

THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

VOL. 12.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20th, 1884.

No. 34.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

HOWEVER willing people may be to acknowledge the good done by the Salvation Army, it does not follow that we should shut our eyes to the questionable doings and weaknesses of the organization. Our admirable contemporary, the *Glasgow Christian Leader*, inserts in a recent number a letter animadverting on an extract from THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN, bearing on the Salvation Army. The interpretation the correspondent offers is so obviously unfair and inconsequential that the average reader can easily gauge it at its proper worth. The courteous note appended to the communication by the editor of the *Leader* is acknowledged with thanks.

IN most countries there are bank officials who cannot resist the temptation to speculate on their own account with the funds entrusted to them. The latest illustration of this criminal folly comes from Switzerland. M. Cruchod, director of the Banque Union Vandois, by speculating on the principal European bourses, had become a defaulter to the amount of nearly \$800,000. He was unusually popular socially, being lavish in gifts and hospitality. To the credit of Swiss justice, the jury found him guilty, the judge with unmistakable plainness of speech told him the kind of man he was, and sentenced him to two years' imprisonment with hard labour, and ten years' deprivation of civil rights. Switzerland is not a healthy place for dishonest bank officials.

IT is stated that the annual festivities in honour of St. James were on the point of terminating on Sunday, July 27, at Santiago, in Spain, when a telegram was received from Rome by the Archbishop, announcing that the Sacred Congregation had declared the bones found about four years ago under the high altar of Santiago Cathedral to be truly those of the apostle, Spain's patron saint, ineffectually sought for hitherto since they were concealed, from fear of Moorish raids, in the foundations of the cathedral in the year 1100, by Gelmirez, the first Archbishop. New and magnificent festivities are being prepared at Santiago to commemorate the event. Superstition is still evidently a strong point in Spanish character. It would seem also that the Sacred College has a better knowledge of apostolic relics than apostolic doctrines, and it is equally evident that the supply of venerated bones will keep pace with the demand for them.

THE *Christian Leader* says: In Chalmers' Territorial Free Church, West Port, Edinburgh, Rev. James Jolly, minister, who visited Canada about two years ago, on the occasion of the first celebration of the Lord's Supper in their new church, on Sabbath, 20th July, the session substituted the fruit of the vine for the alcoholic wine previously in use. The congregation numbers considerably over a thousand, and we are informed that the change has given general satisfaction. On the previous Sabbath the minister announced the contemplated change, and mentioned that it lay with the session to select the elements they thought most suitable, even to following the example of Pharaoh's butler by pressing the juice of the grape into the cup. The congregation is a model for activity in all departments of evangelistic and temperance work. It is mainly composed of working men, "many of whom," says a correspondent, "have wrought long and patiently to get relief in the matter of the compulsory use of alcoholic wine by reclaimed brethren and young persons who are life abstainers."

LAST week there was a celebration of the Centenary of Methodism in Canada at the Grimsby camp grounds. The speaking, as reported, was hearty and enthusiastic. The principal themes dilated on were the Methodism of the past, the present and the future. The latter may be possibly the most interesting, as in some cases it is most difficult to know what shall be on the morrow. The Rev. W. S. Griffin, of Guelph, took up the prophetic role, and was confident it would

retain its earnestness and its liberty. He believed the government of the Church would be modified in the future. It was too cumbersome and too expensive. He believed it was the most expensive church in Canada in proportion to its size. In future, quarterly boards he believed would have nothing to do with the finances, but only with spiritual works. He was confident that the itinerant system would be modified in the future. The present system of invitation by some quarterly boards was most unfair. The educational system of the future would be changed. They were going to have a grand federation of colleges, one great university with all the colleges around, and their college the best. This federation was coming sure.

ANOTHER member of the ignoble army of United States defaulters has sought asylum in Canada. This time it is the cashier of the Wall Street Bank, New York. It is the old story of a man in a responsible position seeking riches by speculation in stocks, using the bank funds when his own means were exhausted. The value of stocks held by him diminished and the collapse came. On hasty investigation it was found that he was a defaulter to the amount of \$300,000. The bank shut its doors but the dishonest cashier had made his escape. The adventure of John C. Eno and the failure of his extradition has inspired those engaged in similar rascalities with new hope. If the worst comes to the worst, they will find able lawyers in Canada, to undertake their defence, and in the absence of a satisfactory extradition treaty, secure their immunity from the punishment they so richly deserve. Some people are of the opinion that here in the Dominion we are in a position to raise among ourselves, too many of this class of citizens. The United States government and our own might secure a treaty with sufficiently fine meshes to catch defaulters and make their punishment certain.

