

# THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

VOL. 17.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, JULY 18th, 1888.

No. 30.

## Notes of the Week.

THE new Chicago directory, just issued, gives the resident population of that city as 850,000. This sum does not include any of the numerous suburbs, whose recent growth surpassed that of the city itself. Fully 1,000,000 people are represented in the daily business of the city.

THE Hon. A. W. McLelan has retired from the arena of active politics and has accepted the position of Lieut.-Governor of Nova Scotia, to which high office he was sworn in last week. He has received the hearty congratulations of his friends and well-wishers on entering on his new office, whose duties he will discharge with dignity and impartiality.

THE first edition of "The Grammar of the Hindi Language and Colloquial Dialects" by S. H. Kellogg, D.D., has been exhausted. It is understood to be the Doctor's purpose to bring out a new edition. He contemplates making it more complete and serviceable. To this end, he has issued a circular to Indian missionaries and scholars inviting corrections and suggestions. By its publication great facility will be afforded the young missionary in the acquisition of the language, enabling him to engage much earlier and more effectively in the great work to which his life and energies are consecrated.

AT the close of a recent meeting of the Edinburgh Free Presbytery a number of students were examined for license, many of whom showed great ignorance of the Shorter Catechism. The answers to the questions on Effectual Calling, Justification and Sanctification were far from satisfactory; and when the students were asked to give the date of the first Assembly of the Church of Scotland no answer was forthcoming. Rev. W. M. Falconer declared that such a course of examination was a solemn farce, and the questions were then confined to general Scripture subjects, when matters went on satisfactorily.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT, says a contemporary, in opening the bazaar at Derby in aid of the Foreign Missions of the General Baptists, said he felt himself at home in such a gathering. The Nonconformists had always been the sincerest friends of civil and religious liberty, both at home and abroad, and having fought their own battles successfully, they were now anxious to give foreign lands the blessings which they themselves enjoyed. Referring to the university tests, he said he was pleased to observe that since they were repealed the lion's share of the prizes at his university had been carried off by Nonconformists.

AN important Temperance assemblage was held in Toronto last week. The Sons of Temperance had their twenty-fourth annual meeting. It was largely attended, many of the delegates coming great distances. The Dominion was represented from Nova Scotia to Manitoba; and the order in the United States sent delegates from a number of the Eastern and Western States. The reports submitted showed that substantial progress had been made during the year. On Wednesday evening a grand reception meeting was held, at which the Hon. G. W. Ross, Mayor Clarke and others delivered stirring addresses.

OF the esteemed Convener of the Home Mission Committee and the popular pastor of Zion Church, Brantford, the *Christian Leader* says. Dr. Cochrane, the eminent Scottish Canadian divine, who has again been appointed a delegate to the Presbyterian Council, is likely to spend a few days in Glasgow during his visit to the Old Country. No man has done so much for providing Gospel ordinances to Scottish emigrants in the great North-West Provinces. For twenty-six years he has been pastor of one of the largest churches in the Dominion and has refused calls time and again given him from the leading cities in Canada and the United States.

IT is significant that at lake ports the feeling against Sunday labour on the canals is especially strong. This is as it should be. The feeling in favour of entire Sabbath rest from labour should not be confined to those places only where infringements are threatened. Those who are striving to maintain the integrity of the Christian Sabbath should receive the sympathy and support of the people everywhere. Popular indifference is too often taken as an encouragement by those who disregard alike the law of God and the rights of their fellow-men. Kingston and Port Dalhousie have emphatically protested against Sunday work on Canadian canals.

THE Orange anniversary was celebrated last week with more than ordinary enthusiasm. This was on account of the present being the two hundredth year since the glorious Revolution of 1688 occurred, and the occasion was embraced to commemorate the event and the great impetus it gave to the cause of civil and religious liberty throughout the world. The celebration received additional interest also from the fact that three hundred years ago the invincibility of the Spanish Armada was shown to be a myth. In Toronto and various parts of Ontario large demonstrations were held, stirring speeches were delivered, and much enthusiasm was evoked.

