

THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

VOL. 14.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19th, 1885.

No. 34.

"In every respect a credit to the Presbyterian Church in Canada."—*Barrie Gazette.*

THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN, PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY BY THE Presbyterian Printing and Publishing Co.

"Without doubt the best religious publication in Canada, and a welcome visitor to thousands of families."—*Stratford Beacon.*

THE PRESBYTERIAN is recommended by the General Assembly as "worthy the hearty support" of the ministers and members.

An Agent wanted in every congregation in the Dominion. Liberal commissions to suitable persons. Specimen copies mailed free on application. Apply at once to

C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, Toronto.

Notes of the Week.

THE *New York Evangelist* says: Our neighbour on the North, the Canada Presbyterian Church, makes good use of her candidates for the Gospel ministry during the summer months. As among us, they go out and evangelize in destitute regions, and their labours result in much good, and sometimes, after graduation, in permanent relations.

ACCORDING to *Vanity Fair*, temperance continues to make great strides in all classes of society, and has now reached even to the Carlton Club. That club is famous for its cellar of wines, and the wiser members are reputed to have locked in their breasts many a secret of many a brand known only to themselves to be superlatively excellent; but the consumption of these wines is by no means what it used to be, and it will appal the heart of many a wine merchant to learn that the favourite drink at the Carlton is now *barley-water*.

DR. ROBERT WALLACE, at one time a prominent minister of the Church of Scotland, occupying successively several important positions, retiring from the ministry shortly after the death of Mr. Russell, editor of the *Scotsman*, succeeded to the editorial management of that journal. After a time he sought still another sphere of labour, and came out as a full-fledged English barrister. He now aspires to become a member of Parliament, having been unanimously chosen by the Liberal Committee to contest the borough of Wandsworth in the approaching election.

In the *Mercury* it is stated that the Guelph Women's Christian Temperance Union offer six prizes for the best essays on "The Evils of Intemperance," to the pupils of the High and Central schools. The prizes consist of the following sums of money: To the pupils of the High School, first prize, \$8; second prize, \$6; third prize, \$3. To the pupils of the Central School, first prize, \$7; second prize, \$5; third prize \$2. The prizes to be awarded at a public meeting to be hereafter announced. The essays to be written at the homes of the pupils, must be original, and to fill not less than one sheet of foolscap or more than four. The examiners are Rev. J. C. Smith, Rev. D. McGregor and Prof. Pantou.

No sooner had the hearty cheers with which the volunteers returning from the North-West were every-greeted been silenced, than a most unseemly and paltry controversy raged as to whom the honour of the charge at Batoche belonged. Neither living nor dead have been spared. When the country was in a mood to make a generous recognition of the valour and courage to which the speedy suppression of the rebellion is due, the matter might have ended. It is not an edifying spectacle to witness those who loyally fought shoulder to shoulder on the battle-field engaging in petty controversies over details concerning which people generally have but little interest. The washing of dirty linen, whether military or ecclesiastical is not a pleasant sight.

A GOOD Catholic French-Canadian attended mass in a village church. He was unable to kneel on both knees. A churchwarden was greatly scandalized at the supposed lack of reverence on the part of the wor-

shipper and insisted that he should kneel properly. To this the poor man replied that he could not as he was in great pain. That same afternoon a warrant was served upon him for his arrest. These wretched acts of tyranny do incalculable harm. They necessarily produce resentment and bad feeling. People of spirit will not submit to the overbearing insolence of petty spiritual tyrants. The result of the unseemly occurrence at Ste. Anne is that a determined spirit of resistance has been evoked, and the matter will come up for adjudication in the law courts.

MUCH discussion took place while the Franchise Bill was under consideration in the House of Commons as to the propriety of conferring on Indians the right to vote. It would seem that the Indians on the Mohawk Reservation in Hastings County have shown that they are sufficiently advanced in the ways of civilization to get quit of a minister when they resolve on such a course. They did not call meetings and pass resolutions and send deputations. Like the unsophisticated children of nature they are, they took episcopal functions into their own hands and forcibly and violently ejected the rural dean who went to preach to them on Sunday week. The clergyman, bearing visible marks of punishment, had to retreat. Several of the ringleaders in the unseemly quarrel will be brought to book for their action.

SEVERAL dreadful accidents have occurred lately at railway crossings. In New Jersey, three persons, one a little child, were killed by a train dashing into a conveyance crossing a railway track. At St. Thomas, a woman, her brother and child, were killed under the same circumstances, at the south end of the city. Other fatalities at railway crossings have been recently reported. This loss of life and mangle of bodies is very sad, but is sufficient care taken to prevent its occurrence? It entails constant watchfulness to blow the signal at every crossing, yet such watchfulness is indispensable. It is feared that sounding the whistle is too often neglected. Roads often cross railway tracks at such places where it is impossible for the occupants of vehicles to see whether the track is clear or not. Municipalities, however, will have to insist that all level crossings in cities, towns and villages be protected by gates.

