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TORONTO, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1878.

Y.M.C.A. OF THE WORLD IN CONFERENCE.

THE triennial Conference of Young Men's Christian Associations throughout the world was held recently at Geneva, in Switzerland, and extended over a number of days. This was the eighth meeting of the kind. The sessions were held in the "Hall of the Reformation," a building that was erected not long ago in memory of John Calvin. The beautiful city of Geneva was a most appropriate place for such a gathering, and the Hall so named was peculiarly fitting for the business which the Conference had to transact.

It gives us some conception of the ramifications of these societies to learn that there were present two hundred and fifty delegates, of whom forty-seven came from Great Britain under the leadership of Mr. George Williams, of London, whose presence at the International Conference of Y.M.C.A. held in Toronto in July, 1876, will be remembered with pleasure by many of our readers. There were forty-one delegates from the United States and Canada, including Mr. Russell Sturgis, jr., of Boston, Mr. R. R. McBurney, of New York, also the secretaries of the Associations in Brooklyn, Pittsburgh and Harrisburg, and of the International and New York State Committees, with influential members from Baltimore, Philadelphia, Richmond, Indianapolis, and other cities of the Union and of the Dominion. It appears that of the two thousand societies which exist throughout the world about one-half are located in Canada and the United States.

There seems to have been the best possible preparation made in order to make the Conference a great success. A well-selected theme had been given to each of the German, French, English and American delegations. Every one of these papers was translated and printed in the three languages of the Conference, English, French and German. Copies were placed in the hands of the delegates, so that every one could read in his own language what was being spoken in another. Mr. Femand, a young merchant of Geneva, who

was chairman of the committee of his city, and who was called to preside over the Conference, spoke fluently each of the three languages, and was thus enabled to discharge his difficult duties with ease to himself and with pleasure to all the delegates. There were various other gentlemen who by their knowledge of more than one of the languages represented were able to act as interpreters to others during the discussions which took place.

A conference like this is even of greater practical importance than the Pan-Presbyterian, or the Pan-Anglican, or the proposed Pan-Methodist Council. It is more like the Evangelical Alliance, though it is marked by more of specialty than the latter. On the platform of the Geneva Conference were of course representatives of all the Evangelical Churches, in the character, for the most part, of laymen. But the point wherein this Conference differs from the Councils to which we have referred, is that it has business of a practical kind before it. One of the papers which were translated and printed in the three languages of the Conference, was very ably written by a member of the French Committee, and advocated the appointment of a Central International Committee which should have charge of the programme of the Conferences, to collect and circulate statistical information, and engage in such correspondence and visitation as may prove practicable. The American delegates were enabled to give much useful information regarding their important work in this very direction. The Managing Committee of the Conference was accordingly and with unanimity appointed the Central International Committee. Such practical work as this ensures the vitality and continuance of these triennial Conferences. The Councils referred to have as yet too much theory and too little of the practical element.

As it is pleasant to behold the little acorn becoming the gigantic oak and spreading its branches in every direction for shelter and fruitfulness, so it is delightful as it is encouraging to see the progress which has been made by the Y.M.C.A. within but a few years. It is a tree not only of sturdy growth in its native soil, but it is one which has sent out its offshoots to all nations and countries. As a necessary institution in the midst of our sectional religious differences it is doing a noble work for the cause of Christ and general benevolence.

HIGH SCHOOL, WESTON.

IT is with pleasure we have perused a circular placed in our hands and entitled "Record of Honours and Distinctions won by the students of the High School, Weston, 1876-77-78." In this list we find quite a large number of names which have obtained Honours and Distinctions at Toronto and Victoria Universities. These are not confined to one class of learning, but cover the large field of the Classics and Mathematics, of the English, French and German languages, of History and Geography, Chemistry and Natural History, and also of Biology, Mineralogy and Geology. One student carries off the General Proficiency Scholarship in all these branches, another the same in Classics and Mathematics, while the first-mentioned in the current year gains the first Natural Science

Scholarship, all at the Toronto University. Two of the pupils of Weston have passed the Preliminary in 1876 and 1878 before the learned Societies of Law and Medicine respectively. All the candidates in this school for second class during the last two years have been successful. Such a record as this places the High School of Weston before the public as a superior institution for acquiring scholarship and preparing for the Universities or the teaching profession. Mr. George Wallace, B.A., the head master, is a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, and ex-Scholar, Glasgow. He is becoming widely known amongst the ministers and members of the Presbyterian Church in this section of the country. His past success is an earnest of future success. Families in the country wishing to have their children well educated and well cared for, would do well to send them to such a school as this at Weston, and where boarding with Mr. Wallace, they will be under his immediate inspection.

THE CHINESE IN AMERICA.

POOR Cheap John is being hunted about at a terrible rate. He is hounded in British Columbia. The Californians would devour him, if he did not seem of such vile flavour. What is the grievous fault charged upon the Chinese? It is that they work for little, and can live on less. The Anglo-Saxon cannot in these respects compete with the Mongolian. Therefore, he is to be exterminated. That looks like the logic of the Inquisition. While much can be said upon Cheap John in such relations as manhood suffrage, equal rights, and so forth, it must be confessed that in large hordes he is hardly to be viewed as an eminently satisfactory citizen. It specially goes against the grain with our Yankee friends, who in their better moods boast of their English descent and their Anglo-Saxon blood. They do not like the avalanche of pig-tails. There is some reason for this when we consider the difference between them in manners and customs, in language and religion, and in their devotion to beef and rice respectively. Our Co-Dominionists of British Columbia are also taking alarm at the invasion from China. It threatens the province like the barbarous hordes of the North which swept down upon the Roman civilization and demolished the landmarks as by a mighty deluge. The Columbians are determined to meet the evil by superior legislation, but so far as we have studied their enactments, we fear there is too little made of the manhood suffrage and equal rights questions. But we have no doubt Cheap John will grow and flourish in spite of the thumbscrew and the pillory. A man who can live on air can be jolly in any circumstances. We could, however, conceive of no kind of legislation that would meet the difficulty in a wholesome manner. Let us trust that nothing unworthy of our Christianity, of our civilization or of our boasted freedom, will be done with a view to extermination or suppression of the Chinese. That we believe cannot successfully be done upon the free soil of America. Good can be accomplished in other ways. Need skilled labour or education fear the Chinese? Well, indeed, were it so. If not, new channels will be found for the skilled, in which let the Chinese follow if they can.