

THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

VOL. 20.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18th, 1891.

No. 11.

HAND-BOOK OF SABBATH SCHOOL MANAGEMENT AND WORK

This valuable Hand-Book, by Mr. David Fotheringham, is designed to aid teachers in their important duties. There is also appended a form of constitution and regulations for a Presbyterian Sabbath School, as well as a partial list of books helpful for reference or study to Sabbath School teachers. Neatly printed and strongly bound in cloth, cut flush. Price 15 cents postage paid. Quantities of not less than 12 to a school at the rate of \$1.25 per dozen. Address all orders to
PRESBYTERIAN PRINTING & PUBLISHING CO.,
5 JORDAN ST., TORONTO.

THE PRESBYTERIAN YEAR BOOK FOR 1891

It is now ready. It contains a portrait of the Rev. Dr. Laing, Moderator of the General Assembly, illustrations and historical sketches of St. Andrew's Church, New Westminster, B. C., of the Presbyterian Church, Yarmouth, N. S., of the Central Presbyterian Church, Galt, Ont., and of St. Andrew's Church, St. John, N. B. A number of papers on timely topics, in addition to the usual mass of information given in such a publication, appears. This issue of the Year Book is unusually full of interesting matter. Price, 25 cents.

Following are a few extracts from the numerous press notices that have appeared:—

It contains a fine line of information about our sister church in a very compact and handsome fashion.—*North-Western Presbyterian* (Minneapolis).

The editor has strong reason to be satisfied with the compact, yet comprehensive, scope of the little manual.—*Empire*.

There have been additions to the wide range of subjects on which it gives reliable information. THE YEAR BOOK is more than a compendium of statistics and tables of church lore and records. It has every year articles written by eminent members of the church upon themes indicative of the growth of Presbyterianism, and interesting to Presbyterians everywhere.—*Globe*.

The contents . . . and articles on various subjects are interesting not only to Presbyterians but to members of all Christian denominations.—*Gazette* (Montreal).

It must be invaluable to every member of the denomination.—*Advertiser* (London).

This issue is superior to any of its predecessors, and gives a great deal of useful information in small compass.—*Gleaner* (Huntingdon).

That useful manual, THE PRESBYTERIAN YEAR BOOK for 1891, contains an immense deal of general information of value to every member of the church, and of interest to every Canadian.—*Packet* (Orillia).

The editor has exhibited the skill of a specialist in gathering, arranging and compacting his facts. We hope THE YEAR BOOK will obtain a wide circulation in our congregations.—*Presbyterian Witness* (Halifax).

The most valuable number yet published. The price is only twenty-five cents, and is worth double the money.—*Freeholder* (Cornwall).

Altogether it is a very useful annual.—*Globe* (St. John).

Altogether THE PRESBYTERIAN YEAR BOOK will be found specially useful to church members, as well as to business men generally.—*Herald* (Stratford).

It is up to its standard of excellence. THE YEAR BOOK is a very useful work of reference, and contains much general information besides that devoted to the Presbyterian Church.—*Recorder* (Ayr).

IMPROVED CLASS ROLL

For the use of Sabbath School Teachers.

IMPROVED SCHOOL REGISTER

For the use of Superintendents and Secretaries.

Both the above have been carefully prepared, in response to request demands for something more complete than could heretofore be obtained, by the Rev. T. F. Fotheringham, M. A., Convener of the General Assembly's Sabbath School Committee. These books will be found to make easy the work of reporting all necessary statistics of our Sabbath Schools, as well as preparing the returns asked for by the General Assembly. Price of Class Rolls 60 cents per doz. Price of School Registers 30 cents each. Address—

PRESBYTERIAN PRINTING & PUBLISHING CO. (Ltd.)
5 JORDAN ST., TORONTO.

Notes of the Week.

AN anti-opium convention was held in London last week, those taking part being chiefly clergymen of all denominations in Great Britain and Ireland. Canon Basil Wilberforce, Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, Rev. Price Hughes, and Prebendary Gordon Calthrop are among those who have been active in making arrangements for the conference. Resolutions proposing that more stringent regulations shall be placed upon the manufacture and sale of the drug were considered.