MUCH is heard of the devotion of the Roman Catholic priesthood in times of epidemic sickness. They do not desert their posts when a plague comes. That this is praiseworthy none will deny. It is a mistake, however, to suppose that they are the only clergymen who remain faithfully in the discharge of duty in the midst of danger. The Presbyterian pastors of New Orleans make it a point to be at home in all times of epidemic fever, or any prevalent illness among their flocks. Thus, several summers ago, when the yellow fever raged there and up the river valley as far as Memphis, every pastor was at home and busy night and day—and this at the cost of the lives of some of them. It would seem that they have a tacit understanding with each other never to desert their posts in case of any emergency of the kind referred to.

A MAN of considerable literary eminence has just passed away. The death of Lord Houghton has been announced. As Richard Moncton Milnes he was well known as a poet, and the author of a number of prose works that interested many thoughtful readers. He took an active part in politics and was still better known as a practical philanthropist. While making a tour of this Continent, a few years ago, he visited Toronto. A prominent business man and senator, who was deeply interested in the handsome Baptist Church, then in course of erection on Jarvis Street, was showing Lord Houghton the attractions of the Queen City. Viewing with admiration the rising structure, the distinguished visitor remarked: "Of course it is an English Church?" "It is being built by the Baptists," was the response. "Well, the presumption of these dissenters!" was his lordship's rejoinder.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to the *Montreal Witness* complaining of the neglect of the Quebec Government to provide for the instruction in trades of the boys in the Reformatory School at Sherbrooke. The writer sensibly says: The Provincial Government has placed them in this prison, but has made no provision for their instruction in any trade by which they can earn an honest living when liberated. For three hours a day they are taught reading, writing, arithmetic, etc., but during the rest of the day they are in enforced idleness. Without any knowledge of a trade or habits of industry, when they come out they will be fitted only for prison again. It is a cruelty to compel these boys to spend three or four years in idleness, just at the period of life when they should be learning a trade. The boys have asked for employment; the attention of the Government has been called to their condition by the Grand Jury, the judges, the press and the citizens of Sherbrooke, but up to this time no action has been taken. Can no pressure be brought to bear upon the authorities so that this state of things may be corrected?

AMONG recent alleged miraculous cures in the Church of Ste. Anne, Beaulieu, is that of a young lad of seventeen years of age who is suffering from hip disease. A member of McGill Medical Faculty examined him after the supposed cure had been effected with the following result: After a most careful examination of the boy the doctor declared his belief that he ought to recover. So long, however, as the disease was not thrown off or removed by surgical operation the sores would continue to run. The extent of the cure simply amounted to this, that at the shrine the boy became convinced that he was cured, and he obtained the confidence, the want of which alone had prevented him from walking before, while the influence of his mind upon his body was strong enough to temporarily stop the suppuration from his sore. The boy himself says distinctly that when he entered the church he knew that he would be healed there. The doctor says there is no physical reason why the boy could not have walked before had he chosen. The facts that in the boy's right hip the bones are still knit together, also that his sores are commencing to run again, were proof conclusive, the doctor said, that no miracle had been accomplished.

IT is sometimes asserted that petitions are signed without consideration. Many people append their names without taking the trouble of reading them, or even inquiring their object. A remarkable case of this kind has just come to light. A number of men in good standing had signed an application for a judicial position in the United States in favour of a man who was notoriously unfit to occupy the bench. They had signed to please the applicant and his friends, never thinking that the appointment would be made. The President, relying on the character of the signers, appointed the man to the office. Whereupon one of those who had signed the recommendation wrote to President Cleveland under what circumstances he had adhibited his name to the application. The following is the President's manly reply: I have read your letter of the 24th ult. with amazement and indignation. There is but one mitigation to the perfidy which your letter discloses, and that is found in the fact that you confess your share in it. I don't know whether you are a Democrat or not; but if you are the crime which you confess is the more unpardonable. The idea that this Administration, pledged to give the people better government and better officers, and engaged in a hand-to-hand fight with the bad elements of both parties, should be betrayed by those who ought to be worthy of implicit trust, is atrocious; and such treason to the people and to the party ought to be punished by imprisonment. Your confession comes too late to be of immediate use to the public service, and I can only say that while this is not the first time I have been deceived and misled by lying and treacherous representations you are the first one that has so frankly owned his grievous fault. If any comfort is to be extracted from this assurance you are welcome to it.