

THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

VOL 15.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20th, 1886.

No. 43.

TRIAL TRIP.

In a few weeks THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN will enter on its SIXTEENTH YEAR of publication. Since its first appearance it has been a welcome visitor to thousands of homes, and in order that its merits as a Church and family paper may become known to a still wider circle of readers, THE PRESBYTERIAN for the remainder of this year will be sent to any one sending us Fifteen Cents in stamps.

Notes of the Week.

ACCORDING to Dr. H. Osgood, a Baptist divine, the Baptist Churches throughout the world had in 1880 an aggregate membership of 2,676,870; Bishop M'Tyeire, in his recent history of Methodism, gives the Methodist total as 5,212,186; and the Presbyterian Alliance at its Belfast meeting in 1884 gave the Presbyterian total as 6,750,460.

DAVID KENNEDY, the gifted interpreter of Scottish song, who was making a tour of the American continent, died after a short illness at Stratford last week. He has been around the world singing the songs that touch the Scottish heart. For several years he was precentor in Nicholson Street Presbyterian Church, Edinburgh. He made it a rule never to hold a concert on Saturday evening, and to be found at the Sabbath service, where not unfrequently he and his family led the praise of the congregation. The last place at which he followed his usual course in this respect was at St. Andrew's Church, Sarnia.

THE fine monument erected to perpetuate the memory of Joseph Brant, the renowned chief of the Mohawks, who stood loyally by Great Britain during the Revolutionary War, was unveiled at Brantford by Lieut Governor Robinson on Wednesday last. The accompanying ceremonies were imposing, and the effect was greatly heightened by the presence of a number of prominent chiefs, among them Mistawasis, from the North-West. A number of prominent men from a distance, and leading citizens of Brantford, took an active part in the proceedings connected with the completion and unveiling of the Brant monument.

THE Prince of Wales has, it is announced, decided that the Indian and Colonial Exhibition will close on the evening of Wednesday, November 10. The proposal of the Prince of Wales that the Queen's Jubilee should be celebrated by the establishment of an Imperial Institute, as the outcome of the present Exhibition, has naturally continued to attract much attention. There would seem to be a belief among exhibitors and others interested in the possibility of the Exhibition being re-opened next spring in somewhat of its present shape, and continued through the year, whilst arrangements of a more permanent nature are being completed. In other words, the belief would seem to be that the present Exhibition and its Royal Commission will cease early in November, and that the display of next year will be under the auspices of the permanent institution.

A WELSH league, formed to assist all who are oppressed by tithes, has issued a manifesto; it is opposed to the removal of tithe liability to the landowners. It is rumoured that Mr. Chamberlain means to place himself at the head of a movement for the abolition of tithes; but he may now find that there is no great readiness on the part of the Nonconformists to accept him for a leader. The formidable proportions this war is assuming is indicated by the fact that steps are being taken to secure concerted action on the part of North and South Wales. In Cardiganshire the agitation is becoming most intense. The Marquis of Anglesey has signified his intention to redeem all the tithes on his estate in lieu of a remission in the half-year's rent almost due; and other landowners are about to make an abatement of ten per cent. in the tithes. Lord Salisbury purposes in-

roducing a measure next session dealing with the entire subject.

A TELLING pamphlet, entitled "The Autobiography of a Hawbee," by Mr. Playfair, has been published in Edinburgh. It says "I can do little in a grocer's shop, less in a draper's shop, and still less in a publican's, but, pray tell it both in Gath and Askelon, I can do much in a church." Sarcasm is brought to play with heavy effect upon the economist. "I am brazen faced enough," says the shameless half penny, "to affirm that I am of all coins the most churchy." The writer of the pungent pamphlet believes that many churches are in a state of chronic financial decline simply because Christian ministers dare not speak of giving and office-bearers will not. Financially these churches do not live, they only exist, and yet nine tenths of them have sufficient recuperative power. Mr. Playfair says he is sick of hearing people who are not widows talk about the widow's mite. Equally to the point is the remark that stingy givers are ever the most exacting of church adherents.

NOTHING could be more appropriate, says the *Christian Leader*, than the proposal to establish a Colonial Institute that shall interest and inform the nation with respect to the extent and capacities of the Greater Britain that girdles the globe. This notion is not only in accord with a powerful movement of the present time, it is also a most felicitous embodiment of what is perhaps the most remarkable feature of the long reign which it is designed to commemorate. The growth of our colonial empire under Victoria is the most impressive and far-reaching fact of the half-century, and it is the one probably destined beyond all others to figure conspicuously in that page of the future historian which recalls the most enduring features of the marvellous epoch that will be identified with the present sovereign. That the proposed memorial has been suggested by the Prince of Wales will help to connect his work with the beneficent suggestion of his father which produced the first of the great industrial exhibitions of our century.

