

BOOK REVIEW.

THE INSTRUCTOR: A Monthly Magazine for the Times. February, 1876. Toronto. The present number of the *Instructor* is much enlarged, and contains a great quantity of valuable reading matter. The first article is on the Anabaptists in Port Colborne. Next comes "Is it true?" A paper on the "Church Association" follows; then Book Notices; Afterwards "The Rev. Mr. Carry on the final state of the wicked;" then Thoughts, Reflections, and a number of interesting and instructive stories with wood cut illustrations, which render the whole an exceedingly valuable magazine for general readers.

CALENDAR.

March 12th.—2nd Sunday in Lent.
Gregory, Bishop.
Gen. xxvii. 1-41; St. Mark x. 82.
" xxviii; 1 Cor. iv. 18 and v.
" xxxii; 1 Cor. iv. 18 and v.
" 13th.—Num. xiv; St. Mark xi. 1-27.
" xvii. 12; 1 Cor. vi.
" 14th.—Deut. i. 1-19; St. Mark xi. 27-xii. 18.
" i. 19, 1 Cor. vii. 1-25.
" 15th.—" ii. 1-26; St. Mark xii. 13-35.
" ii. 26-iii. 18; 1 Cor. vii. 25.
" 16th.—" iii. 18; St. Mark xii. 35-xiii. 14.
" iv. 1-25; 1 Cor. viii.
" 17th.—" iv. 25-41; St. Mark xiii. 14.
" v. 1-22; 1 Cor. ix.
" 18th.—Edw. King of W. Saxons.
Deut. v. 22; St. Mark xiv. 1-27.
" vi; 1 Cor. x. and xi.

FREDERICTON.

A GRAND concert, under the patronage of His Honour the Lieut.-Governor and Mrs. Tilley, and under the auspices of the Church of England Temperance Society, was given in the Temperance Hall, Fredericton, Feb. 22nd, the proceeds to be applied in aid of the building fund. Among the singers were Miss L. Roberts, Miss O. Fisher, Miss Paisley, Mrs. Akerley, Mr. Fisher, Miss Black, Mrs. Beek, Mrs. Long, Mr. Richards, Mrs. Tabor, Mrs. Tibbets, Miss Richards, Mr. Cropley and Mr. Wilson.—*St. John Daily News*.

MONTREAL.

CONFIRMATION AT ST. MARY'S, HOCHELAGA.—The Lord Bishop of Montreal held a Confirmation in this Church, last Sunday evening, 20th Feb. There were four female and one male candidate who received the Apostolic "laying on of hands." The Bishop addressed the candidates in a solemn impressive manner. The Rev. the Incumbent read the prayers and lessons and the Bishop preached. The Venerable Archdeacon Leash was also present.

THE JAIL OF MONTREAL.—In the afternoon of Sunday the 20th ult., the Lord Bishop of Montreal preached to the prisoners now in jail. There were about 100 present. One remark of the Bishop's struck every one present—which was—that he had been in many churches, but had nowhere seen such a general kneeling at the service as in the jail, whilst in many churches, numbers leaned forward or sat at prayers, all before him were devoutly kneeling. The Venerable Arch-

deacon Leash read the prayers, and the Chaplain, Rev. J. D. Brothwell, also incumbent of St. Mary's, Hochelaga, read the lessons. Police magistrate Brehault and a number of influential ladies and gentlemen were present either in the body of the hall or gallery. One remarkable feature of the service is that the Chaplain has received a letter from one of the prisoners deeply impressed with the earnest sermon of the good Bishop, who gave an interesting address in the Leper "cleansed by Jesus." It is thirteen years since a Bishop or any other high dignitary of the Church has been officiating in the gaol. May this be the precursor of many more visits!—J. D. B.

ONTARIO.

