

The Dominion Presbyterian

IS PUBLISHED AT

370 BANK STREET - OTTAWA

—AND AT—

Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg.

TERMS: One year (50 issues) in advance..... \$1.50
Six months..... 75
CLUBS OF Five, at same time..... 5.00

The date on the label shows to what time the paper is paid for. Notify the publisher at once of any mis take on label.

Paper is continued until an order is sent for discon tinuance, and with it, payment of arrearsages. When the address of your paper is to be changed enu'ce hold as well as new address.

Sample copies sent upon application. Send all remittances by check, money order or regis tered letter, made payable to THE DOMINION PRESBY TERIAN.

ADVERTISING RATES.—15 cents per agate line each insertion, 14 lines to the inch, 1 1/2 inches to the column Letters should be addressed:

THE DOMINION PRESBYTERIAN,

P.O. Drawer 1070, Ottawa

C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, Manager and Editor

Ottawa, Wednesday, April 29, 1903.

REPORTS FOR ASSEMBLY.

As intimated a month ago, by circular letter to the Conveners and Secretaries of committees, it is necessary that all reports intended to be printed and stitched in the volume to be presented to the General Assembly should be in the hands of The Murray Printing Company by the 1st of May. In accordance with the instruction of last Assembly, all papers intended for the Van couver Assembly, should be in the hands of the Clerk of Assembly at least twenty one days before the date of said meeting. Quite a number of reports have not yet reached the Printing Company. Those not forward ed to them in time to be printed and stitched with the other Reports should be sent to Dr. Warden in manuscript on or before the 20th May.

The special attention of Presbytery Clerks and of Conveners and Secretaries of Comittees is called to this.

RAILWAY RATES FOR ASSEMBLY.

As letters are almost daily received enquiring whether the reduced rates are available for certain parties, I think it well, to save unnecessary correspondence, again to state that the reduced rates are only good for commissioners to the Assembly, their wives or daughters, and also for ministers of the Church although not commissioners, provided they hold certificates from me that they are going to Vancouver to be present at the meeting. I endeavored to have the privilege extended but the Companies positively declined to do so. As commis sioners are asking if additional certificates, are required in the case of wife or daughter the Railway Companies authorize me to state that one certificate only is required to be presented to the Ticket Agent at starting by commissioners accompanied by their wives or daughters, but the name of the wife or daughter should be shown on the certi ficate and certified to by the commissioner himself.

ROBT. H. WARDEN.

Toronto, 24th April, 1903.

THE DOMINION PRESBYTERIAN

A WELL MERITED HONOUR.

The Senate of Queen's University did a graceful thing at its last Convocation held on the 29th inst., in conferring the degree of D.D. *honoris causa* on the Rev. Archibald Duff, Professor of Hebrew and Old Testa ment Literature in the United College, Bradford, England. Professor Duff already possesses several degrees which he has earned by hard work, as he qualified for M.A. and L.L.D. at McGill, and for B.D. at Andover. He also had experience in teaching in Canada, both in science and literature, having taught mathematics, &c. in McGill, and lectured on Biblical Studies in the Congrega tional College, Montreal. Dr. Duff studied for three years in Germany and afterwards received the important appoint ment that he now holds. He is the author of several works on the Hebrew Language and Old Testament Theology. Professor Jordan, of Queen's, began his study of Hebrew under Dr. Duff, and Professor Craig of Ann Arbor, Michigan, is a former student. Professor Duff has relatives and friends in Canada, and there are many who, through his writings know him, as a fearless investigator who unites in his character both courage and faith.

THE CRITIC'S CORNER.

Claudius Clear and Bible Criticism.

The editor of the British Weekly is a remarkable man, and he shows his ability in many ways, in his sermons and editorials, and also in the letters he writes to himself. Claudius Clear discourses on "Swelled Head" and "Firing out Fools," while his other side defends the Church's One Foundation on the—front page. All this is very interesting and beautiful as a part of the great movement which is to give the final reconciliation of Christianity and culture. We have all admired it, at times, and have been struck with bewilderment that one head could carry such a variety of informa tion and give forth oracles on all possible subjects. One cannot help sometimes being a little weary of the air of omniscience that reveals itself in such subtle forms. Speaking recently of the late Bishop Wescott, "Claudius Clear" says of him: "He learned to believe in words through the severest discipline of verbal criticism. This touched all his Biblical work, and gave it a peculiar distinction. Belief in words is the guide to the apprehension of the prophetic element in the works of genius. 'The deeper teachings of poetry are not disposed of by the superfi cial question, Did the writer mean all that? No, we boldly answer, and yet he said it because he saw the principle which he did not, and perhaps at that time could not consciously analyse.' This is a principle admitted by all critics except Biblical critics. It is only Biblical critics who say that the interpreter's task is done when he has found out what the writer consciously meant at the time, and how his contemporaries understood him. In all prophetic utterance there is an element beyond that, and it is that element which is signal and vital in prophecy. When Biblical critics receive this principle we shall have less trouble about the interpretation of the Old Testament."

Here we surely have a Daniel come to judgment, who in the name of Christianity

and culture can put all critics in their proper places. What stupid people these Biblical critics must be to reject a principle which is self evident to all other critics. According to this authority, they cannot even see that there is a prophetic element in prophecy. Poor creatures! One would like to have the names of those great critics who maintain that the interpreter's task is done when the original meaning of the great words is found. I do not know them, and I know some strong men who work in that line. But what these men do say, is that if we would understand the larger meanings of any great saying of the prophets and poets, we must approach that larger meaning through the original, personal and local application, whenever that is possible. They say further, that too often there has been a sad want of the historical sense in dealing with the Scriptures, so that it has been the subject of all kinds of wild allegorizing and arbitrary twisting. Some of them go still further and say that it seems strange for a journal that is supposed to be the embodiment of the highest union of evangelical zeal and literary culture to indulge so often in these unworthy flings at Old Testament scholars. All things may be clear to Claudius Clear but it is not plain to me that he is competent to be the instructor and guide of students in all depart ments. So long as Protestantism, that is, free living Christianity endures, we need liberty to pursue the truth, even in our own way, and, we shall prove that the *via media* is not a fixed line marked out by priest or editor, but a pathway of life in which loyal men find guidance through the presence of One who has promised to be always with His Church. VERAX.

FOREIGN MISSION NOTES.

The Foreign Mission Committee met on Thursday 23rd inst.

Reports from Honan were submitted, which are encouraging.

The Presbytery of Honan asks for four additional pastors and one medical mis sionary. The names of two candidates were submitted to the Committee, which were approved, but the Committee did not make appointments, owing to the fact that estimates have already gone beyond the receipts of last year, and it was feared further appointments might lead to deficits. It was agreed to delay, and enquire whether or not certain individual congregations might not undertake the support of these two candidates, over and above their ordinary contributions.

Miss Bella MacIntosh and Miss Minna A. Robertson, graduates of the Ewart Training Home were appointed to the Foreign Field, but the specific field to which they will be sent is not definitely fixed.

It was reported that Miss Hordman had arrived safely in India, and had entered upon her work. She is to be placed at Mhow in the meantime.

The orphan children in India earned during the past year \$3000 towards their own support. The expenditure however was so great in maintenance, erection of buildings &c. that the famine fund is be coming rapidly exhausted. It will be necessary to secure further supplies in order to maintain the children already under taken.

The Rev. Donald MacGillivray reports that the sale of christian literature in