

THE Dominion Presbyterian

IS PUBLISHED AT

10 Campbell Street, Belleville, Ont.
232 ST. JAMES ST., MONTREAL & TORONTO

TERMS:

\$1.50 per Year. \$1.00 in Advance.

The receipt of subscription acknowledged by a change of date on address label.

The Mount Royal Publishing Co.

C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, Manager.

All communications intended for the editor should be addressed to Belleville.

The editor can not undertake to return unused Mss. Correspondents are asked to note that anything intended for the first issue should reach the office on Tuesday morning.

Thursday, March 29th, 1900.

It is announced that the Senate of Glasgow University will confer the degree of D. D. upon Rev. Allan Pollock, Principal of the Presbyterian College Halifax; and the same degree is to be conferred on Rev. Charles M. Grant, of St. Martin's church Dundee, by the University of Edinburgh. Mr. Grant is a brother of Principal Grant of Queen's.

A despatch from Durban, Natal, says: "The Natal presbytery met and unanimously adopted a resolution setting forth the righteousness of Great Britain's cause, and declaring that no settlement of the war will be satisfactory, unless it provides for the inclusion of the two republics under the British flag.

"Bear ye one another's burdens," said the minister, and the congregation listened intently for thirty minutes while he spoke to them of the beauty of Christian helpfulness. As they went out they spoke to one another of the fine sentiment of the sermon. Then one of them spent the afternoon planning how to get rid of the widow who occupied one of his houses, and could not pay the rent. He didn't want to turn her out, but he had no objection to the bailiff doing it for him. So he concluded to call up the bailiff the next morning. And he remarked to his wife at tea-time, "I believe I shall wait to-night, and tell our minister how thoroughly I enjoyed his sermon this morning."

Some men delight in litigation, and view with undisguised alarm any attempt

to make an appeal to law more difficult. The aim of the proposition to increase the powers of the Synods, now being considered by Presbyteries, is not mainly repressive, though it is being very generally interpreted as if such were its chief import. It is an honest attempt to relieve the congested Assembly of some of its routine business, and to give to the attenuated Synod some real business to transact. But the litigant discovers that an appellant in certain instances, would not be able to reach the Assembly with his plea; it must be issued by the lower Court. Why should it not be so, in nine cases out of ten? Every year the best men of the Assembly are drafted off to listen to evidence in some puerile dispute, in the settlement of which no principle is involved, and which ought to have been finally issued by the Session or Presbytery in which it originated. But the humblest member has the right of appeal. He doesn't use it, but his bumptious fellow-member does, and at present, no one can stop him. Why should a measure of real benefit be wrecked to give such men the opportunity to prolong strife?

Shall the bible be used in our public schools? The question is again being asked, and an answer demanded. It is said that in many schools the Bible lesson is read. We wonder if any of those who make this statement have been present during the opening exercises of a public school. A balder performance than the said opening frequently is, could scarcely be imagined. The remedy proposed by some is the introduction of the Voluntary School system, which is only another name for denominational schools. That certainly will not secure a foothold in Canada. The true remedy would seem to be that Christian teachers, who not only reverence, but who love the Word of God, should be put in charge of our public schools. Then, too, the atmosphere of the home must be permeated with love of the Scriptures. Half-an-hour's teaching of the Bible at the hands of a godless teacher would be half-an-hour of wasted time. But the child that comes from a godly home and listens to a description of what a teacher has learned from the Book, will receive real benefit and an actual increase of spiritual knowledge.

Civilized Savagery.

We were one of the guests at the meeting of the W.F.M.S., and among others, met one of the officers, whose enthusiasm on behalf of Foreign Missions was plainly evident. We thoroughly enjoyed a brief ten minutes conversation. The next Sabbath we were early in church and, yielding to an almost irresistible temptation, we turned to look over the gathering audience. Almost the first one

our eye fell upon was the ardent friend of the foreigners. Something seemed wrong with her headgear. The long slender bill of a beautiful English snipe pointed straight into her left eye, while the bill of another piteously pointed upward from the other side.

Somehow we had suggested to us a scene we had witnessed in an Indian camp, where a brave was decked with the teeth and the claws of the grizzly bears he had killed in the hunt. We smiled at the conceit of the half-savage. He knew no better. But this cultured young lady, whose heart was so evidently in sympathy with the effort to carry the gospel to these same savages, why should she allow herself to be decked out with the dead bodies of the birds whose death she had caused?

Do the ladies who wear about their persons as decorations, the dead bodies of birds and other animals, know with what disgust four out of five of their gentlemen friends feel when they see these trophies of cruelty. Such things are not beautiful as ornaments. They are so entirely out of place as to appear monstrous rather than attractive. Yet so long as our women consent to wear such adornments, so long will it be decreed by fashion that they should be worn. The fashionable fad is a matter of commerce. When the demand for an article ceases the fashion instantly changes. Let our women refuse to wear dead birds on their heads, and dead birds will not be temptingly displayed in the milliners windows.

The Ideal Newspaper.

The Topeka Capital has made a high profit out of the experiment of the Rev. Chas. M. Sheldon. The attempt to run an ideal newspaper for one week was widely advertised and subscriptions have been literally pouring in to the office, and advertisers have been tumbling over each other in an attempt to secure space. Already the company is quarrelling over the division of the profits, which is certainly a most un-Christ-like proceeding. And what has been accomplished? Will such a paper pay? Mr. Sheldon cannot tell. Will it stop the demand for sensationalism to say to the reader, "This is not fit for you to read!" It might be retorted, "We are of age to judge for ourselves." Mr. Sheldon has gone on the assumption that the newspaper has created the demand for the stuff it serves up, and that it is fostering the appetite for sensationalism. It is not nearer the truth to say that the newspaper ministers to a demand already existing, and, in some instances at least, seeks to elevate the standard of thought and action? On the whole we think our own "Witness" nearer the mark than the last week's edition of the Topeka Capital.