

Canada—Its Growth and Prospects.

The *Journal of Education* for March contains two highly important and interesting Lectures on the Growth and Prospects of Canada, delivered before the Toronto Mechanics' Institute, by the Rev. Adam Lillie. From this source we gather the following statistical information:—

The population of Canada at the time of its surrender to Britain in 1760, is stated to have been from 60,000 to 69,275, exclusive of Indians.

In 1791, the whole population of Upper Canada is said to have been calculated at less than 50,000.—In 1811, it amounted only to 77,000.—In 1824, it was about 151,097.—Between 1824 and 1834, it rose from 151,097 to 320,693, which was doubling in ten years, with 18,499 over. The next fourteen years it rose from 320,693 to 791,000—the return for 1850. Within the brief space of a quarter century, there was an advance from 151,097 to 791,000—more than ten times the population in 1811.

Lower Canada, during the same time, rose from 423,630, to 791,000, the same number with the Upper Province; being an increase of nearly 90 per cent.

Taking Canada as a whole, its population has increased from 60,000 to 1,582,000 in 90 years. Hence in 1850 it was over 26 times what it was in 1760; more considerably than 2½ times what it was in 1825.

The Lecturer shews from the comparison of figures, which cannot lie, that the rate of progress of the population in Canada, is not much under *thrice* that of the United States, which is supposed to be moving on so fast.

Speaking of the capabilities of the country, the Rev. Lecturer says:—

"Large as the numbers are who are flocking annually to our shores, I have often wondered when looking at the advantages which Canada offers to the virtuous and the diligent, that they should not be very much larger. Such may command, almost anywhere they please to locate themselves, all the substantial comforts of life with a very moderate measure of exertion. Who are the owners of our handsomest and best-stocked farms?—Generally speaking, men who have procured and improved them by their own labour; many of whom you will find in all the older parts of the country—living like patriarchs, surrounded by their children to whom they have given inheritances."

A general conviction has been entertained that British North America has been, and still is, far, far behind the age, which is true to a certain extent. The above condensed account of Canada, however, will show that that portion of B. N. America has been progressing favourably and keeping pace with the neighbouring States considered as a whole. The British Provinces have, within themselves, naturally, all the elements of a great nation. All we want to place us in our right position, is home-energy, and home-enterprise, with reasonable assistance from the mother country, to aid us in developing our natural resources, which all things considered, are not surpassed by any other country of similar size in the wide world. If faithful to our obligations, a bright future yet awaits us.

It is said that in the township of Hope, Canada West, with a population of 5,299, there is but *one* Christian; and in the town of Port Hope, with a population of 2,473, there are but *three* believers in God! We would recommend, says the *Toronto Christian Guardian*, that a few missionaries be despatched for the purpose of rescuing the people from the power of sin and Satan. We think nothing better could be done.

Religious Statistics of Montreal.

Of the population of Montreal, according to the recent Census, the Church of England numbers 3,993; Presbyterian Churches 2,832; Methodists 1,213; Baptists 272; Jews 181; and other denominations unspecified 7,760. Most of these figures, we should think, says the *Montreal Witness*, considerably below the mark, and the number assigned to the Methodists very far below it, but perhaps many of them are classed among 'other denominations.' The Roman Catholics are said to number 41,464, making the total population of Montreal 57,715. If these statistics be correct, the *Witness* says Montreal should be compared in all matters of literature, religious societies, &c., with cities in the States or Canada West of less than half her size, for the Roman Catholic population do little or nothing in these respects.

Death of Bishop Hedding.

We are now called to the melancholy duty of recording the decease of the Rev. Elijah Hedding, D. D., senior Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He fell asleep in Jesus on Friday, the 9th instant, at twenty minutes past twelve o'clock, aged about seventy-two years, in the *fifty-first* year of his ministry, and in the *twenty-eighth* of his episcopal services. "A prince and a great man has fallen in Israel." Bishop Hedding was remarkable for the essential qualities of moral greatness. His piety was deep and earnest, but unaffected and simple. His intellectual powers were characterized by clearness of perception, breadth of view, and strength of movement. He unravelled the difficulties of the most abstruse problem with a readiness and ease which indicated an intuitive perception of the most obscure relations of its different parts. His perseverance and firmness never faltered, yet he was as far as possible from obstinacy. His manners were simple and plain, without the slightest descent from the true and elevated bearing of a Christian gentleman. His heart was sympathetic and kind, but never overcame his reason. His mind was beautifully harmonious and symmetrical. He was in all respects a well-balanced character—the very *beau ideal* of a primitive Christian bishop. "In labours" he was "abundant." His long ministerial career was a continued scene of toilsome sacrifices. But our object is not now to attempt a proper and full estimate of the character of our venerated friend and father in the gospel. In these few necessary hasty lines we merely give vent to a small portion of our deep convictions that the Church has sustained an irreparable loss, and to the emotions of sorrow, mingled with gratitude and joy, that struggle in our bosom. We never spent a moment in his presence without being profited. We always felt a conviction that his knowledge of human character was so comprehensive and penetrating, that he took an accurate measurement of every one about him. He was a profound theologian, and his mind was richly stored with knowledge on general subjects. Familiarity with him increased respect as it inspired love.

