

THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

VOL. 19.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, JULY 16th, 1890.

No. 29.

Notes of the Week.

FROM the current issue of the *Book Buyer* we learn that last year there were 942 books of fiction published in the United States, and 363 books of theology and religion. In England in the same time there were printed 1,040 books of fiction and 630 of theology. Poetry in the United States reached 171 volumes, and in England 133. In both countries theological books have fallen off in number from the previous year, and fiction has increased.

THE new International Lesson Committee to prepare the lessons in the International Sunday school course are Bishop John H. Vincent; Drs. John Hall, Moses B. Hoge, W. G. E. Cunningham, John A. Broadus, Warren Randolph, Lewis H. Baugher, John Potts, E. A. Dunning, D. Berger, J. S. Stahr, D. Silver, and the Honourable S. H. Blake, of Toronto, B. F. Jacobs, of Chicago, and Professor J. J. Hinds, of Lebanon, Tenn.

WHATEVER unfavourable impressions may have been made by the so-called Toronto Summer Carnival, it may be taken for granted that the Industrial Fair, to be held from 8th to 20th September, will be fully equal if it will not surpass anything yet achieved by the directorate. The extensive prize list has been issued, and it covers a wider range than ever before. Those desirous of obtaining a copy can apply to Mr. J. Hill, the ever active secretary.

FOR about ten years the Presbyterian Church of England has provided for the wants of its sons and daughters in Cambridge by weekly services, at which most of the leading Presbyterian ministers of Scotland, England and Ireland have, at one time or another, officiated, and a few days since they took the further step of laying the foundation-stone of a new church. The stone was laid by Sir George Bruce, to whose efforts in enlisting sympathy and raising money the cause there owes its existence.

THE Western Fair Association, London, has issued a comprehensive prize list for the exhibition to be held in the Forest City from September 18th to 27th. The Western Fair was the pioneer of those principal district exhibitions that have come into prominence and have of late attained to large proportions. The officers announce that every effort will be made to render the forthcoming exhibition as attractive as possible. Mr. Thos. A. Browne, London, secretary, will be pleased to send prize list to any one on receipt of post card.

PROFESSOR CHARTERIS presided at the opening of the Deaconesses' Institution and Training Home, for which premises have been secured at Berkely-terrace, Glasgow. In the course of a brief address, he remarked that the General Assembly had for several years sanctioned the successive steps of the programme which experience had enabled the committee to lay before them in regard to the more systematic training of women for Christian work, and he hoped that by the training received in that institution a large and increasing amount of good would be done among the poor, the sick, and the needy. Dr. John Macleod advocated the raising of an endowment for the Home, and Dr. Marshall Lang referred to the cordiality and courtesy with which the directors of the infirmary had entered into the arrangements for the training of the deaconesses.

MORVYN House School, so long and so ably conducted by Miss Haight, has come under new management. Accompanying the very neat calendar just issued Miss Haight makes the announcement: After conducting the Morvyn House School fifteen years, I am about to retire, to be succeeded by my niece, Miss Lay. She has been connected with the school over ten years, and I have the fullest confidence in her ability to carry it on successfully, according to the same general principles on which it has hitherto been conducted. I have no doubt that under her management the school will enter upon a fresh career of usefulness and prosperity.

The course of study announced, the aims and objects to be pursued, and the attractive features presented in the calendar indicate that under Miss Lay's management Morvyn House School will deserve full confidence and extensive patronage.

THE *Ottawa Evening Journal* has penetration sufficient to discount extravagant eulogies of the power of the newspaper. It says: The Rev. Thos. Dickson, of New York, has a little too much to say in praise of newspapers. In a recent sermon he said Ezekiel saw in a vision wheels within wheels, wheels alive, wheels full of eyes. He foresaw the modern newspaper. Where are the eyes that never sleep? In the reporters that ply these streets searching all the phases of human life. In the degeneracy of the modern pulpit the daily press is doing the work of God as the pulpit is not doing it. That is going too far. There is nothing the matter with the modern pulpit. It is better than the modern press, more earnest, more sincere, more unselfish. The average newspaper is usually a pretty fair reflex of the average community, and well enough in its way. The pulpit is almost invariably on a higher plane, as it should be.

THOSE who urged the prosecution of Professors Dods and Bruce are far from satisfied with the decision of the Free Church General Assembly. The controversy was again before the Free Church Presbytery of Dingwall recently. Mr. Macaskill, giving an account of his stewardship at the General Assembly, said that he and those who acted along with him would not content themselves with simply speaking and voting against the decision of the Assembly in the Dod's case, but they were determined to do everything that was competent for them to bring this matter up again for trial before the same Assembly, and they would then see if those persons were to be allowed to use the influence and means of the Free Church for disseminating Rationalistic views. If that was to be permitted, there would be a few more battles fought, keener and more determined than ever fought in connection with the Free Church in her past history.