CHRIST CHURCH SOIREE, BELLEVILLE.—This entertainment, which took place in Ontario Hall last night, was one of the most successful of the kind ever undertaken by the members of this Church. The tables were furnished with a superabundance of excellent viands by the liberality of friends, and a crowd of guests did ample justice to them. The Committee are much indebted to the kindness of Dr. Crozier and those who took part with him in the delightful quartettes which they played. The Misses Vanallen received a hearty *encore* for their exquisite and well rendered piano-forte duet. Mr. Lucas and the church choir acquitted themselves well in their respective performances. The piano was kindly furnished by Mr. Vantassel. We must not omit to mention Mr. Newbury's amusing readings, which were highly appreciated. Mr. Overell occupied the chair. The incumbent, Rev. R. S. Forneri, in a few closing remarks, gave the managing committee well merited praise for the way in which they had performed their arduous duties, and congratulated them upon the result. The proceeds are calculated at about \$150. A children's entertainment was announced for Thursday evening next at 6 o'clock, ample provision remaining for it.—Over one hundred of the younger children who had not attended the soiree on Tuesday, together with some of the parents and friends of the school assembled in the Ontario Hall on the 24th ult., to enjoy the entertainment provided for them by the ladies of the Managing Committee. The children it need hardly be remarked, did more than ample justice to the good things spread along the tables. After these were removed, the magic lantern, kindly lent by Dr. Palmer for the occasion, was arranged and the views exhibited. This enjoyment over, Miss Mary and Miss Carrie Wallbridge played in excellent style some duets on the pianoforte. Mr. Lucas then gave a laughable reading, and Mr. A. Geen a song, and the incumbent concluded the proceedings by a few remarks enforcing the truth that the secret of a happy life was to love God and to please him. After the doxology had been sung, the company dispersed. The proceeds from the entrance fee of ten cents amounted to \$15.10.—*Daily Intelligencer*.

At a missionary meeting held a few days ago in Richmond, Mr. Pettit, the Rector, said he felt called upon for the first time in his life to speak against the public press of our country. It did not deal fairly with the Church. It accused the Church of everything, and gave her credit for nothing; it published hasty and false reports about her, and was slow to contradict them when known to be false. If we were to believe all that the press says, we should conclude that the Church

of England was rapidly going to Rome. But what is the truth, as taken from "Ravenstein's Denominational Statistics?" It is that other Christian bodies have increased five times as fast as Romanism since 1801. In 1801 the population of England and Ireland was 31,500,000, of whom 4,500,000 were Roman Catholics, or 27 per cent. In 1875 the population had increased to 37,000,000. Did the Roman Catholics increase in proportion? No; they only increased 1,250,000, forming only 18 per cent, instead of 27 per cent, as in 1801. Or, in other words, while the Roman Catholics have increased at the rate of 28 per cent., others have increased at the rate of 120 per cent. The Methodists cannot claim the credit of this progress, for the last census shows that they are decreasing. Then, again, the press would persuade the people that the Church of England is on the decline in this Province—but what is the position of the Church to-day compared with twenty years ago? Then she had one Bishop; she has now seven. Then she had only about 100 clergymen; now she has about 350, of whom 48 have come from the ranks of dissenting preachers—yet on this increase from those ranks the press is silent. Then, again, twenty years ago the Church had only 3 clergymen in the county of Carleton; she has now 7. Then she had only 7 churches; she has now 21. Does all this go to show that the Church is on the decline? No, but that she is increasing more rapidly than at any period in her past history. Because she does not boast of her work, or make a noise in the world, and because the press is against her, people conclude that she is not progressing. Her growth, like growth in nature, is silent; her power, like that of vegetation, is hidden, unobserved and unnoticed by the world; her life like that of man, is within. As God breathed into man the breath of life and made him a living soul, so He breathed into the Church on the day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit, and made her a living body. By this Spirit she lives and moves; by this she grows and increases, notwithstanding the winds and the storms that are raging against her.

MISSIONARY DEPUTATION, No. 12.—This Deputation which consisted of the Rev. E. H. M. Baker (Convener), and the Rev. J. H. Nimmo, B.A., brought their labors to a close at Brockville on the night of Feb. 7th, having had large success in their tour, as the following statement of collections bears witness. In Crysler the sum of \$44 was received; in Roxboro, \$5.90; Osnabrock, (St. Peter's), \$27; Osnabrock (St. George's), \$16.80; Aultsville, \$11.03; Williamsburg, \$57.20; Morrisburg, \$57.30; Iroquois, \$30.47; Wallace's School House, \$4; Dixon's Corners, \$4.40; South Mountain, \$13.73; New Ross, \$5.70; Edwardsburg \$16.64; Prescott, \$66; Brockville (Trinity Church), \$70; Osnabrock (2nd Concession), \$6.13—making an aggregate sum of \$434.70 received from sixteen congregations. The amount returned last year by the same district was in all, only \$257.08. The annual offerings of the children for the Missionary Diocese of Algoma are embraced in the above figures, and amount this year to \$84.85 from six Sunday Schools, against \$64.50 from five in 1875. Undoubtedly if the same success as that enjoyed by Deputation No. 12 attend the labors of the other sixteen Deputations (and some of them we learn have already reported a large increase upon last year's returns) the \$10,000 required for the missionary operations of the year will be raised.