SHORTLY after the appointment of the Hon. G. W. Ross, as Minister of Education in the Provincial Government, a contemporary said that he was the right man in the right place. His interest shown in the working of his department, and the attention he has bestowed on the subject of education generally, sufficiently show that the commonplace but expressive compliment is well deserved. Whatever is best fitted to advance the cause of education in Ontario receives the Minister's attention. His department is not situated in Sleepy Hollow. A successful and promising beginning in art education has been made. The first session of the Ontario School of Art in connection with the Education Department has just been completed. The results completely justify the experiment that has been so successfully made, and reflects great credit on all concerned. Dr. May is enthusiastic, and his statements are verified by an examination of the work done by the teachers who were fortunate enough to take advantage of the opportunities offered them. The success attendant on this new departure in art training will give an impetus to art study and culture throughout the Dominion. Mr. Ross, in his address at the conversazione last week, took a comprehensive view of the importance of artistic training in connection with our educational system. He set forth clearly and forcibly both the æsthetic and utilitarian aspects of the subject.

FROM the *Fenelon Falls Gazette* we learn that two Mormon missionaries have selected the quiet little village of Cameron, Victoria county, as their headquarters for an aggressive proselytizing movement. These individuals are not altogether guileless. In the first instance, through want of ordinary caution during the minister's absence, they were allowed to preach in the Methodist church. They were soon detected, and the place of worship was refused them. Then a hall, connected with the village tavern was selected as a fitting place for the exposition of the Mormon imposture. It is stated that the other Sabbath seven persons, having embraced Mormonism, were baptized by these missionaries. The readiness to accept a strong delusion is surprising. Through

the supineness and temporizing of the United States government, the Mormon delusion, a compound of superstition and deceit, has been allowed to gain strength in Utah, and has virtually been defying the Federal authority for years. Energetic measures are demanded for the suppression of polygamy, its most iniquitous feature. Both the Republican and Democratic parties officially profess abhorrence of it, and promise repressive legislation. Of course these deft disciples of Joseph Smith, now operating in Victoria county, are careful not to avow too openly their belief in a plurality of wives. The proselytes Mormonism makes in Northern Europe and in parts of Germany are invariably among the least intelligent, and we are certain that if they gain converts in Canada it will be from the same class.

CANDIDATING in vacancies is not growing in public favour. While it is no doubt indispensable that a congregation have an opportunity of being satisfied as to the gifts and graces of ministerial candidates, the present method of securing settlements is most unsatisfactory. A story is told in a Scottish contemporary of a probationer who was to preach in a vacant charge. On the Saturday evening previous he went, accompanied by an elder with whom he stayed to ascertain the acoustic properties of the building. Like Sidney Smith the preacher addressed "his dearly beloved Roger," to whom he was inaudible. He raised his voice, but without effect. Pitching his voice in a higher key, he at last was heard by the elder—who, by the way, was deaf. This fact being overlooked by the probationer, led him to preach next day in the same stentorian tones. There were comments on that day's preaching, such as, "what kind o' a minister is yon? He roars like one of the bulls o' Bashan." The comment of the scribe who tells the story is, "Poor preachers! Surely there is a better method available than that which is practised by all our churches." The same exchange states that at a recent induction in Gourrock parish church, one of the speakers congratulated the congregation on the sensible manner in which they had carried out the election. They had not gone in, like many other congregations, for a "preaching match"—for leading ten, twelve, or a score of ministers, as it were, like so many "sheep to the slaughter," to hold forth before the congregation on a Sunday, and thus to be judged, prayers and all.

IN the Church of England the Temperance Reformation has of late years made remarkable progress. The Bishop of Rochester, England, paid a visit to Toronto last week, and delivered an excellent address in St. James' school-house. He stated that in England the Church Temperance Society had been at work for twenty-one years, and had a branch in almost every diocese. Seven bishops and between three and four thousand of the clergy were connected with the Society. In his own diocese they carried on active temperance work by means of paid missionaries, who, among their other duties, regularly visited the police court, obtained the names of those arrested for drunkenness, and brought personal influence to bear upon them. Among the many wholesome truths uttered by the Bishop were the following: He considered the subject of temperance in its bearing upon the individual, the family, the State, and the Church. The law of the family, he said, was love; of the State righteousness, and of the Church holiness. Perhaps he was then speaking to some who had seen the effect of intemperance upon the family—the disunion and shame which it sometimes wrought there. Then as to the State. Did they suppose that a State really gained in prosperity or material wealth by its taxes on the drink bills of the people? The true life of a country was in its virtuous citizens, and anything that tended to make crime, to fill gaols, lunatic asylums, or poorhouses was the worse detriment that could happen to the State; and nothing so undermined the foundations of a nation's greatness as intemperance. They might fill their Churches and Sunday schools, but if they did nothing to stem the tide of intemperance they might as well sow wheat in the salt sea, because the work which they did in the Church and the Sunday School was constantly undermined by intemperance.