

CHRISTMAS NUMBER

The Presbyterian Review.

Vol. XIV.—No. 25

TORONTO, DECEMBER 23, 1897.

\$1.50 per Annum

The Presbyterian Review.

Issued EVERY THURSDAY, from the office of the Publishers, Rooms No. 21, 21, 25 Abchurch Lane, South-East corner Adelaide and Victoria Streets, Toronto.

TERMS, \$1.50 per annum.

All communications for either Business or Editorial Departments should be addressed PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW, Drawer 2161, Toronto, Ont.

Publishers and Proprietors

THE PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW CO., LIMITED.

Incorporated under the Great Seal of the Dominion of Canada

ADVERTISING RATES.—Under 3 months, 15 cents per line per insertion; 3 months, \$1.00 per line; 6 months, \$1.75 per line. 1 year \$3.00. No advertisement charged at less than five lines. None others than unobjectionable advertisements taken.

Toronto, Dec. 23, 1897.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

To our readers, one and all, we cordially extend the Compliments of the Season.

THE PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW wishes its many friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

In the general rejoicing we claim a large place for the Presbyterian church which has had a year of prosperity and whose work this year has contributed not a little to the conditions of life which emphasize the joys and thanksgivings of Christmas.

The "Day" falling on a Saturday services will not be held in many churches to celebrate the event but the Sabbath services on the following day will be appropriate to the occasion and the collections in many cases will be in behalf of the poor.

At the regular meeting of the Paris Presbytery held on Monday last, on motion of Rev. Dr. Cochrane, of Brantford, **Rev. Dr. Torrance** the Rev. Dr. Torrance, of Guelph, was **Nominated.** unanimously nominated for the Moderatorship of next General Assembly. Dr. Cochrane, in the nomination, referred to the long and efficient services that Dr. Torrance had rendered the Presbyterian Church in Canada for fifty years, and said that no one better deserved the honor, or could preside with greater efficiency and dignity over the General Assembly.

Evidences that the conservatism of China is yielding before Western and Christian assaults are multiplying. A very

Progress
in China

significant item has been communicated to the American Bible Society by its correspondent at Shanghai. Heretofore in the examination of students for the master's degree, the questions have been on literary lines, and limited to the literature of China. This year the imperial edict directed that the questions to

be asked and answered should relate to matters of importance at the present time. The following question was read by 10,000 students in one of the examination halls: "What do you know of the re-peopling of the earth by Noah and his family after the flood?" The Pekin examiners who framed this question had been reading the Old Testament, which is now recommended as a text-book, and for which there is an increasing demand. The statesmen of China, her scholars, and her students are said to be studying the Bible because it is the classic of Christian countries.

The cable despatches persist in the statement that the British Government is urged to recognize the Vatican to the **Rome in** extent of appointing a nuncio for Great **Great Britain.** Britain. It is said that the Duke of Norfolk, who is Postmaster General in the Salisbury administration and who is a devoted Roman Catholic, is directing a movement by which Cardinal Vaughan shall have a seat in the House of Lords and represent there the interests of his Church. As at present constituted the House of Lords is made up of temporal peers and certain Church of England dignitaries. The Duke of Norfolk's object is to place the Church of Rome on an equal footing with the Church of England as far as Cardinal Vaughan is concerned. This would necessitate a change in the law of the realm, which would cause a turmoil in Britain, or that the Cardinal be made a peer in his own right in the temporal classification, an easier thing to do. Whether his grace of Norfolk possesses sufficient influence in the cabinet or not to carry out his plans, the fact that efforts in that direction have been persistently made shows that the Roman Catholics are alert as usual and alive to the interests of their Church.

A Memorial Fund to the Rev. Dr. J. Hiles Hitchens, late President of the British Society for the Propagation of the **The Dr. Hitchens' Memorial** Gospel among the Jews, has been opened by the Church at Eccleston Square, London, S. W., and any contributions will be gladly received and acknowledged by Rev. E. Theodore Hitchens, 90 Gloucester street, Belgravia, S. W. The proceeds of the Fund will be chiefly devoted to a Memorial Tablet on the walls of the church in which Dr. Hitchens ministered for twenty-six years.

The great work being done by the Presbyterian Hospital, New York, was once again evidenced by the reports **Presbyterian Hospital Work.** presented to the annual meeting the other day. The large number of 23,600 persons, representing almost every trade and profession, and nearly all nationalities, received medical or surgical treatment in the different departments of the hospital during