

although they differed on many points from the present majority of the people of their confederacy, they believed that the Great Spirit required them to do right toward all men, and said that they endeavoured to inculcate and practice this golden rule.

The number of pagan Indians among the Six Nations on this reservation is about six hundred. Those who profess Christianity are chiefly Episcopalians, Methodists and Baptists, but a few are Plymouth Brethren.

I returned to Hamilton more deeply impressed than before with a sense of the capability of the Indian for civilization, and yet more clearly cognizant of the slow and almost imperceptible degrees by which alone an Indian population can ever be actually absorbed by our own race.

V. Biographical Sketches.

1. THE COMTE DE MONTALEMBERT.

Charles Forbes de Tryon, Comte de Montalembert, was born in London, on the 10th of March, 1810. His father, Marc Reni Marie de Montalembert, served in the army of Conde, and subsequently in the British army, with great credit, having acted during the Spanish campaign on the staff of the Duke of Wellington. The son was educated in the best schools in Paris, and before he was twenty years of age had written a small work on Sweden, which introduced him to the literary circles of the metropolis, and led to an acquaintance with Guizot. From this time he began to gain notoriety for his liberal views on religion and politics, and in 1830 was associated with Lacordaire in the establishment of the Democratic and Ultramontane journal *L'Avenir*.

The doctrines of this publication came under the censorship of the Roman See, and during the examination Montalembert and his fellow editors went to Rome to plead their own cause. They met with very little success, and in the course of another year *L'Avenir* was given up. Its founders did not, however, abandon their liberal ideas, but in conjunction with de Caux, established a free Catholic school, in which they continued to disseminate the opinions which they had adopted. This was soon closed by the police, and its directors arraigned before one of the inferior tribunals of Paris for violation of the ordinances on public instruction. In the meantime Montalembert's father, who had been raised to the Peerage, in 1819, died, and he succeeded to his title in June, 1831. He then availed himself of the privileges of his rank, and had the case transferred to the Court of Peers, where he conducted his own defence. Notwithstanding a brilliant speech which he delivered on that occasion, the youthful Comte was condemned to pay a fine of 100 francs. For several years thereafter he devoted himself to a study of the history of the Middle ages, and in 1836 published a legendary *Life of St. Elizabeth, of Hungary, Duchess of Thuringia*, with a historical introduction. An essay, *Du Vandalisme et du Catholicisme dans les Arts* appeared in 1840, and from that time forward Montalembert became well known as a powerful writer on the religious and political questions of the time. In 1840 his age entitled him to the rights and privileges of a member of the Chamber of Peers, and he frequently took part in the debates of that body, generally espousing the cause of the Church when any controversy arose in which its interests were involved. When the debates occurred in 1843, concerning the relations of Church and State, he issued his *Manifeste Catholique*, and became the recognized leader of the Catholic Party. On the breaking out of the revolution in 1848, he issued an address, in which he avowed himself in favour of a Republic, and was elected a Deputy in the Constituent Assembly for the Department of Doubs. He did not, however, act with the extreme Democrats, but preserved a moderate course, growing more and more conservative as events progressed. He opposed the admission of Louis Napoleon, and voted against the new Constitution, at the same time supporting the Bill for the restriction of the Press. Being returned to the Assembly a second time by the Department of Doubs and Cotes du Nord, he engaged in some brilliant forensic contests with Victor Hugo, and in June, 1851, had a famous debate with that great orator and author on the revision of the Constitution. He continued his hostility against Louis Napoleon, and after the *coup d'etat*, protested against the imprisonment of the Deputies. He remained in the Legislative Body until 1857, since which time he has lived mostly in retirement, engaged on important literary works. He contributed frequently to the columns of the *Correspondent*, and for an article published in that journal on the 25th of October, 1858, entitled, "A Debate on India in the English Parliament," in which he drew some invidious comparisons between England and France, he was prosecuted and sentenced to six months' imprisonment and a fine of three thousand francs, which penalties, however, were remitted by the Emperor. Besides important contributions to the

Revue des Deux Mondes and the *Encyclopedie Catholique*. Montalembert has published several books since the efforts of his early manhood. Chief among these are *Des Interets Catholiques aux XIX. Siecle*, (1852;) *L'Avenir Politique de l'Angleterre*, (1855;) *Pie IX. et Lord Palmerston*, (1856;) *Les Manuels de l'Occident, depuis Saint Benoi Jusq la Saint Bernard* (1860;) *Le Pere Lacordaire*, (1862;) *L'Eglise Libre dans l'Etat Libre*, (1863;) and *Le Pape et le Pologne*, (1864.) Several of these works have been translated into English. As a leader of the Liberal Roman Catholic Party in France, the Comte de Montalembert occupied a large share of attention for many years; but had latterly passed somewhat from public notice.

2. GEORGE D. PRENTICE, ESQ.

Geo. D. Prentice, the distinguished poet and journalist, died recently at his residence in Louisville, Ky. Prentice was long known as one of the keenest wits on the American press, his skill as a paragraphist being altogether extraordinary. His genial humour and sterling honour commanded for him the respect even of his political opponents. He was born in Preston, Conn., in December, 1802. At the age of seventeen, he entered Brown's University, whence he graduated in 1823. Immediately after leaving college, he entered upon the study of the law, supporting himself by teaching school at Hartford. In 1828, having already attracted notice by the grace and piquancy of his style as a writer in various periodicals, among which was *The Connecticut Mirror*, of which he was the editor in 1825, he associated himself with John G. Whittier, in the publication of the *New England Weekly Review*, a journal then widely popular, and remained as one of its editors for about two years. He next engaged as a writer for the *Louisville Journal*. This was in 1830. The proprietors were not slow to discover that in young Prentice they had secured a master journalist, and accordingly on the very day the chair of the chief editor became vacant, they insisted on his taking control of the paper. Under his charge, the *Journal* became the leading paper of the West. Its gracefully written editorials, its spicy paragraphs in which the topics of the day were epigrammatized, its keen, cutting sarcasm, its wit and satire which cropped out in every line, made it peculiarly popular among all classes of people. In addition to his editorial labours on the *Journal* Mr. Prentice wrote much for other periodicals. His poems, of which he wrote many, were nearly all first printed in the *Journal*, were extensively copied, but never collected in a volume. That which he always looked upon as his best, and which, indeed, in depth of pathos, beauty of rhythm, and wealth of imagery has but few equals in any language, is his "Closing Year," written for the *Journal* in 1849.

VI. Miscellaneous.

1. LAST YEAR AND THIS.

The book is closed—no longer mine
Though I have marked it thro' and thro'
Scribbling my name, as children do;
And blots o'er all the page divine
From end to end bestrew.

I turn its pages sadly o'er—
The story that I might have writ,
Illumed in gold and colors fit,
Alas! is done for ever more—
I cannot alter it.

Another volume now is here—
Its vacant pages lie before me;
A vague foreshadowing creepeth o'er me—
It filleth me with doubt and fear,
This hidden mystery.

The future history of my soul
Shows through the mist a crowd of days,
On which with efforts vain I gaze,
And dangers that conceal the goal
Their shadowy forms upraise.

It bows me down this painful thought:
Perforce continually I
Must fill up this great diary,
Just as I toiled, and wept, and wrought,
Last year so fruitlessly.

Oh! that I might the task resign,
In which I miserably fail!
Are purer, subtler, might avail
In tracing out each finer line,
Each difficulty detail.