

Such a type of man was Dr. Neale, of Boston, Mass., who was for forty years pastor of the First Baptist Church there. A short time after his settlement he told his people that 'for no slight cause of discontent would he be driven from them. If there were a third in the Church and society who loved him, and another third who were willing to put up with him, the remaining third should bear with him.' Or according to another version he said, 'It will be very difficult for you to unsettle me, for if one-third wish me to stay, and another third wouldn't vote against me, the remaining third may whistle.' For more than thirty-six years he held the three-thirds with a firm, loving hand. His own quaint explanation for his long pastorate was this, 'That when he got on his high horse and wanted to leave, they wouldn't let him; and when they took their turn of mounting, he wouldn't go.' Thus he owed his protracted continuance among them to the fact that 'they didn't both get mad at the same time.'

FRAGMENTARY NOTES.

The summer holidays are over and holiday-makers have returned to their various vocations, in many cases with renewed health and vigour.

In ecclesiastical as well as civil affairs one is reminded of the work for the approaching winter. The usual pulpit announcements of Sabbath school and prayer meeting, the re-organization of the Young People's Associations and Christian Endeavour are the order of the day, and never before I think were these things undertaken by our various congregations more earnestly than they are this season.

That summer is over, fall is here, and winter approaching is also indicated by the variegated foliage on the trees, the fading flowers, the hustling of stove-pipes and the familiar little board marked "wet paint," showing that the painters had been around giving the finishing stroke to the shutters, gates and fences. Churches have been cleaned, renovated and painted, and many of them, I must say from personal observation, needed to be cleaned very much. If cleanliness is next to godliness, Church managers should be more careful to let their friends and the public, "see their faith by their works."

The progress of Presbyterianism is sure and steady. Lately the Presbytery of Montreal, by a commission consisting of the Rev. Dr. Warden and the Rev. Professor Scrimger, ordained a minister in Lowell, Mass. This settlement should strengthen the cause much in that prosperous place. Presbyterianism has never yet taken the position in the New England States it should occupy, but I believe in pushing our system especially in places where unsound views are taught and held, and ultimately, thinking people will be led to see that truth will prevail over error.

All along the line our Church is showing fresh signs of life and vigour. A handsome new church has been opened in Campbellton, N. B., which from all appearance will soon be too small for that growing congregation. The pastor is the Rev. A. O. Brown, a native of Scotland, who has been only a few years in Canada but sufficiently long to make his power felt as a Gospel preacher. It was the communion. The day was fine and the new cosy church was crowded with an attentive congregation, a number of whom had to be content with chairs in the aisles. This was the first communion held in the new church, and was said to be the largest in the history of the congregation.

The Sabbath school, under the superintendence of Mr. J. B. McKenzie, is prosperous. We had a look in here and were much pleased with this department of congregational work.

Bathurst is steadily growing. Many new and important buildings have been completed and many others are in the course of erection. The congregation under the ministry of Rev. J. F. Thomson, was never in better shape, and the fervent, earnest ministry exercised here has a good effect on the entire neighbourhood.

Owing to the ritualistic tendencies of the pastor of the Church of St. George the Martyr, a long name for a church, a portion of what at best is a small congregation, is being supplied with preaching by the Reformed Episcopal minister of Chatham, and it is expected that a congregation will be formed here.

Bathurst has become quite a favourite summer resort. The Basin is as splendid a sheet of water as can be found anywhere. With the excellent hotel accommodation, being within easy reach of Montreal,

it is likely to command a large share of summer travel in the near future.

Chatham is on the famous Miramichi River, and has been famed in the past years for its large output of lumber. There is a branch railway connecting with the Intercolonial Railway. In this town are a number of extensive merchants, a large proportion of whom belong to our Church. The town occupies a handsome site, but many of the buildings are old and dilapidated, and very few handsome brick buildings are to be seen. We have two good congregations here, ministered to by Rev. E. W. Waits and Rev. John McKay. On a former occasion I gave a few items regarding St. John's Church, having an interesting history. At present a good deal of interest is taken in St. Andrew's Church owing to the removal of its popular pastor, Rev. Mr. Waits, from the town.

St. Andrew's Church, Chatham, is one of the oldest churches in New Brunswick, there exists the record of a communion held in 1804. The present building, which is capable of seating 900, was erected twenty-one years ago, and for ten years had the Rev. Mr. Wilson, of the North Church, Aberdeen. He was succeeded by the Rev. Dr. Jardine, of Prince Albert, who was succeeded by the present pastor. The Rev. E. W. Waits came here from Stratford, Ontario, nearly seven years ago, where he had exercised a five years' ministry with much acceptance. During his pastorate here the church has been remodelled and a new organ supplied, which has improved the praise service very much. There are about 260 families in connection with the congregation and the membership nearly 400, and about 270 have been added to the roll during the present pastorate, a large number of them on profession of faith.