A VERY able circular was issued by the Church Extension Committee in Belfast, in which it is shown that, though so many churches have been recently erected in our city, yet so rapid has been the growth of population, that the present church accommodation is less in proportion than it has been for the last sixty years. During the last five years 6,954 new houses have been built, and building operations are going on rapidly at present. Five new sites have been, or are being, taken for the erection of churches.

THE Glasgow *Daily Mail* publishes documents that are being circulated privately amongst office-bearers and members of the United Presbyterian Church, these including an overture for the discharge of the Synod's Disestablishment Committee. Special injunctions are given that no copy be communicated to the press. The *Mail* denounces the movement as an attempt to "nobble" the Church. "Every weak-kneed elder and every doubtful member who can be spotted are to be asked to sign an overture as false as it is foolish."

AT a largely attended informal meeting of ministers and elders in Edinburgh, three names were voted upon for the Moderatorship of the Free Church General Assembly. Dr. Walter C. Smith received the heaviest vote; Principal Douglas came next; and Professor Thomas Smith last. The proceedings at the commission in March may possibly upset all previous calculations. The election will most likely

lie between Dr. Walter Smith and Professor Thomas Smith. The latter was proposed at the last commission. He was ordained in 1839 and celebrated his jubilee the year before last.

THE *Newcastle Leader* publishes letters on Work and Worship from leading men of all denominations. Dr. Cameron Lees, of Edinburgh, agrees with Mr. Beecher that "people don't go to church because they get nothing to eat there." He thinks that when there are able preachers and interesting services working men do go to church. Dr. Donald Fraser, on the other hand, believes that "the reason why so many working men never go to church is that they have no spiritual longing or desire. They are lovers of their own selves, and have no knowledge or thirst for the living God."

PROFESSOR FLINT, lecturing recently in Newington Church, Edinburgh, on "The Church Question," said disestablishment and disendowment would not diminish existing evils but would perpetuate, increase and intensify them. Were the task of bringing about an understanding among the Churches left to the clergy, the result could only be grievous disappointment. Hence the necessity for the intervention of the laity. If the Layman's League could develop itself into such an organization, he believed it might carry Scotland with it and bring about a far greater and more beneficial event in Scottish history than any secession or disruption had been.

THE Rev. Duncan Macgregor, late of Free St. Peter's, Dundee, where he succeeded Dr. Islay Burns in 1864, died at Perth, recently, in his sixty-sixth year. A learned theologian, he was the author of several valuable works; and his intense earnestness in the pulpit made him a conspicuous power for good in Dundee. His unselfishness was illustrated by his acceptance in 1876 of a call from a poorer congregation in Glasgow; the prospect of more extensive scope for his gifts outweighed the fact that his stipend would be considerably diminished. It was during his tenure of office in Dundee that funds were raised to build the M'Cheyne Memorial church, now the home of one of the most important congregations in that city. Shortly after his removal to Glasgow, and in consequence of ill-health, he had to give up preaching, and since then he has lived in retirement. Two of his sons are in the ministry of the Free Church, the elder at Elie, and the younger in the pulpit at Glasgow formerly occupied by Professor Marcus Dods. Mr. Macgregor was a brother-in-law of the late Rev. William Arnot.

A CONFERENCE of Sunday school teachers was held at Marylebone, London, recently, Rev. Dr. Fraser presiding. Rev. Dr. Gibson introduced the subject of "Auxiliaries to the Spiritual Work of the School." In comparing Sunday school work here with the work in America, there were several points worth noting. One was the want of consideration of the Sunday school in the erection of church buildings. There has been some improvement in recent years, but still the interests of the Sunday school and Bible classes were not taken into serious consideration in making plans. Captain Wisely, R. E., superintendent of the Mission School for Boys at Marylebone, spoke of a system of rewards in use as being a powerful auxiliary for maintaining discipline in the school. Mr. Robert Whyte mentioned that in visiting as a Synod's deputy at Tyneside, he had found a similar society at work to the Christian Endeavour Societies sketched by Dr. Gibson. There the young people were associated by districts with the office-bearers of the Church in visiting and other work. Several other speakers followed, and the discussion was closed by Dr. Fraser, who advocated the bringing of young people early into full communion with the Church.