EVEN in Free America the dignitaries of the Church of Rome occasionally act in a high-handed manner. The politico-social opinions entertained by Dr. McGlynn were displeasing to the Archbishop of New York. Dr. McGlynn maintained his opinions with the earnestness and vigour born of conviction. The readiest way to get rid of the troublesome ecclesiastic was to suppress him by the exercise of authority in a manner more consonant with the methods of the thirteenth rather than those of the nineteenth century. There was in the same city a Dr. Burtzell who sympathized with Dr. McGlynn and his opinions. The Archbishop, tenacious of his power, could not view this small measure of independence with equanimity and he issued the fiat that Dr. Burtzell must exchange his city rectory for a rural parish. The Doctor appealed to Rome, and Rome has just decided in the Archbishop's favour. A few more such victories will be disastrous to Romish pretensions in New York.

THE Theological Hall, Ormond College, writes an Australian correspondent of the *British Weekly*, seems in the run of what is commonly called "luck." By the bequest of the late Mr. Thomson, of Keilambete, one of the early and successful squatters, large sums of money have fallen to various charitable and religious objects, amongst them to the Heathen Mission, the Home Mission, the Aged and Infirm Clergy Fund, and the Widows' Fund of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria. The sum of \$125,000 is also bequeathed to the Theological Hall for scholarships to assist and encourage deserving students during their University and Theological Hall courses; and the sum of \$75,000 comes to the fund for the endowment of additional professorships. The inaugural lecture on "Matthew Arnold and Christianity," delivered by Professor Rentoul on the public commencement day of the session, has attracted much attention. It gave a masterful and subtle analysis of the elements which go to make Arnold's teaching, and of the various sources from which he drew the substance of his system.

A SAMOAN correspondent of the *British Weekly* writes: The 5th of May was, by the wish of King Malietoa, observed as a day of special thanksgiving throughout Samoa by all denominations. The conclusion of the Samoan Treaty with the Great Powers, the restoration of peace in Samoa, and the establishment of the Government of Samoa were the fitting subjects of thanksgiving to Almighty God. The general meeting of the missionaries of the London Missionary Society, with the native pastor delegates, was held in Malua a short time ago. The meeting was memorable for the resolution adopting the principle of lay representation to be enforced at the next Conference to be held in November, and for the presence of Miss V. Schultze and the Rev. J. and Mrs. Marriott. Miss Schultze is appointed to establish and conduct the much-needed Girl's Central Boarding School for Samoans. It is not a century since this island was clouded with heathen darkness, now Christianity has been the means of enlightenment to the inhabitants, and the blessings of civilization have followed. No! missions are not a failure.

ANOTHER move has been made in Glasgow as will be seen from the following: In accordance with a resolution come to after the decision of the Assembly in the Dods-Bruce case, a private conference of brethren representing all parts of the country was held recently in Glasgow. The meeting was called by circular, marked "private and confidential," and signed by Rev. Robert Howie, as *interim* convener, "to consider what steps, if any, ought to be taken in view of the bearing that these decisions may have on the doctrinal position of the Church, and especially upon her relation to the confessional doctrine regarding the Word of God." The circular was addressed to those whose names have been "mentioned as likely to be willing to act on a representative committee to consider the matter, or at least to give their countenance and the benefit of their counsel to such a conference." The conference lasted from two o'clock till half-past four. Rev. Mr. Fullerton, Glasgow, presided during the first part of the meeting, and the Rev. Mr. Murray, Bothwell, during the second part. Anti-Dods resolutions were passed, but at the close all information was refused to the press, those who attended the meeting being, in their own phrase, "bound to secrecy as much as any Freemason." The result, it was stated, would be made known at a fitting time later on.

DR. PRESSENF, of Paris, a regular contributor to the columns of the *Christian World*, in a recent communication says: On Thursday, June 4, a great gathering of the Sunday school children of Paris and the environs was convened in the large hall of the Trocadero. Once before it had been held in the same place, instead of in the Winter Circus, as usual. But this year the success of the effort was much more marked. It is reckoned that the number of children thus assembled was 3,400, more than 1,000 of them belonging to Mr. McAll's Mission schools. This crowd of children of all ages and conditions joining in the praises of God, and responding now with cheers, now with laughter, now with quick rising tears, to the earnest addresses delivered to them, was a sight to make the heart leap for joy. It was a strengthening thought to the grown persons present—to the number of 1,200 at least—that among all the busy agencies of corruption in this city of splendour and of sordid misery, there is such a leaven of the Gospel of the kingdom at work in the hearts of the little ones. On the Sunday evening following the annual festival of the Evangelization Society was held in the *Oratoire*. Mr. McAll's mission was largely represented in this assembly, and it was touching to hear its venerable leader expressing once again the close heart-union existing between himself and the French Protestant pastors and churches. M. Sautter gave a sketch of the progress of the mission from the month of August, 1871, to the present day. Those who listened could only praise God for having put into the heart of our brother McAll such indomitable perseverance and inventive energy, and for having so richly crowned his efforts with success.