

The Canadian Independent.

'ONE IS YOUR MASTER, EVEN CHRIST, AND ALL YE ARE BRETHREN.'

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NEW TESTAMENT.

Let our young readers commit to memory the following lines. Will you do it:

We love the books of Matthew,
Of Mark and Luke and John;
The life of God our Saviour
Is what they dwell upon.
The Acts, and then the Romans;
Two Corinthians you see;
Galatians and Ephesians,
Bring Christ to you and me.

Philippians and Colossians
Are next in order here;
Thessalonians and Timothy
In twain they both appear;
Then Titus and Philemon,
And Hebrews rich in truth,
With James, and two of Peter,
Instruct old age and youth.

John writes to little children,
And gives epistles three;
While Jude discourses plainly
Of what we all should be.
The last is Revelation,
To all the nations sent,
And thus we have completed
The whole New Testament.

—Evangelical Messenger.

Topics of the Week.

—Catholic Sabbath Schools have somewhat more miscellaneous libraries than Protestant schools. The *Catholic Review* says that, "as a rule, you will find Bulwer, Scott, and Dickens, perhaps Thackeray and George Eliot" fully represented in them.

—A memorial has been presented to the King of Sweden in behalf of persecuted American Baptist and Methodist ministers. The most recent case is that of Pastor Palmblad, Baptist, who was fined 100 crowns for persisting in "teaching" in Skofde against the inhibition of the Church Council.

—For thirty years missionaries have been laboring in the Province of Fochien, China. In the first eleven years not one soul was brought to Christ. The Church Missionary Society said: "There are no results, we must give up the mission." But the missionary, Mr. Wolfe, insisted in going on, and when he left there in 1879 there were 8,000 native Christians.

—Baltimore persists in refusing to appoint a single colored teacher, even for colored schools, though candidates abundantly qualified have passed the examination. It is a petty meanness; but it is some satisfaction to see that the Democratic school-board is willing to compel white teachers thus to associate with black scholars. It was not always thus.

—The Sultan of Zanzibar, on receiving news of the murder of Messrs. Carter and Cadenhead, of the Belgian expedition, and supposing that the act was committed under Mirambo's orders, has dispatched a force to the interior to attack that chief. But the enquiries of both Dr. Southon of Uranibo, and Dr. Baxter of Mpwapwa, resulted in the conclusion that Mirambo was not guilty of the deaths of these gentlemen; wherefore the Church Missionary Society has made representations to Lord Granville of the facts, and urged that Mirambo be not attacked until he is proved by investigation to be guilty. Thus the missionaries of the Church and London societies become interceders for Mirambo, and it may be regarded as cer-

tain that that chief will not forget this friendly act. The conversion of this ruler or his protection of missions would be an immense gain for the lake missions.

—Parker Memorial Hall, Boston, is in danger, it appears. *The Free Religious Index* publishes a double-headed appeal for help to pay off the mortgage and save the Hall, for which the trustees have received an offer to purchase. "This Hall," it says, "was built to perpetuate the memory and work of Theodore Parker. His name is inscribed in its walls. To divert it to any other uses, to let it pass from the hands of those who are its special guardians, like taking down a monument. Are there not gratitude, pride, faith, public spirit enough left among the Liberals of Boston and Massachusetts to avert this disgrace?"

In a recent debate in the French Senate, M. Buffet questioned the Government in regard to the removal of crucifixes from the elementary schools of Paris, by order of M. Herold, Prefect of the Seine. It was shown that the law gave the local authorities discretion relative to the retention of such religious emblems, but that the police had in some instances accomplished their removal in a careless and irreverent manner, throwing the crucifixes into the van at the door. M. Herold explained that he had punished those who had so acted, and that he had himself received authorization from Premier Ferry before he ordered their removal. The tone of M. Herold's speech produced a great uproar on the Right, particularly his statement that the question was one merely of school furniture. M. Herold was mildly censured, and he offered his resignation; but was induced to withdraw it.

On the bronze gates discovered by Mr. Rassam, at Balawat, and which give an account of the achievements of Shalmaneser, is mentioned his conquest of the city of Arman, which was reached after leaving Nineveh, crossing the upper and lower Zab, and passing the cities of Lakhiri. It is represented as the stronghold of Marduk-bela usate, king of Gannannate. Mr. Theodore G. Pinches, in his commentary on the inscription, just published in the "Transactions" of the Society of Biblical Archaeology, says that this seems to be the city from which we get the last part of the name ("Padan Aram") of the Bible. In the inscription of Agukarime he calls himself "King of Padan and Alman," this "Alman" being identified with Arman. Here Padan and Arman seem to be two distinct places, but in a geographical fragment Padan and Arman are given as synonymous terms and are said to be districts lying "opposite the mountains." This would agree with Gesenius's idea that it was in the mountainous region of Syria, near the Mediterranean Sea.