THE *Christian Leader* says: The horrors described by Mr. Kennan and the persecution of the Jews do not by any means exhaust the misdeeds of the despotic Government of the Czar. At the present hour there is another scandalous persecution raging in Russia, to which little or no attention has yet been directed. Because its victims are Russian peasants, and poverty-stricken, ignorant, and frigh-

tened, they suffer in silence, and their voice is not heard. An important article on the subject in the *Leisure Hour* for March gives most harrowing details of the frightful sufferings inflicted on these simple and timid peasants, whose sole crime consists in the fact that they are endeavouring to live pure lives modelled on the precepts of the Gospel. Beginning thirty years ago in a little German settlement near the Black Sea, the Protestant movement has now spread into twelve provinces, and its adherents are numbered by hundreds of thousands. Fifteen years ago there was hardly a Protestant in the entire archbishopric of Kieff; to-day the new heresy is at work in 150 villages. The movement is so great that the bishops of eight provinces are conducting a stern conflict against it, the result being a system of persecution which has had no parallel in Europe since the days of the Reformation.

THE Chicago *Interior* says: Mr. William E. Blackstone has presented a formidably signed petition to the President for the exercise of the good offices of the United States toward an international conference for the restoration of Palestine to the Jews—having special reference to the Russian Jews. It is signed by the newspaper press, religious and secular, of Chicago, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington—by leading ministers, manufacturers, merchants, mayors and statesmen. The petition recites the international protectorates extended to Greece and the Balkan States, and makes a special appeal for the Russian Jews, who are to be exiled, and for whom no retreat is now open. It recites the availability of Palestine for agriculture, and its advantages as the centre of inter-continental commerce. There is more than a passing interest in this petition. It will attract universal attention. Palestine was once the seat of the commerce of the world. Its merchant ships were found on every sea, from India to Scandinavia. It is the gate between western Asia and Europe. The Jews are specially adapted to its development, and a self-governing nucleus of them there would in no long time attract the enterprise and capital of this remarkably energetic and persistent people.

"SOME interesting statistics," says London *Public Opinion*, "illustrating the progress of the Roman Catholic Church in England may be gathered from the 'Catholic Directory and Ecclesiastical Register for 1891,' which was published recently by Messrs. Burns & Oates, under the authority of Cardinal Manning and the rest of the Roman Catholic hierarchy. The number of cardinals at Rome is supposed to be seventy, but there are generally a few vacancies in the sacred college; just now there are only six 'cardinal bishops,' among whom appears the name of one Englishman, Cardinal Edward Howard, a cousin of the Duke of Norfolk; forty-eight 'cardinal priests,' among whom the name of Henry Edward Manning, archbishop of Westminster, stands fifth; and ten 'cardinal deacons,' from whose roll the honoured name of John Henry Newman has disappeared. Consequently there are six vacant hats. Of the present body of cardinals, there still remain sixteen who were created by Pío Nono. The archbishops' sees belonging to 'The Latin Rite' are 167, and there are twelve others of 'The Oriental Rite' in the East, subject to the See of Rome; and 758 Episcopal sees, including about fifty of 'The Oriental Rites.' In England Cardinal Manning has under him now fourteen suffragans, the See of Leeds having been founded in the past year (1890); in Scotland there are two archbishops and four suffragan bishops. The Roman Catholic peers, taking into account the Scottish and Irish as well as the English peerage, are forty-one and the baronets fifty-three. Nine members of Her Majesty's Privy Council are Roman Catholics, and so are seventy-six members of the House of Commons, of whom only five sit for English constituencies. The churches and chapels in England and Scotland regularly served amount to between 1,200 and 1,300, exclusive of other places where mass is said occasionally; and the ordained priests exercising clerical functions in this island (including the regular as well as the secular clergy) amount to about 2,800—more than double of their number in 1850, when Cardinal Wiseman introduced the new hierarchy into this kingdom.