

THE PERIL OF PROSPERITY.

In a "Fourth of July" article, referring to the prosperity enjoyed by the United States, the Michigan Presbyterian says:

In the momentum of that prosperity lies our danger. Its very lavish abundance is its gravest peril. For it has made us reckless and spendthrift. We are rich, but what of our prosperity?

Is not Canada menaced with the same peril. The resources of our country and the prosperity which flows from their development, are blessings bestowed by God. If we fail to recognize God's hand in the bestowal of these blessings and neglect or refuse to make a wise and beneficent use of them, recognizing our stewardship, we may become a reckless, spendthrift and semi-infidel nation. Then prosperity will be a curse instead of a blessing. We must not forget the responsibilities which material prosperity imposes upon us.

A NEW VENTURE IN JOURNALISM.

We have before us a copy of Christendom for July 25th, a weekly journal published at 10 cents per copy or \$3.00 per annum. The office of publication is in La Salle St., Chicago, and among the names of the editors we find those of several gentlemen who are associated with important educational religious movements. This journal was started about three months ago and seems to have met with a fair measure of success. It attempts to give an all round view of the events of the day and to furnish criticism from the Christian standpoint. The whole life of the World is looked at in the light of Christian ideals. For example the four items in the life of Canada that are mentioned are the following: "A Campaign against Social Evil by the Recorder of Montreal," "Pugilists sheltered in Canada," "Cottage Hospitals for Rural Districts," and "Summer Schools for Lay Workers." The correspondents from other countries seem to write from a similar standpoint and in a similar spirit. Besides the section entitled the News of Christendom, there are other well conducted departments. The editorial deals with education in regard for law, and emphasizes the danger arising from the social and political anarchy, which springs from irreverence. "Fact and Comment" deals with important recent events of international interest. Among the contributed articles, we find a serial story by Quiller-Couch, and such subjects as Chicago as a Theological Centre; and Italian Agricultural Colonies in the United States. We wish for the new journal a large measure of success and widespread influence.

Rev. Dr. Morro Gibson has returned to London, and resumed work in St. John's Wood Church, greatly benefited by his trip to Canada and the United States. His labours on this side the Atlantic were unstinted; but the Doctor appears to thrive on hard work. The British Weekly tells us he is leaving for his usual holiday season at Partenkirchen, in the Bavarian Alps, where many Canadian friends will wish him a refreshing rest.

THE CRITIC'S CORNER.

Professor Scrimgeour and Queen's University.

Professor Scrimgeour of the Presbyterian College, Montreal, not being a member of the commission appointed by the Assembly, has given to the press a statement of his views regarding the present position of Queen's University, and its relation to the Church. This statement is interesting because, so far as the last Assembly was concerned, it represents the strong opinion of a very small minority. It is also interesting as showing the feeling of a gentleman who evidently has small admiration for Queen's, and who thinks that the work of its late Principal was a great mistake. According to the Professor, Queen's ought to have been absorbed in Toronto University, and in order to escape disaster, ought to hasten to repair the original mistake on the best terms, or on any terms. That advice is no doubt kindly meant on the part of the Montreal Professor, but those who, like myself, know something of the spirit of Queen's, and have faith in her future, are convinced that he is profoundly mistaken. The life-work of Principal Grant was not a blunder, and it will not be in vain. There is room in Eastern Ontario for a vigorous University, and I venture to say that its existence and work has been good for Toronto University, as well as for the particular part of the Province to which it has ministered. The friends of Queen's have no feeling, either against McGill University or the Presbyterian College, Montreal, but they do not think that the suggestion that they should efface themselves comes with good grace from Professor Scrimgeour.

In this connection let it be noted that the present discussion with regard to Queen's has no necessary connection with Mr. Charlton's proposals to reduce the number of colleges. The two questions happen to come up together, but they can be discussed separately. With Mr. Charlton's suggestion I have nothing to do at present.

Further it should be remembered that it was not the leaders of Queen's University who asked the Assembly to re-consider its action with regard to the final severance of the connection between the University and the Church. The Queen's Trustees were moving swiftly, a little too swiftly, I think, in another direction. The new bill was almost through Parliament, and when the Assembly had the final draft before it, it hesitated and demanded a careful re-consideration of the whole question. To this the representatives of Queen's was bound in all courtesy and loyalty to agree. There is no need then to talk as if Queen's men had betrayed the Church into a false position. The Assembly may be wrong and Professor Scrimgeour may be right; but that does not alter the fact that the vote calling for more careful consideration, was wonderful in its strength and enthusiasm. Besides, one can dissent from the position that the Church is bound hard and fast by the action of twenty-five years ago. Circumstances have changed; and a form of relation of the Church to the University may, perhaps, be devised now that will be acceptable to the whole united Church.

At any rate, the position now is a serious one. The Church must make up its mind, once for all, whether it can keep up the connection between the Arts and

Theological faculties in Queen's. No one maintains that such a connection is essential to the life of a University, or to the godliness of its teaching. That is, no Queen's advocate takes that ground, but as such a connection now exists it may be expedient to maintain it; and I hope that the commission appointed will investigate the point thoroughly.

VERAX.

THE OTTAWA LADIES COLLEGE.

The Calendar of the Ottawa Ladies College which has come into our hands is a model of neatness. It sets forth briefly but clearly the many advantages possessed by that Institution as a residential School for girls. A glance through its pages reveals the fact that it is abundantly equipped to give its pupils a varied and thorough education. Its strong point is an exceptionally good staff of resident teachers; this not only secures thorough teaching but careful oversight and culturing influence, the great objects for which residential schools exist.

The Musical courses are all taken in the Canadian Conservatory. Specialties such as Art, Elocution &c., are amply provided for. We would judge the Institution well fitted to produce the result aimed at which according to the calendar is "to develop strong, intelligent and cultured womanhood." It is evident the College aims not at show but a real practical training which will tell in the after life of the pupil.

Certainly this College has strong claims on the attention of Presbyterian parents who are sending their daughters from home for an education. It belongs to our church and is the only institution at present of the kind for which our Church assumes responsibility. As a residential school it cannot easily be surpassed. The daughters of our church who receive their education there will be kept in sympathy with the church and its work and will return to their homes with the stamp of superior culture and ready to take their places with increased power and influence both in the home and in the church.

Literary Notes.

Poet-Lore for July 1903 is again to hand and keeps up its character as an interesting journal of literature. At the present time the name of Emerson naturally stands out prominently. One article among the "Appreciations and Essays" called "What Bearing upon Emerson's Poems have their Titles," shows both insight and ingenuity. In the section entitled "Life and Letters" such subjects as the following are treated in a bright suggestive fashion: The New Certitude as to the Soul; The Religion of Democracy; Human Sympathy and its survival after bodily death; The Healthier Self-Consciousness. Poetry and fiction have also a due share of attention.

The Nineteenth Century and After for July contains several discussions of Mr. Chamberlain's proposals, to which reference is made in another column. In addition to these timely political contributions it has essays on a variety of subjects as The Pollution of Rivers, Radium and its Lessons, The Motor Car and the Birthright of the Highway, St. Luke and Buddhism, etc. All these articles are readable and instructive, and form a collection which represents many sides of modern life. Leonard Scott Publishing Co., New York.