On a recent Sabbath I heard him preach. The church at both services seemed quite full. In the morning the subject was "Errors respecting salvation and the confession of Christ." The sermon, which had special reference to the approaching communion, was listened to most attentively. In the evening Mr. Waits took for his text Ecclesiastes viii. 10, his theme being the "Death of the wicked." The services throughout were of a most impressive character, that of the evening was followed by a short prayer meeting for which many of the congregation waited. Mr. Waits has accepted the call to Knox Church, Owen Sound, and judging from his past success his ministry is likely to be abundantly blessed there. He is evangelical in his teaching, has a vigorous delivery and altogether his pulpit services are much appreciated. He has trained a number of young men to take part in prayer meetings and other evangelical services, two of whom have entered the University with a view to the ministry, and one or two others are working in that direction. Rev. Mr. Waits leaves here in the end of the present month, and enters upon his new charge on the first Sabbath of November. In his domestic affliction he has the sympathy of the entire community, and leaves amidst the sincerest regrets of an attached people. Knowing well the piety and ability of the esteemed brother, Rev. A. H. Scott, who has retired from the pastorate of Knox Church, it will be no easy matter to fill his place.

In Walford, Kent County, a handsome new church is drawing near completion. This is the first Presbyterian Church erected here, and has been provided largely through the liberality of the Messrs. Miller, who have a large number of factories throughout New Brunswick. The congregation at present worships in a hall, and is ministered to by the Rev. Mr. Cameron, who divides his services between this place and Bass River.

THE REV. PRINCIPAL CAVEN.

The following sketch of the Rev. William Caven, D.D., Principal of Knox College, is given in a late issue of the *Week*, as one of the series of "Prominent Canadians" now appearing in the columns of that journal:

In these days there is a general impression that within the circle of physical science with its vast sweep, exploring, as it seeks to do, the entire material universe, all possible knowledge may be comprehended. Many would relegate metaphysics and theology to the realm of dreams. It is nevertheless true in our day, as in that of Shakespeare, that

There are more things in heaven and earth
Than are dreamt of in our philosophy.

Mental and moral science is intrinsically and relatively of the utmost importance, and has a direct and intimate bearing on all the principal problems of human life. Its conclusions may not indeed have all the obvious certitude that pertains to the discoveries and deductions of the exact sciences, but its data and applications are to all candid and unprejudiced inquirers clearly discernible. Those then who select this field of research are entitled to the respect and appreciation usually accorded to the men whose labours are directed to the advancement of learning and the promotion of the general well-being.

Profound and comprehensive study of theological science, though not conspicuously pursued by Canadians, has not been neglected. No one individual in any one of the various denominations may be selected as a representative Canadian theologian; there are men in all the more prominent churches whose attainments have received cordial recognition. In the Presbyterian Church there are several, besides the subject of the following sketch entitled to be ranked as theologians, but Principal Caven has, on many occasions, held the position of a representative of the doctrinal system that, with modifications, finds general acceptance in the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

William Caven was born in Wigtonshire, Scotland, on the 26th December, 1830. His father, a man of more than average intelligence, and of much amiability and gentleness of disposition, was a school teacher. In uprightness of character, conscientiousness and firm adherence to principle, Dr. Caven's father was one who commanded the respect of all who knew him. If the Principal of Knox College owes much to his father, he is no less indebted to his mother, whose excellence of character was strongly marked. The Caven family left their Scottish home in 1847, exchanging the neighbourhood of the Solway Firth for the banks of the Avon, in Perth County, Ontario. Here, in comparative seclusion, the studious youth passed an important period of his life. Strange to say he did not find his way to academic distinction, for he is not an alumnus of any university. In his case the lack was fully compensated for by the rare advantages he enjoyed. He belonged to the branch of the Church in Canada known down to 1861 as the United Presbyterian, which, in that year, merged with the Free Church into the Canada Presbyterian, and subsequently united with the Church of Scotland in 1875, embracing within its fold most of the Presbyterianism of British North America.

The United Presbyterian Church in those days had a theological seminary presided over by a man of rare accomplishments and of distinguished ability. The Rev. William Proudfoot, father of Hon. Justice Proudfoot, has left a deep and abiding impression wherever he was known, and in the London district his memory is, to this day, affectionately cherished. To this distinguished teacher Dr. Caven owes much, for from him he received not only valued and varied instruction, but also much that has been of permanent help to him in methods of study. The Rev. William Proudfoot's efficiency as an instructor is attested by the fact that two such scholarly men as his son, Rev. John J. A. Proudfoot, D.D., and Principal Caven received from him alone their classical and theological education.

Principal Caven completed his educational course in 1852, and in October of that year was ordained to the ministry at St. Mary's, where he laboured with great acceptance for fourteen years. In 1866 he was unanimously chosen to fill the chair of Exegetical Theology in Knox College, of which institution, on the retirement of Dr. Willis, he was appointed Principal in 1873. Two years later, Queen's University bestowed upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity. In the same year he was chosen Moderator of the General Assembly which met in Montreal, and at which the reunion of Canadian Presbyterianism was consummated. He was President of the Ontario Teachers' Association in 1877, and was appointed by the Ontario Government a Member of the Senate of Toronto University. Dr. Caven took an active interest in the formation of the Presbyterian Alliance, generally known as the Pan-Presbyterian Council, and has been one of the prominent members of all the Councils yet held; in that at Edinburgh in 1877, Philadelphia in 1880, Belfast in 1884, and at London during the present year. In the various courts of his Church Dr. Caven has taken a prominent place; his eminently judicial intellect and his peaceful counsels