

The Canadian Independent.

"ONE IS YOUR MASTER, EVEN CHRIST, AND ALL YE ARE BRETHREN."

Vol. 25.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, March 27, 1879.

New Series. No. 12.

THE CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.

Published by the Congregational Publishing Company

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It looked like a war between Britain and Burmah, a few days ago; but the clouds have passed away.

WE see by an English exchange that the Rev. J. F. Stevenson, of Montreal, intends to visit England next summer.

DR. DEXTER'S lectures on Congregationalism are passing through the press. The bibliography of the subject takes up nearly 300 pages of the volume.

THE Union Theological Seminary, New York City, has 122 students. Most of them are Presbyterians, but the Seminary turns out not a few Congregationalists every year.

MR. TILLEY has made his budget speech. The total estimates for the financial year of 1879-1880 reach to \$39,616,139. The estimates for the present year, 1878-1879, were \$39,963,404.

COLENZO is out again, or coming out. He has another volume completing the work he began long ago on the Pentateuch. Let us all be ready for a sensation. After this, what?

DR. HEPWORTH'S successor has been already secured. Rev. Wesley R. Davis, a Methodist Episcopal minister, in New York City, was the first choice of the Church, and he has accepted the call tendered him.

BISMARCK does not seem to get on very well with the German Reichstag. It looks as if a dissolution was not far off, and then there will be exciting times. But it is not likely that the Chancellor will gain anything, for the liberal sentiment is growing in the country.

DR. JOSEPH T. DURYEA is going from the Clason Avenue Presbyterian church, Brooklyn, to the Central Congregational church, Boston. Dr. Duryea has for several years occupied a high position as a preacher in New York and Brooklyn, and he will stand in the front rank even in Boston.

THE A.B.C.F.M.—every American knows and every Canadian ought to know the meaning of those letters—falls heir to over \$500,000 by the will of Deacon Asa Otis of Norwich, Conn. In the same way, Amherst College receives \$25,000; the Theological Seminary of Yale College, \$25,000; and other institutions of a religious or educational character come in for goodly sums.

THE ladies of Illinois have presented to the Legislature their Home Protection petition with 107,000 sig-

natures appended to it. There is a local option law in Illinois. Any locality may by vote prohibit the sale of intoxicants. And the ladies ask that they be permitted to vote when such questions are submitted to the people of any municipality. The Legislature dare not refuse them.

AT the meeting of the Free Presbytery of Glasgow, Scotland, on the 4th inst., Mr. Anderson gave notice that he should at the next meeting move that the Presbytery, considering the abounding commercial distress which still exists in the land, resolve to address the Home Secretary or Prime Minister and humbly suggest the appointment of a day of national humiliation and prayer.

REV. F. F. EMERSON, a Baptist pastor in Hartford, Conn., has just resigned his charge, and proposes to enter the Congregational ministry. He has changed his views on the question of communion and baptism, and that accounts for his present action. His convictions are that all believers should be united in the Lord's Supper, and that any mode of baptism which fulfils the spirit of baptism is valid. Mr. Emerson leaves his Baptist brethren with good feeling on both sides.

BRANTFORD has been the scene of a most blessed work of grace. At the closing meeting held in the drill shed, under the lead of Rev. E. P. Hammond, who has, with the aid of nearly all the ministers of the city, conducted the meetings, some six hundred professed faith in Christ, and over six hundred more stood up at the request for the anxious to arise. The city ministers have sent a very flattering testimonial, concerning Bro. Hammond, to the ministers at Chatham, where the evangelist next labours.

WE are constantly receiving congratulations from our friends all over the country. A friend, writing from East Baldwin, in Maine, says:—"I want to say success to the new weekly. It is a very welcome visitor to our home." So say all. We are glad that our readers are so well pleased, and thank them for their kind wishes. But, will you not help us by sending new subscribers, and by forwarding news items? We want to hear from one another often. We hope our correspondents will be brief. The world is busy and has not time to read long articles.

PROFESSOR BLACKIE, of Edinburgh, says that Christianity is identical with Conservatism: it favours "authority, order, subordination, and obedience to existing law." Who claims that it does not? But does not Christianity favour progress too? Professor Blackie may not see the consistency of the two things. Liberalism, a desire for improvement, a desire to remove old abuses and adopt new measures that are beneficial, is not subversive of "authority, order," *et al.* Some men can only see one side of a subject, and some only a pin's point of one side.

OUR respected brother, Wm. Crolman, of Lower Selma, N. S., sends us a short article on our editorial on "Family Worship." We are sorry that for want of space we are not able to insert it. He alludes in touching terms to the abiding influence of the altar at the "hearthstone," as realized in his own experience. How much has been said in this direction, and how many more testimonies could easily be adduced to show the mighty importance of this institution which should be found in every Christian home. From what we have heard and seen we fear there is too much indifference about this subject. Family worship must be maintained, and if its influence is to abide, should

be delivered from the formalism which is too frequently associated with it.

THE World's Conference of the Evangelical Alliance will open at Basle, Switzerland, on the 31st of August, and close on the 7th of September. The proceedings will be in French, but English meetings for British and American delegates will be held. On the 1st of September there will be reports on the condition of Protestantism in the various countries represented. Evangelization will be the chief subject for the second day, Christian education for the third, Protestantism and society for the fourth, Missions for the fifth, and Christian union for the sixth.

THE Roman Catholic bishops and curies continue to attract the attention of the French Liberals by their intolerance. A new-born child recently died before it could be christened; the cure of Rome refused to allow it to be buried in consecrated ground; the father and mother complained to the maire, who ordered a new grave to be dug in the vicinity of the graves of other members of the family; the cure refused to yield, and applied to the prefect, who decided that, according to law, the cure was right. The new-born babe has therefore, to the unutterable grief to its parents, been consigned to earth in a portion of the churchyard set apart for persons of infamous character.

THE organ of the Evangelical Union of Scotland regards favourably the suggestion that a union be consummated with the Congregational Union of Scotland. There are just three points of doctrinal difference between the two bodies, and these are the Calvinistic utterances of the Congregational "Declaration of Faith." But, as the basis of both unions is the one common Evangelical faith of the Churches, "if the one party is willing to make the three non-essential points or difference matters of forbearance, and the other party is equally willing that this should be so, there seems to be no good reason why the union of the two bodies should not be consummated as speedily as possible. We, of the Evangelical Union, being the younger body, cannot make the first overtures toward this desirable consummation; but we feel assured that the union of the two denominations, under the happy designation of the 'Evangelical Congregational Union,' would be a benefit to both bodies, and a blessing to Scotland.

WE have received the Fortieth Annual Report of the French Canadian Missionary Society, of which Dr. Wilkes is the revered President. At the organization of this Society, forty years ago, hardly a Protestant French Canadian could be found in the Province of Quebec, and the conversion of the Roman Catholics was regarded as an almost hopeless task. Since then thousands have been gathered into French Protestant churches, besides many more converts who have left the Province. Despite the power of the Romish hierarchy, the prospects of evangelical mission work in Quebec were never more hopeful than they are to-day. This Society has distributed over 50,000 copies of the Scriptures, and more than half a million of tracts and religious publications. In its mission schools, at Pointe aux Trembles, over 2,000 pupils have been educated, the larger number being of Roman Catholic parentage. Nearly all of these have renounced Romanism, and many of them are hopefully converted to Christ, one hundred and fifty being engaged as ministers, teachers and colporteurs. These facts are the best proof of the mission's right to live.