CONCERNING Sir Lepel Griffin, who threw such obstacles in the way of the Canadian missionaries in Indore, the *Christian Leader* says. Sir Lepel Griffin, a boldly aggressive sceptic who lauds caste and never loses an opportunity of sneering at Christianity, is coming home from India on furlough. It would be well if he did not return to India, where his influence must have been baleful. As an example of the morality taught to the natives by this servant of a Christian nation, we give a sentence from his recent address to the pupils of Indore College. "I well know, from my own experience, that if there be any greater pleasure than obtaining a well-deserved prize, it is that of obtaining one which one has not well-deserved." Nor was this spoken in sarcastic mood by a cynic; it was the quite serious expression of part of Sir Lepel Griffin's private scheme of moral philosophy. Well may the *Indian Witness* express a doubt as to whether such moral poison will lessen the examination scandals in India.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Christian World* giving an appreciative sketch of Dr. George Matheson, concludes as follows. The other Sunday morning it was my great privilege to hear him preach again, and it seemed to me that he had grown in depth of thought, in earnestness, and in power since I first heard him. His voice, also, seemed richer and mellower. The morning was cold and wet, but the church was full, and I was not surprised to hear that it was the best morning congregation in Edinburgh. I shall not attempt to describe the service. The text was Isaiah lx. 5. "Thine heart shall fear, and be enlarged." The sermon was a splendid poem; one long stream of impassioned, eloquent, profound meditations on how God enriches, deepens, enlarges the souls of those who trust in Him through the darker and more trying experiences of life. But perhaps no part of the service was so powerful and uplifting as Dr. Matheson's prayers. For tenderness, for beauty of expression, for their range and power, they surpass everything that I have heard elsewhere. Dr. Matheson has nothing of the cold and conventional mannerism which too often marks Scotch preachers. He is broad, sympathetic, impassioned, and every way ahead of the times; a devout and liberal thinker, and not a bit afraid to give free expression to his thoughts.

DR. P. H. JOHANSEN, for fifteen years medical officer of the Mackay hospital, Formosa, which is under the auspices of the Presbyterian mission at Tamsui, Formosa, was in Montreal last week on his way home to Germany. Speaking of the mission to a reporter he said: "I have no personal interest in the matter,

but I should hate to see such a flourishing mission broken up, and this will be the consequence should Dr. Mackay die without a successor having been appointed who has had ample time to study the people, their customs and language. It seems that the people here do not take as much interest in the mission as they might, and the same thing happened several years ago. But Dr. Mackay came over personally with his Chinese wife, lectured, and showed the people what they needed. What they need just now is a good, strong, healthy, smart, and pushing man, not afraid of work, and able to stand some privations if necessary. Such a man would make a good successor for Dr. Mackay. At present, he has under him about fifty chapels, with a Chinese minister at the head of each, of whom he has to keep track and advise continually, and in all there are probably 10,000 Chinese Christians. If the people in Canada would only take into consideration the difficulties which these people have met with, and the steadfastness with which they have clung to their faith, they certainly would not run the chances of having the mission go to pieces.

MR. KENNETH MACDONALD, says the *Christian Leader*, calls attention to the fact that there are two missionaries still labouring in India who have seen their jubilee—Dr. Caldwell, who was ordained in 1837; and John Newton, of Lahore, who was ordained in 1834, and arrived in India early in 1835. There are, moreover, two or three retired Indian missionaries who also have seen, or if spared this year will see, their jubilee—James Bradbury, ordained in 1836; Isaac Stubbins, who arrived in India in 1837; Dr. J. Murray Mitchell and James Kennedy of Benares. Next year will witness the jubilee of John Hay, of Vizagapatam, and Dr. Thomas Smith, late of Calcutta, now of Edinburgh. Mr. Kennedy is a brother of Dr. John Kennedy, late of Stepney. Dr. Murray Mitchell's jubilee will be very nearly that of Mrs. Mitchell's also. They are both still in harness and their labours of love, both with pen and persuasive speech, are various and valuable. Mrs. Mitchell's contributions to literature have done much to create and deepen interest in missionary work; while her husband's profound researches into the Scriptures of Hinduism, Mohammedanism and Parseism have constituted arsenals from which other missionaries have learned much during these fifty years. His recent contributions to "Present-Day Tracts" have been of special service in missionary apologetics, and his labours in the interest of union have been particularly valuable.

MR. HENRY O'BRIEN calls attention to a subject that is deserving of special consideration. He says: The need of some place where destitute patients leaving the Toronto General Hospital can find respectable lodging for a few days has recently been brought prominently before those interested in Christian work in that institution. Many patients leave the hospital with no home to go to, and in a necessarily somewhat enfeebled condition. They have during their stay there been under good influence, and it is desirable that this should be continued as long as possible. Many want work, and having no place of shelter till they find it often drift into places where the good impressions received in their visit to the hospital are soon effaced. A lot has been secured for the erection of a building to meet the necessities of this case. It is not intended as a convalescent hospital, but merely for the purpose above mentioned. I mention this as there seems to be some misunderstanding on this subject. Those who go to this home would, generally speaking, not be eligible for the Hillcrest Convalescent home, and the latter beautiful resort for convalescent patients would not suit them. Nor will this home in any way interfere with the Haven or other places where female patients are taken in, as it is only intended for men. Contributions for the building of the home will be gladly received by Mr. O'Brien, or may be sent to Miss Peard (treasurer of the fund), 441 Church Street.