

# The Canadian Independent.

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

Vol. 29.]

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## THE WILKES TESTIMONIAL FUNDS.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.

DEAR SIR,—Allow me to state for the information of subscribers to this Fund and others who may be interested therein; that the undertaking is making satisfactory progress, the amount subscribed up to date being \$4,500. It was the intention of the committee to close the fund during the present week; but inasmuch as the subscription-list in England is not yet complete, and as many in this city and elsewhere in Canada wished, when called upon in the spring, to defer their subscriptions till the autumn, and have, therefore, to be visited again, the Committee have decided to keep the lists open until the end of the year, and to make the presentation of the fund to Dr. Wilkes at the beginning of the new year. The response made to the appeal for contributions has been very gratifying and encouraging, and has justified the movement. Much, however, still remains to be done in canvassing for further contributions; and the Committee will be thankful to receive any suggestions or assistance by which the good object they have in hand may be carried to as successful an accomplishment as possible.

The following list sets forth the amount subscribed up to date:—

Emmanuel Church, Montreal	\$1,200.00
American .. ..	955.00
Calvary .. ..	60.00
Hamilton .. ..	85.00
Brantford .. ..	42.50
London .. ..	37.00
Paris .. ..	32.00
Guelph .. ..	20.00
Georgetown .. ..	4.00
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	\$1,865.50

The Rev. John Wood, by invitation of the Committee, visited most of the above mentioned churches in Ontario, and the districts east of that in Ontario. The Committee have invited Rev. W. H. Hen de Bourck to visit Toronto and other places in the central district, and Rev. J. L. Forster, to visit Kingston, as their deputation on behalf of the fund, and it is expected that these gentlemen will soon begin the work. It could not be placed in better hands, and I trust that they will receive a cordial welcome and that their appeal will be successful.

The present session of the Congregational College has begun amid cheering auspices, and professors and students are now fully engaged at their work. There were seven applicants for admission: of these, four had been received on probation: two desiring further preparation, did not present themselves at the opening of the session: and the other was recommended to withdraw his application.

There are at the present time thirteen students in attendance. The classes are held in the room in Emmanuel Church, which has been set apart for the use of the college, as a lecture-room and library, and is found to be commodious and well-adapted for these purposes. In conclusion, I would beg to remind the churches that the Treasurer has to meet monthly drafts on the exchequer, and hence the importance of prompt remittances is apparent. I remain, with much respect, yours faithfully,

GEORGE CORNISH.

Montreal, Oct. 14th, 1880.

## Topics of the Week.

—Mr. Moody has no sympathy with those who want to go outside of the church to get into "the higher life." He would have them stay in church and help purify that.

—Our Presbyterian friends seem to have succeeded very well with their Congregational Council, in Philadelphia. Now if they will only take the whole of our polity and use it well, it would be a great gain to them.

—Dr. Jessup, of Syria, in a recent address said: It would have done Dr. Ray Palmer's heart good to have heard three hundred Mohammedan girls singing the hymn, "My faith looks up to Thee," translated into their own language.

—The monument of John Milton in Cripplegate Church, which since its erection in 1832 has stood in an obscure corner, has, during the recent restoration of the edifice, been placed in a conspicuous position near the south-west door.

—Some time ago Mr. Butterworth, a large manufacturer of Oldham, asked the town council to accept a free library with the condition that it was to be opened on Sunday, but the town council declined to have it on such condition. Mr. Butterworth has now determined to open a free library to the public on his own account.

—Yun Kwai, the Chinese student in the States, who has been ordered home because of his father's displeasure at his acceptance of the Christian religion, will not have to obey, and he has entered Harvard College. The treaty between that government and China does not allow a man thus to be enforced back again to his own country except for certain crimes.

—The colored Baptist churches of Virginia unite in calling a convention to meet at Montgomery, Ala., Nov. 24th, "For the purpose of eliciting, combining and directing the energies of all the colored Baptists in one sacred effort for the propagation of the Gospel in Africa." The call is designed to be broad enough to cover all the colored Baptist religious bodies in the West Coast.

At a meeting of the Scotch Episcopal Church Council in Edinburgh on the 30th ult., a very unsatisfactory report was presented. The funds of the Church had suffered heavily through losses on property investments, which had been over-valued. In consequence of this, it was recommended to the Council to reduce the salaries of the Primus and bishops. It was also stated that, in consequence of this loss, it had been resolved to discontinue the *Scottish Guardian*, the Church newspaper, at the end of the present month.

It is an old Belgian custom (the Brussels correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* writes) that the King stands godfather when a seventh son is born in a family. On these occasions the King is represented by the burgomaster of the locality. The fanaticism of the Catholic clergy has now gone so far that in several instances, recently, they have refused to admit the King as godfather. The comments of the clerical journals on the revolt against the school laws at Heule, which has cost two lives, leave no doubt that the clericals are prepared to push their agitation to the extent of even provoking civil war.

At Surfa, in Southern Armenia, a Moslem lady and her daughter, who had embraced the Christian religion, the girl marrying an Armenian gentleman, have been roughly dealt with. The Moslem inhabitants of Surfa, excited by fanaticism, armed themselves with clubs, daggers, and guns, and some of them also being on horseback, attacked the houses of the Armenians, spreading terror among the Christian families. They arrested the newly-married couple, and led them before the Moslem Governor, who thanked the Mohammedan mob for their devotion, and put the Armenian and his wife in prison.

