

briel's was opened for worship; but in the meantime it remains on record that for some time the Presbyterians worshipped regularly in the *Recollet Roman Catholic Church*, and, by permission of the "Recollet Fathers," even dispensed the sacrament of the Lord's Supper in it. The St. Gabriel Street congregation had a somewhat chequered history, and no doubt the coming celebration will revive many interesting recollections of the olden times. The "oldest inhabitant" is likely to be at a premium on the 12th!

**IRELAND** :—The notes this month may begin with a reference to the history of our church in Canada, by Rev. Professor Gregg, D. D., himself an Irishman. The first minister who was settled in Nova Scotia was an Irishman, the Rev. James Murdoch, whose grandson was the historian of that province. Mr. Murdoch was ordained by the Presbytery of Newtonlimavady in 1766, and he came to Canada that year. He was born in the same county as Francis Makemie, the father of the American Presbyterian Church. Horton was the centre of Mr. Murdoch's labours, his parish embraced several counties of the present day. Here he laboured for 33 years, when he was drowned in the Musquodoboit River, into which it was supposed he fell in an epileptic fit. It is on record that he was "an effective and accomplished preacher, a meek, humble, pious man, firm in his adherence to Presbyterianism, with a kindness which prompted him to give rather than to amass property." Later pioneers from the same land were Gilmore, Boyd of Prescott, Harris of Toronto, Johnston of Chinguacousy, Anderson of Gower and others. More than one, indeed several, of those returned at the late general election died before the House met. Among them was John McKane, a young lawyer of great promise, well known to the writer in college days. He was elected for Mid-Armagh. An election was held a few days ago to fill his place. There were two candidates, both elders of the church and among her wisest counselors. We would have rejoiced to see either returned, but only one was wanted. The successful man was Sir James Porter Corry of Belfast, who sat for Belfast during two Parliaments, but was defeated at last election. The other is also an experienced member of the House, Thomas A. Dickson, the leading Liberal from Ulster. He has sat a term for the borough of Dungannon, then a term for County Tyrone, and at the late election was defeated in Mid-Antrim. He will no doubt find a seat ere long. The Rev. Jas. Maconaghie of Omagh has been called by Fortwilliam Park Church, Belfast. Mr. Maconaghie is one of the rising young men. The congregation to which he goes now is a new one, the church was opened some time ago by Dr. Flint, of Edinburgh University, and promises to become one of the finest suburban charges of Belfast H.

**UNITED STATES** :—New York, says the *Independent*, was never more profusely placarded with religious announcements than since the opening of the week of prayer. There have been ever since a succession of evangelistic services in many of the churches, notably in Presbyterian and Reformed churches. Under the auspices of a committee appointed by the Belfast Presbyterian Council to consider and report on co-operation in foreign mission fields, a public meeting was held in New York to discuss this question in the month of January. Addresses were delivered by representatives from a number of the American churches, and by Dr. Wardrope, Convener of our Foreign Mission Committee, West. The conviction was expressed by all the speakers that, in the foreign field, everything consistent with the truth should be done to promote harmony of operation among those engaged in the great work. The remarks of Drs. Houston and Chamberlain were of special interest, as they themselves had laboured in the foreign mission field. It is hoped that good may result from this meeting by directing the attention of the churches to this subject. A great revival of religion is in progress in Connersville, Iowa. After leaving Montreal Mr. D. L. Moody visited Chicago, the scene of his early ministrations, and met with an enthusiastic reception. In response to his appeal for \$250,000 to build chapels and support evangelists in parts of the city where they are greatly needed, one young man, Mr. Cyrus H. McCormick, led off with the offer of \$100,000, and ten others promised \$5,000 each. Good Americans are very good; the bad, very bad. A friend writing from Cincinnati, describes the state of society there in these terms.—"In the shape of open and undisguised sin I have not met with anything that will surpass it. On the other hand, in the way of earnest and effective work on the part of Christians, there can be no ground of complaint. The Merchants' mission has a Sabbath-school of all ages of people and a total attendance of about 3000 per Sabbath. Another mission for the very worst characters in the city is regularly attended by a number of the most prominent citizens as workers. The spirit among the evangelical churches is very good and there are hopeful indications."

**TEMPERANCE NOTES**.—The seventh annual convention of the Ontario Branch of the Dominion Alliance, was held in Toronto last month. It was reported that twenty-two pollings had taken place in Ontario during the past year, in seventeen of which the result was in favour of the Scott Act. Where the inspectors had been faithful, the law was well enforced, and working satisfactorily. In other counties it was not working so well. The election of Mr. Howland, as Mayor of Toronto, was regarded as "a magnificent victory." The leading temperance men, however, deem