

THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

Vol. 14.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30th, 1885.

No. 40.

"In every respect a credit to the Presbyterian Church in Canada."
—*Barrie Gazette.*

THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN,
PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY BY THE
Presbyterian Printing and Publishing Co.

"Without doubt the best religious publication in Canada, and a well come visitor to thousands of families."
—*Stratford Beacon.*

THE PRESBYTERIAN is recommended by the
General Assembly as "worthy the hearty support" of
the ministers and members.

An Agent wanted in every congregation in the Dominion. Lib-
eral commissions to suitable persons. Specimen copies mailed free on
application. Apply at once to

C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, Toronto.

Notes of the Week.

THE annual conference of the United Kingdom Band of Hope Union was held in Belfast this year. The meetings are described as being of a most interesting and stimulating kind. The friends of Temperance work among the young attended in large numbers, and most encouraging reports of the progress of the movement were made and most valuable counsel given. The meetings have given an impetus to the cause of Temperance among the young in the North of Ireland.

POPULAR enthusiasm in favour of the Scott Act continues. In the County of Peterborough its opponents were unremitting in their efforts to secure its defeat, and it need scarcely be added that those desiring its adoption worked with a will to ensure its success. Their efforts have been rewarded, and the voting on Thursday last shows that the people of Peterborough County are convinced that in the interests of Temperance, it is desirable that the Scott Act have a fair trial. The steady succession of triumphs the measure has secured, wherever it has been submitted for decision, leaves no doubt that the great body of the people are of opinion that the liquor traffic should be restrained by effective legislation.

IN Ottawa the Ven Archdeacon Farrar delivered his lecture on Dante in Bank Street Presbyterian Church. It is stated that the English Church clergymen of the Dominion capital were scandalized at the fact that the illustrious divine should lecture in a Presbyterian Church. Their scrupulous consciences were so deeply wounded that they felt it to be their duty to decline attendance at the lecture. Outside certain Anglican *coleries* this will be regarded as supremely ridiculous. In following the course they did, they denied themselves a rare treat, were not over-courteous to their distinguished brother from Westminster, and failed utterly to impress sturdy Presbyterians with the belief that they belong to the legitimate Apostolic Succession.

OVER a year ago a Sanitary Association was instituted in Toronto. Its object, a praiseworthy one, is to diffuse accurate information on all matters pertaining to health. This association is now making arrangements for a course of bi-monthly lectures to be delivered in different parts of the city to suit the convenience of the inhabitants. The subjects suggested are: Care of the Body, Food and Drink, the Blood and its Circulation; Accidents, Emergencies and Wounds; Ambulance Lectures, Rearing and Training the Infant and Child, Preventible Diseases and their Causes; Physical Exercise—its use and abuse; Brain Health; Nursing the Sick, Sanitary Law; Effects of Unhealthy Occupations their cause and prevention; Hints to Women on preserving their health; Domestic Economy, etc.

SUCH members of the clerical bicycling tourists who recently visited Ontario as have been heard from have gone home apparently delighted with what they witnessed on this side of the border and the cordial receptions they everywhere met with. One of them, writing in the *Chicago Tribune*, says: A Sabbath in Toronto is the quietest city Sabbath I have ever seen. There are no street-cars running, no societies parading

with boisterous brass-bands, and no singing, shouting, cursing gangs of perambulatory loafers to make Sabbath day and evening hideous to timid women or lone, meditative church-goers. These good Canadian people have weekly such a day of true rest as our American cities, even those of no more than a few thousand inhabitants, have never yet enjoyed. Well would it be for us if we could have so wise a public sentiment, and such prudent laws and city ordinances, as would secure to us that unspeakable blessing, a Sabbath of holy rest and quiet.

THE *Independent* of last week has the following. The date of the first total abstinence society in the United States is an interesting question just now. We believe the first teetotal society was organized in Boston Harbour in 1775. It adopted the Indian regalia. Opponents of legal prohibition object that it is sumptuary legislation, and is an infringement of personal liberty. But other legislation, which is universally recognized as proper and necessary, requires everybody to wear clothes, at least in public. More than that, it prohibits certain kinds of garments to men and certain others to women. Prohibition, enforced prohibition, would give us the highest kind of personal liberty. Let us have it. It is stated that there are 389 saloons, licensed by Congress, in a section of Washington, measuring about 8,000 by 6,300 feet. It is a capital offence. Oh! for a Hercules to clean out the Augean stable! It is high time that government of the saloon, by the saloon, and for the saloon should perish from the earth.

