

they should be mainly congregational. It is the failure to recognize these elements that is threatening our manner of Church service at the present time. Now, let it be observed, we are not here offering a thick and thin opposition to anthems and other services, in which the choir alone can take part. Where these are well-chosen, adapted to the service of which they form a part, conducted in a religious and devotional spirit, they may contribute to the worship of the congregation. But there is coming to be introduced into our churches a spirit quite different from this, the feeling of exhibition, of fine singing which people are to listen to, and admire, and applaud. Whenever this is done, the spirit of devotion must evaporate. And this is now done much too widely. The Church is being turned into a concert room; and people are coming to it, not to hear the Word of God, not to worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness, but to enjoy the singing, as they would enjoy an opera or a concert. If this kind of thing should go much further, we might as well close our Churches. Work of that kind could be done better in Concert Halls, and we should then understand exactly what it meant. But there is a more excellent way—the way of teaching our congregations that they assemble together for worship, that it is the business of every member of the congregation to use every part of the service as a means of drawing near to God, and that every psalm and hymn and spiritual song is a vehicle by which the Soul may ascend to its Lord and its God.

#### PROF. CLARK HONOURED.

The news that the Rev. Prof. Clark, D.C.L., of Trinity College, Toronto, has been elected vice-president of the Royal Society of Canada, will be welcome to all the readers of this paper and we beg to tender him our hearty congratulations upon the honour which has thus been conferred upon him. The position which Dr. Clark has been called upon to fill is one of great importance, for it is the highest literary position in the Dominion of Canada. No more fitting choice than that of Professor Clark could have been made, for there is hardly another man in Canada who holds such a high rank in the realm of literature at the present time. Dr. Clark has been staying with their Excellencies, Lord and Lady Aberdeen, for the past few days, by special invitation at Government House, Ottawa.

#### THE REVISION OF THE CANONS.

The Joint Commission, appointed by the General Convention of the Church in the United States, in 1892, has submitted copies of its reports, on revision of the canons, to the delegates to the General Convention to be held in Washington next October. The revision of the canon on marriage, so as to make it forbid the marriage of either party to a divorce, will likely call out much discussion, as Bishop Potter, Dr. Wm. R. Huntington and others recommend that this shall not apply in the case of the party legally declared innocent. It is said, too, that Section 2 of Canon 39, which makes the saying of the

Daily Office compulsory will meet with strong opposition, as well as the proposal to form the dioceses and missionary jurisdictions of the Church into provinces. Altogether the next General Convention promises to be full of interest to the Church at large.

#### RELIGIOUS TEACHING IN OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

It has sometimes been urged as an objection to the introduction of religious teaching in our public schools, that it would be unfair to the teachers who had entered into no such engagement. If any have been influenced by such an argument, they would have been considerably surprised by the utterances at the recent meeting of the Ontario Educational Association. At a meeting of public school teachers, held on Thursday morning, teacher after teacher got up and repudiated the idea of their schools being irreligious or non-religious, contending that a considerable amount of religious instruction was imparted in them. This is certainly quite an agreeable phenomenon as contrasted with what is said to have happened at the Ministerial Association in the same city of Toronto. We have not a complete or exact report before us, and, if we are misrepresenting the reverend body, we shall be sorry and make our apologies; but we understand that an opinion was expressed that religious teaching could not be had in our schools. We wish those reverend gentlemen could have heard the words spoken by certain teachers of our public schools, and received with apparently unanimous approval by all who were present. It was contended with great force that on literary, historical and moral grounds, religious instruction was necessary, and should be given. A great part of our literature would be unintelligible without some knowledge of the Bible; and it was complained that the map of Palestine had been removed from the recent editions of the school geography. We think the complaint was well founded; but that is not the point at present. The teachers evidently disapproved of the changes as preventing them from giving instruction respecting Bible lands. Then it was urged that the history of Palestine and of the Hebrew people was not only an essential and important part of the history of the world, at least as important as that of Greece and Rome; but more nearly connected with our own intellectual, moral and social history, to such an extent indeed that no satisfactory account could be given of that state of civilization to which we belong without taking account of Hebrew history. So also in regard to the moral discipline of the young, it was held that nothing better could be taught as a basis for such instruction than the Ten Commandments. Not a word was uttered in regard to any difficulties in the way. The teachers felt and said that there were difficulties in the way of denominational education, but they were not aware of any in the way of religious education; and indeed, as we have said, they declared that such instruction was actually given in most of our schools. This reminds us of the old dilemma of the impossibility of motion and the old answer:

"Solvitur ambulando"—we do actually move. Religious instruction cannot be given; but it is given. If only the clergy of all denominations would co-operate to the extent of their power with the teachers, instead of arguing the subject as an abstract question, they might bring about a much more satisfactory state of things in our schools.—Canada Educational Monthly.

#### REVIEWS.

A Kentucky Cardinal and Aftermath. By James Lane Allen. Price 75 cents. Toronto: Morang, 1898.

Those who have admired the "Choir Invisible" will know very much of the kind of thing they will find in this story by the same writer. There is a great deal of very pretty, graceful writing, very pleasant to read, and inside of this there is rather a slim story, not at all bad in its way, and constructed with a certain artistic power. Upon the whole, we, for our own part, prefer more story and less psychology, but that is a matter of taste. The Cardinal, we may mention, is not an ecclesiastic, but a bird, which has rather an important place in the wooing of the heroine. The Aftermath, which completes the story, is both sweet and sad.

Modern Heroes of the Mission Field. By the Right Reverend W. Pakenham Walsh, D.D., Bishop of Ossory, Ferns and Leighlin. \$1 each. New York: Thomas Whitaker. Toronto: Rowsell & Hutchison.

These two sister volumes devote attention to a field that is full of interest, and we have derived much pleasure and information from their graphic pages. Their style is peculiarly easy and flowing, and the memoirs are the fruit of much painstaking study and care. That they have been appreciated is shown by each of the volumes being in its fourth edition. The scheme of arrangement is a very simple one. The former volume gives its Heroes as "links in the story of the missionary work from the earliest ages to the close of the 18th century;" and the second presents those of the 19th. There is no narrow limit in the selection, and no stinting of praise where it is due, but their work is the best commendation. There is a thrilling interest in the Christian enterprise of men like Anshon, the Apostle of Scandinavian Europe, and Eliot, the Apostle of the Red Indians; but we come down to living memory in the accounts of Gardiner, Duff, Livingstone, and Bishop Patteson of Melanesia. For Sunday schools and parish libraries there can be no more wholesome reading, and the volumes are exactly what we have long been in search of, sufficiently full to convey a definite picture to the mind, and everywhere reliable in matters of history. The missionary story is pathetic and elevating from beginning to end.

The Science of Political Economy. By Henry George. Price \$2. Toronto: Morang, 1898.

We are by no means thick and thin admirers of the late Mr. Henry George; and some of his special theories we candidly regard as economic heresies; but we can honestly testify to the great merits of the posthumous work which now lies before us. Few men could stand face to face with Mr. George without being made to feel the honesty and genuineness of the man and his measures; and the multitudes who have read his published writings have felt the charm of his style and manner of presentation. The present work, the last we are to have from his hand, fully bears out the expectations that have been raised by his previous publications. We cannot say that, in every detail, we are

able to hereafter theories we can of this v the great have man value, fro Mill and ent work it special first plac firm and troduction "Meanin book is r the subje ciples v works, b ance, be world, S second o his plac to treat and goe of Nat Econom Science book, th of the N ducts of of Weal Exchan have sai of detai deepest student see the of view

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