

# PRESBYTERIAN

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## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

"QUEEN'S COLLEGE JOURNAL" is now the most neatly got up magazine of its class that comes to our office, and it continues to sustain its old and well-earned reputation for liveliness and ability.

REV. DR. JENKINS, Moderator of the General Assembly, preached before His Excellency the Governor-General and Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise in St. Andrew's Church, Ottawa, last Sabbath.

ON Monday evening of last week a social was held in the new Presbyterian Church, Leslieville, when interesting addresses were delivered by the Rev. John M. King, M. A., Rev. D. Mitchell, and others. The chair was well filled by the Rev. J. M. Cameron. This young congregation promises at an early date to be in a position to call a minister.

THE annual missionary meeting of Knox Church, Burlington, was held on Monday evening Jan. 27th, when earnest and practical addresses were given on behalf of the different schemes of the Church, by Revs. R. J. Laidlaw, and Dr. Cochrane. It appeared from Missionary report for past year that \$50 was given to Home missions, \$20.25 to French missions, \$10 to Foreign missions, \$15 to College Fund, \$5 to Assembly Fund, and \$5 to Widows' and Orphans' Fund; in all \$105.25.

STATISTICS cannot always be relied upon, according to the "Nonconformist." A Methodist gentleman makes a tabular statement to the effect that while the Wesleyans in England have increased in twenty-eight years 25 per cent., the Congregationalists have decreased 9.2 per cent. Whereupon a Congregationalist issues a statement that in the time specified the Independents have increased 58.5 per cent., whereas the Wesleyans have increased 34.4 per cent. Now, which is right? And how does so wide a discrepancy arise?

WE direct attention to the letter of our Turin correspondent, the concluding portion of which appears in our issue this week. It gives an interesting account of the work of evangelization in Italy which is being carried on by the ancient Church of the Waldensians, whose Theological College is at Florence, and whose professors are men of ability and piety. We are glad to learn also that while so much is being done for other portions of the Italian peninsula, the light of the Gospel is still shining in the valleys of Piedmont, whose inhabitants suffered so long and so grievously for conscience' sake, and that great pro-

gress has been made within the last few years both in the work of education and in the revival of spiritual life.

SUBSCRIBERS to the Toronto Prison Gate Mission are respectfully reminded that this Christian work has entered upon the second year of its existence; and looking back, upon what has been accomplished during the past twelve months, the managers can with confidence appeal to their friends and the public for further support. The funds are almost exhausted, and it is earnestly hoped, that a personal application for aid may not be necessary. Subscriptions and donations will be thankfully received by Mrs. Clarke Gamble, 22 Grange Road; Mrs. Harvie, 354 Front Street; Mrs. Laird, 232 Carlton Street, and the Rev. R. W. Greene, 182 Sherbourne Street.

THE London, (Eng.), "Punch" had a cartoon the last week in 1878 which was singularly appropriate to the times. Old "Father Christmas," is represented as toiling along, staff in one hand and a lighted candle in the other, seeking for something in the darkness. The insufficient light from the lantern first makes visible in front the words, "war," "failures," "commercial depression," and "distress." Mr. Punch stands on one side, but slightly in the rear of "Father Christmas," and apparently in doubt as to the object of the man's search, asks, "What are you looking for, Father?" "Peace on earth and good will towards men," exclaims Father Christmas. This is good good as a sermon and should lead to reflection and resolute action. And it is, in part, at least, as applicable to Canada as Britain.

A SOCIETY was formed in Kingston, about three years ago, called the "Ossianic Society." Its members were chiefly Gaelic speaking students of Queen's College, and the object they had in view in organizing it was the cultivation of their mother tongue. The "Queen's College Journal" of the 25th ult. wishes to know what has become of this society, regrets its extinction, and summons highlanders to the rescue of a language now, at last, considered worthy of a Chair in a Scottish University. We are certainly of the opinion that, at least those students who expect to preach in Gaelic should make that language an object of critical study. The first attempts of young preachers to express in Gaelic what they had previously thought out in English, have sometimes been more amusing than edifying to their hearers. Gaelic preaching is as much required in some parts of Canada as it is in the Highlands of Scotland. But even should this language altogether die out of the speech of the people, and take its place among the "dead languages," it is worthy of attention, and of being preserved in connection with some University, on philological grounds.

FATHER CHINIQUY appears to be making no small stir in Australia. In November last, one edition of the first seven lectures which he delivered in Protestant Hall, Sydney, had been sold out, and a second edition was announced. The agents of Rome had been alarmed, and had, as usual resorted to slander and misrepresentation in order, if possible, to weaken or overthrow their assailant. A portion of the press gave extensive circulation to these attacks on Mr. Chiniquy's character, and there was danger that his influence even among Protestants would be diminished. But the better portion of the press came for-

ward in his defence, and for many weeks not only columns but pages of the Sydney "Witness" and "Protestant Standard" were occupied with the particulars of Father Chiniquy's remarkable career both as a priest of Rome and as a Protestant minister. He was also warmly supported by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales, which passed resolutions commending him to the sympathy of ministers, office-bearers and congregations, and set a session apart for the special purpose of hearing an address from him.

ON Tuesday evening, 28th ult., the congregation of Cooke's Church, in this city, gave a complimentary soiree to their late pastor, Rev. Dr. Robb, prior to his departure to his new field of labour in Ireland. Tea was served in the lecture room, and after partaking of it, the large assemblage adjourned to the body of the church, where a meeting was organized with Rev. Prof. Gregg in the chair. On the platform and also among the audience might be seen many representative men, not connected with the congregation, not even Presbyterians, drawn there by respect and esteem for a man who during his stay in this city, had earned for himself the confidence and good will of the well-disposed among all classes of the community. The meeting having been opened by singing and prayer, the chairman, after some introductory remarks, read an address from the congregation and Young People's Association to Dr. Robb, expressing their deep regard and esteem for him, their regret at parting with him, and their hope that his removal, though a loss to them, might result in advantage to the great cause to which he had devoted his life. Accompanying this address was a very handsome gold watch and chain, and a purse of money. Upon the inside cover of the watch are engraved the words, "Presented by the Trustees of Cooke's Church to Rev. J. Gardener Robb, D.D., on the occasion of his departure from Toronto, January 28th, 1879." To the address Dr. Robb made an appropriate reply. Mr. R. M. Abraham then read an address from the ladies of the congregation to Mrs. Robb and Miss Hanna, her sister, the address being accompanied by a silver water-pitcher and goblets for the former and a gold chain and locket for the latter. Dr. Robb made a suitable reply on behalf of Mrs. Robb and Miss Hanna. The last mentioned lady was also presented with a gold bracelet by the Sabbath School. Rev. Dr. Potts (Methodist) and Rev. J. A. R. Dickson (Congregationalist), conveyed to Dr. Robb the good wishes of the Ministerial Association of Toronto, with which he had been connected. A deputation representing the various temperance organizations then appeared and presented an address to Dr. Robb expressive of their gratitude for the services he had rendered to that cause. In his reply to this address, Dr. Robb made one of those striking points so characteristic of his public utterances: He thanked God that he was an Irishman and not some other man, that he was a Christian and not an infidel, that he was a temperance man and not a drinker. Addresses suitable to the circumstances were then delivered by Mayor Beatty, Rev. Drs. Castle, Reid, Hamilton and Caven, and the meeting was closed with the benediction by Rev. J. M. King. Dr. Robb is probably by this time on the ocean, on his way to his new field of labour, and he carries with him the esteem of a very large number of people on this side of the Atlantic and their good wishes for his success.