Coleridge one day, when some one was enlarging on the tendency of some good scheme to regenerate the world, threw a little thistle-down into the air, which he happened to see by the road side, and said, "The tendency of this thistle-down is towards China, but I know, with assured certainty, it will never get there, nay, it is more than probable that, after sundry eddying, and gyrations up and down, backwards and forwards, it will be found somewhere near the place where it grew. Such is the history of the grand schemes for ameliorating mankind apart from Divine power."

—The Bishop of Manchester, in a sermon which he preached at Swinton, on Saturday evening, said he almost thought that if he had been brought up a Non-conformist he should be ready to recognize the conspicuous merits of the Church of England, and become an exponent of her religious faith. The Thirty-nine Articles were the basis upon which the Church built her worship, but no man was bound to subscribe to them in all their minutiae, though they contained little that any man calling himself a Christian would wish to deny. He took courage from what had just occurred at Leicester to hope that the various Christian bodies would unite more closely.

—The new colony of Rugby, Tenn., was opened formally on Oct. 5th, Mr. Thomas Hughes, of England, making an address. The town is growing rapidly already. A comfortable hotel is built, recreation grounds are opened, and the ordinary institutions of town life are in operation. The colony is not meant for English settlers only, but all well disposed settlers are welcome. It is on a temperance basis and under Christian control. Its object is to furnish an opportunity for middle-class Englishmen, the younger sons of the nobility, and other suitable persons who cannot find openings in England, as well as for thrifty and enterprising Americans, to establish themselves in life economically and usefully, while securing the advantages of culture and religion, which new settlements usually lack. It promises to be an entire success.

—The late Mr. W. H. G. Kingston, a few days before his death, forwarded the following letter, addressed to the Boys of England, to the editor for publication in the *Boy's Own Paper* (Religious Tract Society), of which he was a great admirer, and to which he regularly contributed. It appears in last week's number, which also contains a portrait of Mr. Kingston, and a short biographical notice of his literary career:—

Stormont Lodge, Willesden, Aug. 2, 1880.

My Dear Boys,—I have been engaged, as you know, for a very large portion of my life in

writing books for you. This occupation has been a source of the greatest pleasure and satisfaction to me, and, I am willing to believe, to you also.

Our connection with each other in this world must, however, shortly cease.

I have for some time been suffering from serious illness, and have been informed by the highest medical authorities that my days are numbered.

Of the truth of this I am convinced by the rapid progress the disease is making. It is my desire, therefore, to wish you all a sincere and hearty farewell!

I want you to know that I am leaving this life in unspeakable happiness, because I rest my soul on my Saviour, trusting only and entirely to the merits of the great atonement, by which my sins (and yours) have been put away for ever.

Dear boys, I ask you to give your hearts to Christ, and earnestly pray that all of you may meet me in heaven.

Then follows the signature, traced twice over, and neither quite perfect, in a trembling hand, whose life-work was evidently done. This touching letter, it will be seen, bears date August 2nd. On the 3rd Mr. Kingston was hardly conscious, and on the two following days, though apparently able to recognize his family, he was not able to make himself understood. On the evening of the 5th he passed away.

The *Religious Intelligencer* says:—Dr. Cuyler's record of work is greatly to his credit. At the recent celebration of his twenty years as pastor of the Lafayette Avenue, (Brooklyn), Presbyterian Church, he stated that, in his early life he hesitated between the ministry and the bar, but that, in a little prayer meeting, God turned the scale, and he never regretted the choice. He also stated that he never allowed a day to pass without a visit to some family and a talk with some one on personal religion. During his ministry, the Sunday school has had 4,500 children enrolled, of these 427 have joined the church, and nine have entered the ministry. He has preached 2,000 sermons, received 3,059 members, and lost but one Sunday's work during the entire 20 years. He has contributed 1,600 articles to the press of the country. This is surely a remarkable record.

THE POPULATION OF THE EARTH.

According to the sixth issue of Beaman and Wagner's well-known publication, "Die Bevölkerung der Erde," the present population of the earth is as follows: Europe, 315,929,000; Asia, 834,707,000; Africa, 205,679,000; America, 95,493,500; Australia and Polynesia, 4,031,000; Polar Regions, 82,000 giving a total of 1,455,923,500, showing an increase since the last publication, nineteen months ago, of 16,778,200. The following are the populations of various countries of Europe with the dates to which the figures refer:

Germany, 1875, 42,727,360, estimate end of 1877, 43,943,334; Austria, end of 1879, estimate 22,176,145; Hungary, 1876, 15,505,715; Austria-Hungary, 1876, 37,342,000, estimate for end of 1879, 38,000,000; Switzerland, 1878, estimate, 2,792,263; Belgium, estimate, 1878, 5,476,668; Netherlands, estimate, 1878, 3,981,887; Denmark, 1878, 2,070,400; Sweden, estimate 1878, 4,531,863; Norway, census, 1876, 1,818,853; Great Britain and Ireland, estimate 1879, 34,517,000; France, census 1876, 36,905,788; Spain, census 1877, 16,625,860, including the Canaries (280,388), Balearic Islands, (289,035), and Ceuta and other places in North Africa (12,179); Portugal, census 1878, 4,745,124, including the Azores (264,352) and Maderia (135,221); Italy, estimate, 1878, 228,009,620.