

## THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

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## NOW READY.

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TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 1884.

WHEN the Fenians made a raid upon Canada in 1866, a stalwart Highlander of Zorra was reported to have said—"They may take Toronto, and they may take Hamilton, and they may take London, *but they can't take Zorra*." That Highlandman was right. They could not have taken Zorra. A more dangerous foe, however, than the Fenians has invaded Zorra and every other township in the Province. The men of Zorra will be brought face to face with that foe on the 20th of this month. Shall it be said that the men who were both able and willing to hurl back the Fenians are afraid to face this foe? The liquor traffic does more harm to this country in our day than the Fenians could have done in a year if they had held all the soil they got possession of. We hope to see the Presbyterians of Zorra roll up such a majority for the Scott Act on the 20th as shall prove that they are just as willing and able to fight against whiskey as they were against the Fenian scamps.

WEDNESDAY of last week was ladies' day in the Local Legislature. Mr. Gibson, of Hamilton, opened the proceedings by moving that "in the opinion of the House provision should be made for the admission of women into University College." This motion Mr. Gibson supported by a very able speech, and was followed by Mr. Harcourt, the Minister of Education, and others, who said about all that can be said on the question. The motion passed unanimously. It must not, however, be inferred that the Legislature has decided in favour of co-education as co-education. Even Mr. Gibson himself does not seem to be a pronounced admirer of that system. The position of the Legislature as we understand it is this: "We are unanimously in favour of granting university privileges to women, and as the Province cannot afford to establish a separate college for them they may attend lectures in University College." That is as far as the Legislature has gone—we don't believe they would have gone so far if we had a quarter of a million to spare for a Provincial Female University and College.

IMMEDIATELY after the passing of Mr. Gibson's motion providing for the admission of women to University College, Mr. Waters moved the second reading of his bill to enable widows and unmarried women to vote at municipal elections. A lively debate ensued and all party considerations were for once thrown to the winds. Mr. Fraser led off against the Bill, and was ably assisted by Mr. Meredith in trying to defeat it. Tories and Grits mingled promiscuously in the fray and got badly mixed in voting. Three members of the Government—Messrs. Mowat, Ross and Ross, took the ladies' side, and two—Messrs. Pardee and Fraser, voted nay. Creighton, Carnegie and other leading Conservatives went for the Bill, but Messrs. Meredith, Morris and other prominent members of the party said no. The second reading was carried by a majority of sixteen. Mr. Mowat voted against a similar Bill six years ago, but has changed his mind on the question. Mr. Merrick voted in favour of the Bill but has changed his mind the other way. The plain truth is that a good many members don't seem to know whether ladies should have the franchise or not.

OUR friends in Oxford county should remember that the eyes of Ontario are upon them. If they carry the Scott Act on the 20th inst. by a sweeping majority the law will be submitted immediately in several other counties. If they fail, or succeed by a small majority, temperance men all over the Province will be discouraged. Indeed, we would scarcely advise a trial in other counties at present if the people of Oxford declare against the law. There is no better jury in Ontario to submit the cause to than the yeomanry of that splendid county. The temperance sentiment has been strong there for many years. The Dunkin Act was carried by a handsome majority six or seven years ago. The county is not near any large city, and is therefore free from the immense influence that the liquor interest of a city can always bring to bear upon the surrounding country. The people are above the average in point of intelligence. The yeomanry are wealthy and no ledger influence can affect them. The jury is a good one, the case is being well laid before them and many are awaiting the verdict with anxiety. We hope the Presbyterians of the county will give a good account of themselves on polling day. It would ill become the men who have founded a college in Formosa, and who, by their deeds are fighting against heathenism in that distant Isle, to be beaten by whiskey at home.

SELDOM have we seen a greater amount of interest and valuable matter put into the same space as Dr. Reid used in sketching the history and growth of Presbyterianism in Toronto. At a glance we see one congregation grow into fourteen with two more in the suburbs. The Doctor's closing words are well worthy of consideration, not only on account of the source from which they come, but because they are applicable to many other places as well as Toronto:—

There is increased liberality in sustaining ordinances, and still more increased liberality in contributing for missionary objects and deeper interest in the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom in heathen lands. It is hoped there has been progress also in regard to vital religion. But higher advancement is needed. We have a good number of churches, and of church members, and of Sabbath schools, and of appliances of various kinds. But we need more of the Holy Spirit, that life may be infused into our means and appliances, that the hearts of professing Christians may be warmed and quickened, and that each may be as a living epistle known and read of all.

In many of our congregations in all parts of the Dominion the machinery is as nearly perfect as it can well be made. There is little or nothing lacking in the "appliances." What is needed first and most is more life. This question should come home to the heart of every worker: Has the life grown in proportion to our numbers and the amount of ecclesiastical machinery in use? Is there not some reason to fear that too many rest satisfied with increased numbers and increased liberality? Indeed it may be questioned if there has been much increase in liberality. The sum total has no doubt increased immensely, but has the sum increased in a greater proportion than the wealth of our people. That is the real test. Be that as it may, all earnest souls will join with Dr. Reid in the prayer that we may have increased spiritual power as well as increased liberality and numbers.

