

theology. He argued for the use of the Confession for Testimony, and only to be imposed on office-bearers, and for a revision every twenty-five years.

Rev. J. Lathern, of Halifax, followed with a paper on "Hymns of the Church a bond of Christian Union," exhibiting the power of song in uniting hearts that were apt to fight over dogmas and doctrines, and illustrating his theme from Old and New Testament facts and prophecies. The Conference then closed for the day.

Monday's proceedings began, after devotional exercises, by the reading of a paper by Rev. G. M. Grant, of Halifax, on "The Church of Canada, can such a thing be?" The essay was remarkable for his ability and breadth of view. His idea of a National Church, was one formed on the principles of the Evangelical Alliance—a broad, comprehensive, Protestant Church,—the present denominations united, yet not essentially uniform in ritual or doctrine,—mutually granting recognition and non-interference, and one in faith and love, and co-operative labour. An "Exposition of the Lord's teaching in regard to the Sabbath," was then given by Rev. G. Patterson, of Green Hill, who strongly urged the performance of works of mercy on the Lord's Day. Dr Cramp, of Acadia College, Wolfville, next read an admirable paper on "The duty of inculcating the distinctive principles of Protestantism." These principles he defined to be:—First, the sufficiency of Holy Scripture for the knowledge of religious truth and duty. Second, the sole authority of the same in all religious controversy. Third, the right of all Christians to read and examine Scripture, and thereby to "prove all things and hold fast that which is good." Fourth, the justification of sinners by the grace of God, through faith in the atonement made by our Lord Jesus Christ. Fifth, the worship of God only, to the exclusion of all creatures, angelic or human. The venerable Doctor urged the teaching of these with singular power and ability. Rev. Mr. Chapman of Montreal followed with a paper on "Ultramontaniam," refuting the claims of the Church to supremacy in matters civil as well as ecclesiastical,

and showing the dangerous tendency of such teaching to subvert good government. In the evening, St. James Wesleyan Church,—the largest Protestant Church in Montreal,—was crowded to overflowing. Rev. Dr. Vincent spoke on "Sunday School work," Mr Varley on "Spiritual Life," and Rev. Dr. Black on the "Revival in Scotland."

On Tuesday, Dr. McCosh read a masterly essay in reference to the teachings of the modern School of Semi-Atheists, and presented an array of facts and reasonings that were infinitely satisfactory to the large audience assembled. He was followed by Professor Murray, of McGill College, with a very acute paper on the relation between Modern Philosophy and Christianity; and Rev. J. M. Gibson of Chicago, formerly of Montreal, came next, and gave his views on Evangelical Rationalism. In the afternoon, in St. Andrew's Church, Rev. Theodore Lafleur gave an account of the French Canadian Mission; Professor Campbell read a paper on Comparative Religion; Gen. Burrows read a paper on the efforts made in England to counteract Infidelity; and Prof. McVicar dealt with the popular objections to the inspiration of the Scriptures. In the Baptist Church, Rev. Jas. Bennet discussed "The Creation and Evolution;" Professor Wilson, of Toronto University, read an elaborate paper on the "Attitude of Religion towards Science;" and principal Dawson gave the closing address on the two powers opposing Christianity—Ritualism and Atheism.

The evening had been set apart for the farewell meeting, which was most impressive. Addresses were given by the Right Hon. the Earl of Cavan, Dr. Black of Inverness, Dr. Ryerson, Mr. Varley, Rev. G. M. Grant, Rev. John Morton, Gen. Burrows, and Rev. Donald Fraser, of London, while Thane Miller sang some of his favorite melodies.

The foregoing very imperfect sketch of the proceedings of the Alliance, which is chiefly condensed from the *P. Witness*, gives no adequate idea of the importance or interest of the occasion, or the composition of the valuable papers read. We believe they are all published, and may shortly be had in pamphlet form, for 25 cents.