THE Executive Committee of the Sabbath School Association announce that the twentieth annual Provincial Convention will be held in the city of Stratford on the 20th, 21st and 22nd of October, 1885. At this convention a number of important practical questions relating to the efficiency and advancement of the Sabbath School cause will be submitted for consideration. In addition to the necessary routine business, in connection with which the names of several who have long been identified with the working of the association are announced, the Whyte Brothers have agreed to conduct the service of praise, and the following are expected to take part in the proceedings. Mr. William Reynolds, of Peoria, Illinois, Rev. Messrs. Peter Wright, E. A. Stafford, LL.B., John McEwen, W. R. Parker, D.D., D. G. Sutherland, D.D., John Thompson, Sarnia, Alfred Andrews, William Cochrane, D.D., Brantford, H. D. Hunter, M.A., H. C. Speller, John F. German, H. M. Parsons, Toronto, and the Hon. S. H. Blake.

ROUMELIA has been incorporated with Bulgaria. The revolution resulting in the union was brought about quietly. While Spain and Germany were discussing the ownership of the Caroline Islands, and while France and England were busy with the approaching elections, Turkish rule in Roumelia came to an unexpected end. The surmise is general, and probably well founded, that the whole affair had been pre-arranged. That the Czar of Russia, the German and Austrian Kaisers would run the gauntlet of Nihilistic dangers for the mere pleasure of interchanging personal courtesies is hardly possible. The crowned heads were probably the least surprised when they heard that Roumelia had thrown off the Turkish yoke. If these three great powers are agreed that Roumelia and Bulgaria should form one State, there is not likely to be much disturbance, even though it is stated that the Turkish army is being mobilized for the recapture of the revolted province. The Sick Man in Europe, at least, is nigh unto death. Roumelia will not be the last of the Principalities to renounce the suzerainty of the Sultan.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to a contemporary directing attention to the dangerous nature of the railway brakeman's calling. He writes all the more earnestly and feelingly because he witnessed lately a distressing accident that ended fatally on the Grand Trunk Railway. He hazards the statement that as

many men in proportion to the number employed perish at their dangerous post as are killed in battle. What causes most astonishment is that these frequent fatal accidents in which railway employes are the victims produce so little impression on humane officials and the public generally. It seems only to be a matter of course that when a brakeman is killed by falling from the top of a freight car or is crushed to death while coupling, a sigh of regret and the exclamation "Poor fellow," is all that can reasonably be demanded. All who travel by rail note with pleasure the immense improvements in the equipment of passenger cars since their first introduction in Canada; but in the construction of freight cars and their appliances, primitive simplicity still continues. Railway officials are eager to adopt every suggestion that helps them to save money in working expenses: they should at least be as anxious to adopt all reasonable precautions for saving the lives of their employes.

IT is stated that the Presbytery of San Francisco at its recent session received into fellowship the recently-organized Japanese Church of that city. The elder representing the church seemed quite the equal in intelligence and piety of his fellow-presbyters. The church is without a pastor, because of the debt of the Board of Foreign Missions. Meanwhile, the elder does, as far as possible, the duty of a pastor, besides devoting a part of each day to the instruction of the Korean refugees, one of whom speaks Japanese. These Korean noblemen are commending themselves more and more to those who know them. They are making rapid progress in English, and seem equally interested in our Christianity and our civilization. They are diligently studying the Gospel narrative and have already, at least, a theoretical acquaintance with its most important truths. Since its organization the Chinese Church of San Francisco has received on confession one hundred and fifty-eight persons. The Oakland Church reports an encouraging attendance at its six weekly services. There is also a Chinese Presbyterian Church in connection with the Presbytery of Los Angeles; and mission work is carried on in connection with the Presbyterian Churches of Placerville, Sacramento, Napa, San Rafael, Alameda, San Jose, San Buenaventura, Anaheim, Orange, etc.

A REGULAR correspondent of the *New York Times* relates the following: I am reminded of a characteristic anecdote of the venerated Leonard Bacon. New Haven's theological seminary had one particularly promising student in a class that graduated a few years before Dr. Bacon died. He had done wonderful things in a literary way; he was known of all the college for his originality, his depth, and his brilliancy. And when the time came for graduation this extraordinary young man, whose face was not set against parade, read his commencement thesis before a club whose membership included not only members of Yale's upper classes, but representatives of the Faculty and prominent Congregational clergymen. Dr. Bacon was a member; likewise Dr. Bacon was present on this particular evening, and with the rest he gave close attention to the reading; nor was he without evidence of interest as one by one conspicuous members of the club rose, discussed the paper, and complimented the brilliant student on the brain power that had given him such a mastery of metaphysics. Finally came his turn when everybody else had exhausted laudatory adjectives. At first he had declined to say anything. People who waited, and who knew Leonard Bacon, understood how in the end he could not longer restrain himself. He didn't say much. This was all: "I liked this evening's paper too. I always did like it. I liked it forty years ago when I first read it. I like it now. It's one of the things that will last. And I am delighted to discover such excellent taste in this young man who has laboriously copied it for us. If any of the rest of the club desire to make copies I will gladly loan the volume that contains it." But that plagiarizing young man wasn't crushed. He is occupying the pulpit of a rich church to-day.