For many years he had been affected with rheumatism, brought on by severe labour and exposure. At times he suffered from this cause incalculably. He continued to attend the conferences and perform his official functions until something more than a year since, when his accumulated infirmities compelled him to desist. The disease which finally terminated his life was dropsy. For weeks he was in the greatest agony, being unable to assume a recumbent posture, and scarcely able to sleep at all, and yet was never heard to utter a single murmur. The bursting of one of his legs finally eased his pain, and he sunk quietly into the arms of death. We are happy to inform our readers that ample materials are left for a complete biography of this holy man, which, we presume, will in due time be given to the world. —*N. Y. Christian Advocate & Journal*.

Protestant Pastor in France to be Transported.

A correspondent of the *Christian Times*, London, says, that a Protestant pastor at Rouille, in France, at his window, seeing a government courier passing, said in joke, in the hearing of a few peasants who were assembled in the street: "He might have been stopped to learn the news." "It would not have been the first time," remarked one of the peasants. "But it would have been useless," added the pastor, "for his correspondence is probably in cypher." With the help of the suspicious depositions of some Roman Catholics, this affair has been called a plot. Pastor Girod, interrogated during the morning, incarcerated at night, has been, without possibility of defence, or of calling a witness in his favour, condemned by the mixed commission to transportation to Algeria. Two pastors of his consistorial circumscription, one of whom is the President of the Consistory, immediately came up to Paris in order to plead their brother's cause. But they are not likely to succeed in getting his liberation, though, perhaps, they may obtain a commutation.

On Sunday evening, March 21, at St. James's Church, Latchford, near Warrington, nine persons, eight of them members of one family, publicly renounced the doctrines of the Romish church and embraced Protestantism.

Interesting Extracts.

THE JEWS IN CHINA.—In our issue of the 22nd of January, says the *Hongkong Register*, we gave a very interesting account, borrowed from the *North China Herald*, of an excursion made by two Chinese Christians who had been sent by the London Missionary Society, in search of a colony of Jews who were supposed to exist at K. hae-fung foo (lat. 34 deg. 55 min., long. 1 deg. 50 min. west of Pekin). As was anticipated, the people they went in search of were discovered, but in the most abject and wretched condition, having for their bed the bare ground, with only rags to cover them, and with means barely sufficient to support nature. It would appear that their existence was known to the Jesuit missionaries some century and a half ago; but, up to the present time, nothing had been done towards gaining a knowledge of their history. And what a history would not this prove, if it could be traced back to the date at which they separated from the rest of their people! In poverty and abject wretchedness they now exist, living apart from the Mohammedans and the idolaters by whom they are surrounded. On the first visit little else was accomplished than the procuring a few Hebrew manuscripts, containing portions of the Old Testament Scriptures. From private letters which have been received from Shanghai, a second visit we learn, had been paid to this interesting colony, and six copies of the Pentateuch, in the original Hebrew, have been obtained. Two of the Jews themselves have also arrived at Shanghai. The copies of the Pentateuch are long will be forwarded to Europe, and will prove of intense interest to the learned in the Hebrew language. The knowledge of this language has entirely passed away from this community, not one member of it being able to speak or read it. The last person who could do so, they state, was their priest, who died some fifty years ago.

THE CRAZY MAN AND HIS WATCH.—A poor, crazy fellow, one day on finding his watch half an hour too slow, insisted upon it that the sun had gone down that evening half an hour sooner than it ought to have done; when a sober-minded neighbour of his assured him, that be that as it might, he would find it wiser and easier to regulate his watch by the sun, than to attempt to order the sun's revolutions by his watch.

How many conceited Socialists, how many vain-glorious Deists, and how many proud Atheists, are acting as this poor, crazy man acted? Poor, purblind, mortal creatures would do well to remember, when cavilling at the word and works of Almighty God, that it is much more likely than the contrary, that Wisdom, Power and Goodness should be right, and that ignorance, weakness, infirmity and folly, should be wrong.

A WIFE IN TROUBLE.—"Pray tell me, my dear, what is the cause of those tears?"
"O, what a disgrace!"
"What disgrace?"
"Why, I have opened one of your letters, supposing it was addressed to myself. Certainly it looked more like Mrs. than Mr."
"Is that all? What harm can there be in a wife's opening her husband's letters?"
"No harm in itself. But the contents! Such a disgrace!"
"What! has any one dared to write me a letter unfit to be read by my wife?"
"O, no. It is couched in the most chaste language. But the contents!"

