

# THE CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.

(NEW SERIES.)

VOL. V.]

TORONTO, JANUARY 15, 1886.

[No. 2.

## EDITORIAL JOTTINGS.

WE regret the delay in issuing our last number, but the details of the business settlements could not take place till "the last day of the year." We hope now to visit regularly our friends on the *first* and *fifteenth* of each month, and to improve materially as we go on. We must urge upon our friends the necessity of aiding us by contributions of news, and by active sympathy. Our desire is to bring our churches closer together in sympathy and work, and do good unto all. Friends, lend a helping hand.

SOME few weeks ago we made a visit to the new brick building erected by our friends in Parkdale, under the pastorate of Mr. C. Duff, M.A. We were very much gratified by both locality, appearance, comfort, and evident economy. There is need for the church there, and a good record we expect. The following Sunday afternoon we attended the afternoon session of the Sunday school anniversary. The day was very stormy, snow and rain, but the children were there; their singing and general bearing were all that could be desired, and manifested great care on the part of those whose labour of love is there being spent. Our church has a place in that growing Toronto suburb, and will, we trust, meet with the sympathy and support it justly merits.

MESSRS. MOODY AND SANKEY have visited Montreal and held some very happy meetings. We hope and believe they will leave blessings behind them. With Mr. Moody and Mr. Sankey we are in thorough sympathy; earnest, faithful, wise, they stand unique in the history of Evangelistic effort. We are not in as thorough sympathy with the comparisons frequently made by restless Christians between these evangelists and their own pastors. We will rise and explain.

The regular pastor appears before the same people twice on, say, forty-five Sabbaths every year, and at the same number of week night services. This is a minimum estimate. That means one hundred and thirty-five discourses, to say nothing of other calls. The evangelist stays, we will say a month in one place, (in Toronto and Montreal Mr. Moody only stayed three days,) three times each day, which means ninety preparations; the very best workers, (and worst too sometimes,) gather round and aid; what he asks for is given without grumbling, his autocracy is unquestioned; and then away to other fields to use anew the material he has already used a dozen times. The pastor must bring forth things out of his treasury new (and old); we place "old" in parenthesis, because the new is in demand, the old out of date. Let us ask, is there any ground of fair comparison between the two cases?

But we have only told half. The evangelist keeps to his meetings, and nothing else is expected from him; the pastor—well, somebody has hurt his big toe, the minister must call and sympathize; another slept too late Sunday morning, woe be to the pastor who does not call to enquire the cause of absence from service, *et cetera*. Then the legitimate calls upon a pastor's time and energy, sickness, death, sympathy. Kind reader, we are making no complaints, but if you are a church member, think of these things, give your pastor a chance as well as the Evangelist, rally around him, and do not be always sighing for the green fields far away. Make those green where your lot is cast, and the Lord bless you therein.

WE are pleased to insert a critique from Mr. Beaton, of St. John's, Newfoundland, on some notes of ours on Mr. Conder's article in the English *Congregationalist*, "The freedom of the pulpit and its limits." We rather enjoy friends that "go for us," not that we care for