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## CONTENTS.

New Governor-General.....	308
Winter.....	309
Acts and Proceeding of General Assembly.....	310
Synod Meeting Maritime Provinces.....	311
Sabbath-School International Lesson.....	312
Our Own Church.....	314
The Colleges.....	315
Manitoba Items and College opening.....	316

Obituary Notices.....	318
Ecclesiastical News.....	318
Augmentation of Stipends.....	321
Foreign Missions, West. Dr. Wardrop.....	323
Formosa, Rev. Dr. G. L. Mackay.....	324
New Hebrides Mission, Rev. J. Annand.....	324
Literature.....	328
Persia.....	332

### The New Governor-General.

THE MARQUIS OF LANSDOWNE arrived at Quebec on the 23rd of October, and met with a very hearty welcome from the inhabitants of the Ancient Capital. The formal reception took place in the new Parliament Buildings, where the ex-Governor-General, the Marquis of Lorne, and the Ministers of the Dominion and Provincial Legislatures assembled, and where the new Governor-General was duly installed into office. Our hope and trust is that he will prove himself a worthy successor of his immediate predecessors—Lord Dufferin and the Marquis of Lorne—whose names are written indelibly on the hearts of the people of Canada.

### Winter.

THE winter begins, astronomically, with the 21st of December, the shortest day, but in these northern latitudes it is *practically* winter at least a month earlier. If any are disposed to commiserate our condition during the five months in which land and water are hermetically sealed, their judgment cannot be based on personal knowledge of our Canadian winter, which is at once invigorating and enjoyable in a remarkable degree. Even the interruption to trade and commerce is now scarcely felt since the development of the railway system, the benefits of which are everywhere experienced. In so far as the Church is concerned, the season on which we en-

tered is by far the most active of the whole year. It affords special opportunities for work. Winter often compels leisure. The long evenings are favourable for congregational meetings, social and fellowship meetings, missionary meetings, business meetings. It is then, too, that our Young Men's and Young Women's Associations, our Sunday-schools and Bible classes, our Dorcas societies and all the varied machinery of the Church come into full play. There is more time for reading, meditation and prayer. Winter is often a spiritual harvest-time. Why should it not be so in all the congregations? It is the time to plan and carry out evangelistic efforts among the more neglected districts which abound in all sections of the Church. Often enough there is a dark fringe of semi-heathenism round about us, and we leave it untouched year after year. It is a time, too, when the world's great need should be considered by us in the light of conscience and of our several ability. It will not do for us to forget the lessons, we may well say the warnings, of the late census. If other Churches are moving onward at a more rapid pace than ours, it becomes us to be up and doing. No congregation is in a healthy condition that is contented to be merely self-supporting. The more we do for others the better shall we thrive ourselves. In arranging for the winter's work let sessions and managers give due prominence to all the missionary and benevolent enterprises of the Church. They are necessarily various,—Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Colleges, Missions to the French Roman Catholics. There are funds to help weak congregations, to provide for aged and infirm ministers and the widows of ministers, to aid in the erection of churches and manses in the new settlements. It is one of the privileges