Here the wife buried her face in her handkerchief, and commenced sobbing aloud, when the husband eagerly caught up the letter, and commenced reading the epistle that had been the means of nearly breaking his wife's heart. It was a bill from a printer for *nine years' subscription*. —*Merchants' Ledger*.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.—The Prince President of France recently invited Lord Cowley, the new English Ambassador at Paris, to dine with him on the Sabbath. For Louis Napoleon, and for the French nation, this was perfectly in keeping.—But Lord Cowley did not forget his allegiance to the Lord of the Sabbath. He promptly declined the proffered honour, on the ground that he did not attend public dinners on the first day of the week. The case is the more marked, from the fact that this dinner was intended to be a first and formal reception of the representative of England. The President subsequently changed the day.

LOGIC.—The following "Questions in Logic" may interest some of our readers. No matter where they came from, if they are sound:

Teacher—What do you understand by penny-wise and pound foolish?

Pupil—The omission to pay a small sum in order to secure a great benefit.

Teacher—Can such a thing be, and if so, how?

Pupil—It can be—the cause may be penuriousness or neglect.

Teacher—Give an example of penny wisdom and pound folly.

Pupil—Refusing or neglecting to pay five or ten dollars for advertising one day, and missing custom worth a hundred by it, the next.

AN OLD HOUSE.—A writer describes the oldest house in Manchester (Massachusetts), as a curiously built dwelling, having two stories in front and one in the rear, mostly constructed of oak timber, and set on a rock, where the people of the present day would no more think of placing a house than they would on the Himalaya mountains. This house was built in 1643, and is therefore about two hundred and nine years old, was one of the first put up in the town, and its original proprietor was Shadrach Norton. The bricks in the chimney are a great curiosity, some of them weighing from eight to ten pounds each.

SIR JOHN HARVEY AND GENERAL SCOTT.—The Boston Traveller relates the following anecdote of Sir John Harvey:

At the battle of Stony Creek, the Americans were defeated; but Sir John narrowly escaped being shot. An American rifleman was just presenting deadly aim at his commanding figure, when a sword struck aside the rifle with this expression—"Don't shoot that British officer, he is preventing the shedding of blood." Sir John was riding among the combatants, attempting to stop the carnage. The officer who struck aside the rifle was General Scott; and the occurrence led to the great friendship which afterwards existed between the two veterans.

A NUMEROUS FAMILY.—The Shah of Persia has invited a number of Austrian officers of all arms to Teheran, to aid in re-organizing the Persian army. A letter from one of the officers, received at Vienna, furnishes some personal details respecting the Shah. He is twenty-two years of age, and one of the handsomest men in the empire. His great-grandfather, who had three hundred wives, had a crowd of children, who have had descendants in their turn, until at length it is computed that the imperial family comprises at least ten thousand persons.

SCENE.—Waiting room of a railway station. Personages—Stout gentleman smoking, and railway official. Posted rule—"Smoking Strictly Prohibited."

Railway Official—"You'd better not smoke, sir!"

Traveller—"That's what my friends say."

Railway Official—"But you musn't smoke, sir!"

Traveller—"So my doctor tells me."

Railway Official—"But you shan't smoke, sir!"

Traveller—"Ah! just what my wife says."

A NEW PAINT.—Water lime (hydraulic cement), mixed in the same way with oil as Blake's Ohio paint, or any of the several mineral paints lately brought into use, has lately been discovered to be equal to any other substance ever used for painting walls, roofs, floors, fences, or any other work, while in point of economy, it is one to eight or ten. The discovery was accidentally made by Mr. John Harold, of Hempstead, Long Island. —*The Plough*.

A priest was once called upon to pray over the barren fields of his parishioners. He passed from one enclosure to another, and pronounced his benedictions, until he came to a most unpromising case. He surveyed its barren acres in despair. "Ah!" said he, "brethren—no use to pray here—this needs manure!"

It is somewhat singular that Washington drew his last breath in the last hour of the last day of the last week of the last month of the last year of the last century. He died on Saturday night, at twelve o'clock, December 31, 1799.

A Western writer thinks that if the proper way of spelling tho is "though," and etc "eight," and bo "beaux;" the proper way of spelling potatoes is *poughtightedus*.

Near St. Sevier there lives an old soldier with a false leg, a false arm, a glass eye, a complete set of false teeth, a silver nose covered with a substance resembling flesh, and a silver plate replacing part of his skull, he was under Napoleon, and these are his trophies.

The Hungarian Committee has left Vienna in bad temper. The cabinet had refused concession, and it is said the Hungarian nobles will not support a government, whose aim is to reduce Hungary to a mere Austrian province.