

# THE PRESBYTERIAN RECORD

FOR THE  
DOMINION OF CANADA.

Vol. V.

OCTOBER, 1880.

No. 10.

## CONTENTS.

<p>A glance at the Sabbath-school Centenary.....253          French Canadians and the Gospel.....256          Waldensian Pastor's Fund.....256          Sabbath-school International Lessons.....258          Sabbath-school course of study.....260          Our own Church.....260          Meetings of Presbyteries .....261          Manitoba Items.....263</p>	<p>Our Statistics .... 264          Ecclesiastical News.....265          Manitoba and the North-west .....266          French Evangelization.....270          Our New Hebrides Mission.....272          The Chinese Zenana .....273          Foreign Mission Report.....275          Literature.....277</p>
---	---

### Editorial Gleanings.

#### A RETROSPECTIVE GLANCE AT THE SABBATH-SCHOOL CENTENARY CELEBRATION.

**L**EAVING QUEBEC at midnight, on the 19th of June, the good ship "Polynesian" reached Liverpool on the morning of the 30th. The voyage, though not a stormy one, resembled that of St. Paul's to Rome, in that "neither sun nor stars appeared in many days;" but, so closely did the "dead-reckoning" tally with the actual distance run, just when the first stoppage was made for soundings, the well known light on Tory Island shone through the gloom and showed that we had made a good land-fall on the Irish coast. It was the first of July before the representative of the Presbyterian Sabbath-school Association of Montreal could report himself at No. 56 Old Bailey, London—the head-quarters of the Sunday-school Union. By this time the proceedings of the International Convention in connection with the celebration of the Centenary of Sunday-schools were far advanced, and he had to console himself with the reflection that "better is the end of a feast than the beginning of a fast." The grand reception, the inaugural meeting at the Guildhall, and the *fete* at the Crystal Palace were all over. The business meetings were in full blast. Consequently it took one some time to get fully *en rapport* with the occasion. It soon ap-

peared, however, that instead of one joint celebration, two sets of meetings were being held simultaneously in the great Metropolis—the one practically under the direction of the Non-conformists, or Congregationalists; the other under the auspices of the Church of England. The reasons for this were not so obvious, as the ordinary meetings of either were not so large as to prevent their being held in good old apostolic fashion,—“with one accord, in one place.”

The Memorial Hall, Farringdon street, in which the former met, is a handsome building, erected in 1875, on the site of the old Fleet Prison, in commemoration of the sacrifices made in the year 1662, when some two thousand ministers relinquished their livings rather than submit to the iniquitous "Uniformity Act." The number of delegates at the Memorial Hall meetings was about two hundred and fifty. About one-half of them came from the United States and Canada. The Americans had some of their best Sunday school men and women there, who drew from their treasures things new and old which were presented in a manner interesting and instructive, though perhaps some of the "illustrations" made use of would sound strange, if not incongruous, to English ears. There might be just a trifle too much of the *autobiographical* in some of the speeches, and occasionally an overdose of *statistics*, but on the whole, the speaking was excellent, and the business was conducted in a very orderly manner. If a speaker