States. The article "On Schoolmasters," by Principal Hutton, is brilliant; that on "The Canadian Northern Railway," by J. W. Davidson, is full of useful information. Professor Watson's contribution, "Philosophy and Cosmogonies," deals with an important matter in his usual clear style. Principal Gordon deals with the burning question of political impurity. This article was in the hands of the printer before the revelations began about the recent London elections, and yet he was able to say: "It would seem as if, for us Canadians, the fight against political impurity were one from which there is no prospect of an early discharge; and yet, if we are to realize our ideals of national life, we must carry on the conflict in the hope of final victory." After dealing with the case of Mr. Fielding and expressing the opinion that while the Minister of Finance was personally clear he ought to have exerted a stronger influence over his followers, he says: "No man is indispensable to the country, but purity is indispensable whatever party is in power. This has been asserted by the voice of the people, most notably on two occasions; once when the late Sir John A. Macdonald was defeated because of the Pacific Railway scandal, and more recently when the Ross Government in Ontario, because of the popular conviction that it had permitted corrupt practices which should have been suppressed." The article appeals to honest men of both parties to combine against the corrupt element; especially are contributors to party funds reminded of their responsibility as to the way in which their money is used. Other Current Events, political and ecclesiastical, are discussed by Professors J. Marshall and W. G. Jordan, the latter dealing with such subjects as Church and State in France, The New English Education Bill and Church Union in Canada.

WHITBY PRESBYTERY.

At the last meeting of Whitby Presbytery Rev. A. S. Kerr, gave the opening address, "An admirable review of Dr. Dawson's book, 'The Forgotten Secret.'"

Plans were made for a conference at the next meeting of Presbytery, on the Union Movement, to be opened with a paper by Rev. J. H. Borland.

Rev. H. Munroe, was appointed, as the Presbytery representative to address the Presbyterial of the W.F.M.S. on the evening of their first annual meeting which will be held at Oshawa in January.

The report on statistics was given by Rev. Wm. Wood, and a conference followed, no great gains were shown but the Presbytery covers territory where the population is about stationary. This report will be printed and distributed among the congregation of the Presbytery.

The forward movement in Sunday school work was discussed and it was decided to invite Rev. J. C. Robertson, Sabbath school secretary, to visit the Presbytery in the interests of the work.

Arrangements were made for the presentation of the claims of the aged and infirm minister fund at the next meeting of the court.

Mr. Wm. Scott of Melville church, Scarborough, student in Divinity, was certified to the senate of Knox College.

Dr. Abraham, as representative of the Foreign Mission Committee advocated the claims of Foreign Missions in a stirring address.

Rev. F. C. Harper was appointed to give the opening address at the next meeting of Presbytery, which will be held at Oshawa on the third Wednesday of January.

UNION WITHOUT UNIFORMITY.

By Alderman Armstrong, London, Ont.

It is a common thing just now to read in the public prints that "A spirit of union is in the air." It will be necessary before true union can be affected that "a spirit of union is in the heart."

The only desirable and permanent union is that which is "union without uniformity."

With the diversity of human minds in matters of church forms and constitutions, which at present exists, uniformity is altogether out of the question, so that if Church union is to be brought about it must be based upon a very broad foundation, giving plenty of latitude for great diversity and Christian charity.

The idea of uniformity has been tried in the past, and even an attempt to enforce it by acts of Parliament has been made, and what an utter failure was the result! And if uniformity is aimed at again a similar experience may be expected.

If a Canadian national church is desirable, then an organic union with uniformity of worship is an impossibility; but a

One truly national church based on federation lines with freedom of worship according to the dictates of conscience as regards forms and methods might be a possibility.

One great question might arise on the question of Ordination unless the Church of England could see her way clear to modify her claims and would acknowledge the ordination as practiced by the other churches as valid.

It was very gratifying to hear at a late prayer meeting of the Presbyterian general assembly that the Methodists, Congregationalists and Baptists, and even the Church of England were willing to consider union. Such a union would be a glorious consummation. It was very refreshing to hear the good Bishop of Huron state: "I am here to tell you that the Anglican church is prepared to discuss religious union. No Christian can look upon the Christianity of to-day without shame and sorrow. I am sure we of the Anglican church are with you in any step towards healing the breaches in the church of Christ."

What is there to prevent the various denominations from retaining their present modes of worship and yet be in Christian union?

It is impossible to conceive the Anglican church giving up her prayer book; or the Presbyterian church relinquishing her Bible; or the Methodist church casting aside her hymn book; or the Baptist church foregoing the rite of immersion and adult baptism. These are among the immutable things which each sect holds dear.

But what need is there for any church to give them up? Unity without uniformity gives the answer! Federate the churches as the Canadian nation is federated. Provincial rights are secured and a national constitution adopted which all honor and respect. Could not the Christian church be as wise as the State? Could not the various denominations retain the peculiar privileges, usages and constitutions, and yet federate for purposes of evangelization both at home and abroad?

Thus would do away with "overlapping" at home; and a united church strong in the strength of unity could show a bold front in their aggression on the strongholds of error, superstition and heathen darkness.

No concession of doctrine, dogma or custom would be necessary. Sectarian bitterness would yield to Christian love, charity and unity, and "the world for Christ" would be brought almost within a measurable distance of accomplishment.

Let "union without uniformity" be the churches' battle cry, and then the Port Arthur of sectarianism will fall before the combined forces of Christian union and the disgrace of division will be obliterated.