—According to the *Foochow Herald*, there have been further missionary troubles in China. We have not got many details, but the Roman Catholics seem to have been mixed up with the affair in some way. The following is an extract from a letter dated Sept. 24th:—"The trouble of the Roman Catholic Cathedral had hardly subsided when a most daring and unprovoked assault was committed by the Chinese upon the Reverends Selby and Morris of the Wesleyan Mission. It seems that these gentlemen intended to visit a place called Shek-kok

about sixty five miles from Canton, after which they were to proceed further inland, for religious purposes. These two gentlemen arrived on the 20th of September, and upon passing a large crowd of people enjoying a 'sing song,' loud murmurs were heard, denouncing the foreigners who created the disturbance at Canton, and both parties were at once assailed with threats of being drowned and afterwards with stones and other missiles. Mr. Selby receiving a very bad cut on his wrist, both gentlemen barely escaping with their lives, in fact, they only did so by retreating towards the river and getting on board a boat, thus escaping further violence from the angry crowd."

In the Isle of Man, hitherto, publicans have not been able to entertain their relations on Sunday, and the existing law had been construed so strictly that even if a person were ill in a public house the door could not be opened for the purpose of admitting a doctor, nor could a publican open his door to go to church. The House of Keys has just agreed to do away with these restrictions, and to amend the law so as to permit publicans to entertain their relations on Sunday, but refusing to permit them to give their relations any intoxicating liquors to drink. Another amendment was the adoption of a clause closing all licensed premises in electoral districts during elections on both the nomination and the polling days. This bill passed, and was sent to the Upper House.

—Basutoland, the natives of which have been for some months past in a state of insurrection in consequence of the ill advised policy of the authorities of Cape Colony in withdrawing the arms which they had previously granted them, is a territory north of the Orange river, of about 7,000 square miles, and containing a population of some 120,000 souls. Mountains, from 7,000 to 9,000 feet high, bound the region on the south and east, while what are called the plains are table lands, 5,000 feet above the level of the sea. It is a very fertile region, producing large quantities of cereals, and including some excellent pastures, well adapted for general stock raising. Minerals, especially coal, copper, and iron, are said to abound. Once before, in 1851, British soldiers had an opportunity of testing the courage and strategy of the Basuto tribes. Sir George Cathart then found them to be formidable enemies. They have been several times at war with their neighbors of the Orange Free State, and in 1865, while one of these contests was in progress, they made a raid into Natal, and carried off a good deal of stock and other property, for which, however, they were subsequently compelled to make compensation. In 1868 they were taken under British protection, and in 1871 they were annexed to the Cape Colony. From that time until the present trouble they have been generally industrious and well-behaved—the fact that they were allowed to have arms, even when the Zulu war was going on, being evidence in their favor—and the missionaries have found Basutoland a more successful field of labor than any of the other native territories.

—Henry Bergh, the well known friend of the suffering children and lower animals in New York, is both as hard and as level headed as he is soft hearted. He knows how to distinguish between crea-

tures endowed with reason and moral responsibility and those who by them are abused and oppressed in their helplessness. His is practical and heroic work, and not such as a mere talker or sentimentalist will care to meddle with. Some of the sentimental class in that city lately got up a meeting for the purpose of securing libraries and schools for the incarcerated classes, whom they deplorably described as "disordered in their consciences." Mr. Bergh was in the audience, and was asked to speak. He did so, in the following strain, much to the horror of the weak dreamers who had got up the meeting in order to fuss about their favorite pets. "No man should commit crime. If a man cannot exert among us without committing murder, kill him, get him out of the way as soon as possible." What did we recently see in the Tombs? A man who was imprisoned for a most atrocious murder, whose heart was as black as his skin, was fairly besieged by beautiful women who begged the favor of his autograph, fed him on luxuries, made his cell a bower of flowers and fruit, and did all in their power to make him imagine that he was a saint and a hero. Why, kind hearted, honest poor men were starving, while this vile miscreant was being pampered in luxury. Criminals are so much better lodged and fed in the Tombs and on the Island than thousands of poor working people, that they commit the minor crimes in order to be sent to these comfortable public hotels." This is sensible and much needed talk. Perhaps Mr. Bergh went too far when he proposed to revive the bastinado for certain offences, yet even that suggestion could stand discussion. It ought to be well understood that punishment is punishment, and all the sympathy should not be thrown away on the bullet-headed ruffians who are greatly "disordered in their consciences." It came to pass in the case we speak of that Mr. Bergh's talk, clear and somewhat cold as it was, made the whole thing utterly collapse. The audience would not wait even for the "collection."

WHY GAMBETTA BROKE HIS ENGAGEMENT.

Gambetta is a bachelor; but he has not lived so long without having at least contemplated marriage. The story of his engagement to an heiress in western France, and its sudden breaking off, give us a fresh glimpse of his character. From the time of his leaving his humble home at Cahors, till his rise to the highest rank of public personages, Gambetta lived with a faithful, loving, devoted aunt, who had followed him to Paris, and who made, everywhere he went, a pleasant home for him. She was at once his maid-of-all-work and congenial companion; and he was as devoted, attached to her as she to him. His engagement to a handsome and accomplished girl, with a dot of seven millions, was a shock to the good aunt; but she yielded gracefully to the inevitable. When the arrangements for the marriage were being discussed, however, the young lady took it into her head to make it a condition of their union, that the aunt should be excluded from the new establishment. She was scarcely elegant enough to adorn gilded salons. Gambetta explained how much his aunt had been to him; the rich beauty was only the more obdurate! Gambetta took up his hat, and with a profound bow, "Adieu," said he, "we were not made to understand each other." And the marriage was put off for ever.