## PUBLIC CHARITIES OF ONTARIO.

THE tax collector is not always a welcome visitor.

His occupation is not very popular. Yet there is no failure in keeping his appointments. Whatever visitor fails to make his appearance the emissary of the State is sure to call. He never fails. Sure as fate he presents his missive. He not only never fails in his visits, but he never fails in his object. The State is the most successful of all collectors, and people grumble at the load of taxation they have to carry. They are promised with undeviating regularity that the estimates will be prepared with a due regard to economy and efficiency. Yet it is not to be doubted that ratepayers generally believe that a good deal more economy might enter into all the budgets annually prepared—the national, the provincial and the civic. It is right and proper therefore that full details as to the ways in which the people's money is spent should be given. This is annually done both by the Dominion and Provincial Governments. There is one department of public expenditure at which there is less grumbling than any other. What is expended on the public charities of Ontario is approved of by both political parties and by the public generally.

However sternly the battle of life may be waged by the healthy and the strong, there is always more or

less sympathy and substantial help for those stricken down by disease and accident. The hospitals and other charitable institutions are necessary adjuncts of our Christian civilization.

Dr. O'Reilly, Inspector of Prisons and Public Charities, has issued his report for 1883, and formal as its contents inevitably are they are full of interest. The total number of hospitals in Ontario receiving public aid is thirteen. They include the general hospitals in the different cities of the Province. Of these five are Roman Catholic institutions. Catholics are the only religious body in the Province having separate hospitals receiving Government aid. It is due to them to state that in all of them Protestant patients have been cared for. The public charities under Government inspection in Ontario are not wholly supported by Provincial funds. They are always open to receive the contributions of the charitable, municipalities also contribute to their aid while those patients, or their friends, possessed of sufficient means, pay for their maintenance.

For instance take the General Hospital, Toronto. It received on maintenance account—

From the Province of Ontario.....	\$17,993 62.
From the City of Toronto, in payment of patients' maintenance.....	10,324 80.
From the county of York, in payment of patients' maintenance.....	1,023 60.
From other municipalities of the Province..	639 95.
From paying patients themselves.....	11,258 71.
Income from property belonging to Hospital Trust.....	11,630 03.
Subscriptions, donations, and bequests of private individuals in cash.....	4,460 00.
From all other sources not above enumerated.....	2,557 00.

Total .. .. . \$59,897 71.

This is by far the largest of the charitable institution in the Province. The next highest number of patients was in the City Hospital, Hamilton, being 559; the lowest was in the General Hospital, Mattawa, 185. The total reported for the Province being 6,238. This is an increase over last year of 206. Of the total number of patients, 3,518 were male and 2,720 female; Protestant, 3,640; Roman Catholic, 2,586; unknown, 12. As to nationality there were Canadians, 2,669; English, 1,148; Irish, 1,680; Scotch, 391; United States, 181; other countries, 169. During the year the total number of deaths enumerated in the separate reports of the different hospitals is 480. There is an elaborate tabulation of the various diseases for which patients were treated. It would be still more complete did the general report summarize the results of treatment by stating not only the number discharged, but the number wholly or partially cured.

Provincial aid is given to the public charities under the conditions of the Charity Aid Act which stipulates that—

Hospitals are entitled to a fixed allowance of 20 cents per day for all adult patients adjudged to have been properly in residence, and 7 cents per day for chronic cases not undergoing active treatment, and who could as well be cared for outside the walls of the Hospital. In addition to which, the Act provided for a supplementary allowance of 10 cents per day for those patients in respect of whom the fixed allowance of 20 cents is granted, provided such supplementary grant does not exceed one-fourth of the revenue the Hospital received for purposes of maintenance, from sources other than the Government of Ontario.

The sums placed opposite the names of the hospitals in the following table represents the amounts earned during the year by each in respect to work done, and which will be reported for payment, subject to the conditions imposed by Orders in Council affecting the same, and the inspector's recommendations in each particular case:—

General Hospital, Toronto.....	\$18,850 56
City Hospital, Hamilton.....	6,359 79
General Hospital, Kingston.....	3,919 74
Hôtel Dieu Hospital, Kingston.....	2,598 28
General Protestant Hospital, Ottawa.....	4,076 56
Roman Catholic Hospital, Ottawa.....	4,152 00
House of Mercy Lying-in Hospital, Ottawa..	2,211 42
General Hospital, London.....	4,439 84
General and Marine Hospital, St. Catharines.	1,820 11
General Hospital, Guelph.....	1,695 72
St. Joseph's Hospital, Guelph.....	1,454 70
General Hospital, Pembroke.....	693 60
General Hospital, Mattawa.....	1,272 60

Total..... \$53,544 92.

During the year considerable additions to the accommodation for patients have been made in several of the hospitals, and Dr. O'Reilly expresses gratification at the increase in the number of training schools for nurses by the establishment of one in connection with the General Hospital in London, this being the third of these useful institutions now doing excellent work in the training of nurses in Ontario, the other two being located in Toronto and St. Catharines.