THAT the Donalda endowment, made by Sir Donald A. Smith to McGill University, Montreal, opening up a comprehensive course of study to women, supplied a keenly-felt want, is attested by the number who have eagerly embraced the opportunity for the broader and higher culture thus afforded. There are now sixty-eight female undergraduates studying under the conditions of the endowment in connection with the college. Of these, many are in their first or second year; a goodly number in their third, and of these latter the majority propose going through the entire course and becoming candidates for honors. The "sweet girl graduate," says a recent visitor, seems to have suggested long enough the notion of pretty incompetency. To see the girls at their lessons; to note the methodical manner in which the teaching is pursued, the earnest gravity of the fresh young faces as the professor learnedly descants upon experimental physics, and the perfect comprehension of the serious nature of the work in which they are engaged, is to realize that the "sweet girl graduate with golden hair" is much more than a poetical figure. The comprehensive character of the curriculum, and the earnestness with which it appears to be pursued, demand that she be taken seriously.

THE annual public meeting of the Industrial Refuge and Aged Women's Home was held last week in the building, North Toronto. There was a large attendance of ladies interested in the good work of these two benevolent enterprises. The secretary, Mrs. C. S. Ewart, read the annual report of the institution, which showed that there were admitted last year fifty-eight women. There were twenty-seven in at the beginning of the year, making a total of eighty-five. Of these nineteen went to service, two died, two were sent to the General Hospital, thirty-five left on their own account, and twenty-seven are at present in the Refuge. Mrs. MacLennan, the trea-

sure, read her report, which showed the institution to be in good financial standing. The Industrial Refuge report is: Proceeds from work of inmates, \$1,636.61; subscriptions, \$1,533.61; grants from city and Government, \$845.68, making a total of \$4,115.90. The expenses were \$3,544.59, leaving a balance of \$571.31. The Aged Women's Home report showed that \$772.50 was received for board of inmates, grants from Government, \$316.96, making a total of \$1,089.46. The expenses were \$1,196.44. Paid on contract for addition to building, \$541.50. Mrs. MacLennan stated that the women in the Refuge have earned almost enough to meet half of the expenditure.

MORALIZING on electoral morality, the *Christian Leader* says The Christian patriot will note with satisfaction the lessening expense incurred by parliamentary candidates, although their outlay is still much higher than it ought to be. With the extension of the franchise it has become more difficult to corrupt constituencies, and we indulge the hope that there is a deepening sentiment of abhorrence of those vile practices by which self-seeking politicians were wont to snatch the prize of a seat in Parliament. At the general election last year the average cost for each vote polled in Scotland was 5s. 7d.; at the recent election this was reduced to 4s. 5½d. To their credit the successful workingmen candidates in England did not pay more than the odd coppers—one Welsh operative secured his seat for even less; and we trust the day is hastening when it will be accounted a disgrace to pay more than these sons of toil have expended. The memory of Burns does not seem to do much for the morality of the county that calls itself by his name. The highest individual expenditure of any Scottish candidate was that of Mr. Vernon, the Liberal Unionist who proved victorious in South Ayrshire. His triumph was purchased, either by himself or his supporters, at the cost of nearly £2,000. The time is coming when such a fact as this will be looked back upon with shame, not unmixed with scorn. Still, in its ethical aspects the election of 1886 marks, on the whole, decided progress. On this continent a similar purification of the political atmosphere is much needed.

THE Young Men's Christian Association, working in connection with McGill University, Montreal, held a very pleasant reunion in the lower hall of the Peter Redpath Museum recently. The very enjoyable gathering took the form of a reception to the new students of the Institution, and was largely attended by members of the faculty and a great many ladies and gentlemen. Mr. J. K. Unsworth, President of the College Y.M.C.A., occupied the chair and referred to the large increase of membership—from thirteen, six years ago, to ninety-five now—and he felt sure that prosperous days were in store for those who had given their hearts to this work. They greatly wanted a suitable place for meetings, and fifteen students had subscribed \$158 toward a building fund, which, continued the speaker, will no doubt be augmented when the wants of the association come to be properly set before the friends of McGill. Sir William Dawson said he belonged to the old men's association rather than to the young men's; he could look back to the time when he was a very young Christian, and could realize how Christian labour had been revolutionized. He welcomed the association to the museum, but hoped before long they would have a building of their own. Toronto had one, and Montreal was not in the habit of being distanced by her Western neighbour. Sir William concluded by wishing the association God-speed. The Rev. Dr. Murray, of the Faculty of Arts, being called upon for an address, said that it was almost out of the question for a professor to turn lectures on science and literature into sermons; but at the same time, as a member of the teaching body of the University, he took the greatest possible interest in all movements tending to bring the students to live a life becoming a Christian gentleman.