

The Canadian Independent.

"ONE IS YOUR MASTER, EVEN CHRIST, AND ALL YE ARE BRETHEREN."

Vol. 25.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, March 20, 1879.

New Series. No. 11.

THE CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.

Published by the Congregational Publishing Company

REV. W. MANCHER, *Managing Editor.*

REV. JOHN WOOD,

" R. W. WALLACE, M.A., } *Associate Editors.*

" JOSEPH GRIFFITH,

REV. J. B. SILCOX, *Business Manager.*

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

All communications for the Editorial, News of Churches, and Correspondence Columns should be addressed to the Managing Editor, the Rev. W. MANCHER, Box 204, Guelph, Ont. Any article intended for the next issue must be in his hands not later than Monday morning.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT.

All Subscriptions and advertisements should be sent to the Business Manager, Rev. J. B. Silcox, 340 Spadina Avenue, Toronto, Ont. Subscription \$1 per annum, payable in advance. Remit by Money Order, Draft, or Registered Letter. We want an active Agent in each Church. Advertising rates sent on application.

THE Duke of Connaught is safely married at last.

THE Band of Hope of the Western church will give a concert next Monday evening. It will do you good to go and hear the boys and girls.

DR. JOSEPH PARKER, of the City Temple, London, has completed a series of seventeen Sunday evening lectures on the "Christian Argument." He has now begun another series on "Preaching."

A STATE missionary was appointed a little more than a year ago to labour among the feebler churches in Maine. His labours have been very successful. Over sixty in one church have professed faith in Christ as the result of his labours.

It is now authoritatively announced that John Henry Newman is to be created cardinal at the next Consistory in Rome. This would seem to be evidence that the present Pope is far more liberal than his predecessors: for it is well known that Newman has no sympathy with Ultramontanism.

FATHER HYACINTHE still clings to his project of a Gallican Catholic Church. Whether his scheme will be successful or not, time will tell. But he has already excited opposition. The Archbishop of Paris reminds him that he is no Catholic. He says:—"The Church has cast you out from its pale."

THAT is a sad story that comes to us from Hungary. The city of Szegedin has been inundated, and over 80,000 people are said to be homeless, and multitudes have been drowned. It seems that a large portion of the suburbs of the city are below the ordinary level of the river Theiss, and the rising of that river accounts for the disaster.

ANOTHER anti-Chinese Bill is looked for from the special session of the American Congress. It is said that one will be drawn up which will evade the legal difficulties which stood in the way of the one of last session, and it is thought that President Hayes will sign it. We hope that he will sign no Bill that discriminates between people and people.

THE Ontario Assembly has adjourned *sine die*. And now for the tug of war. There is no doubt that many of the members will be busier now than they ever were during the sessions of the Legislature. It is much more important that they should win or retain office than, having office, they should do the people some real service.

I 'AN STANLEY recently delivered a lecture on "Milton," and during his discourse said that Milton's

two works, "Paradise Lost," and "Paradise Regained," covered the whole of English theology from top to bottom. It was surprising, he said, when one analyzed his own thoughts about the creation, the fall of angels, the entrance of sin into this world, how very much his thoughts, words and actions on these subjects were drawn, not from the Bible, but from Milton.

WE have received a very lengthy letter from our old friend Mr. Grist, formerly of Toronto. He gives a graphic account of the struggle that has been going on between the two "Houses" in the parliament of Victoria. We wish our brethren in that colony success in their fight for the right of the people, through their own elected representatives, to deal exclusively with all money bills. It is for the people, not the council, which corresponds to the British House of Lords, to handle this matter.

THE Massachusetts Home Mission Society has lately lost over \$80,000 through the mal-administration of its treasurer, Charles Demond. He has been investing its permanent funds without any security worthy the name, and has made misrepresentations as to the state of affairs. It seems to us that, to say the least, a great deal of responsibility for the loss lies on the executive committee. The members of that committee must have neglected their duty, or the treasurer could not have done what he did.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH, Brooklyn, recently held a fair for the benefit of its Bethel Mission, and realized some \$3,000. Every evening during the continuance of the fair a concert was given in the church. It might at first seem superfluous to say—but it is not in view of recent customs on such occasions—that no gambling or lottery of any description was resorted to. One or two simple forms of raffling were introduced, but they were promptly suppressed. We hope that all Churches will follow the example given in this respect.

OUR Australian friends in N. S. W. are also having a warm time of agitation over the great Chinese labour question. There was at the time of writing no hope of a settlement of the difficulty, and trade was almost paralyzed. Demonstrations and anti-demonstrations and subscriptions for the men who have struck against the introduction of Chinese labour are the order of the day. And, meanwhile, all the other provinces are stirred with the same difficulty. We hope our friends will deal with this question in the true spirit of the royal law, and not under the influence of mere race prejudices.

AUSTRALIAN CONGREGATIONALISM has sustained a very severe loss in the sudden death of the Rev. John Legge, of Brighton, Melbourne. He stood deservedly high in the esteem of all the churches so that his decease is universally deplored. On the day of his death a bazaar was held in connection with his church at which he was present. After tea he ruptured a blood vessel, and before midnight was with his Lord. He was a nephew of the celebrated Dr. Legge. He was thoroughly literary in his tastes, a liberal contributor to the press, and was, as well, a most devoted pastor.

APROPOS to the late conference on the second coming of our Lord is the following paragraph from the pen of Dr. Withrow:—"Some may think the Sun of Righteousness is slow in rising, but let those who believe that times are out of joint understand that they are doing dishonour to the Holy Ghost. Four-fifths of the human race now have the Bible in their own tongue. Religious toleration prevails in every civil-

ized nation. The Roman Church may never grow out of her greed of power, but the day of her despotism is over. Infidelity is no longer a masculine factor in human affairs, as it was, for instance, in the days when the Roman amphitheatre ran with the blood of the Christians. Bible study over the world is settling beyond disturbance the fundamental Christian truths. There never has been a time when the missionary spirit was more active than now. It is impossible to enumerate the occasions of special encouragement to missions. In short, as the old English preacher said: "The Lord has been coming ever since He went away."

THE "Westminster" is having a hard time of it in Scotland—orthodox Scotland! Witness this resolution by Rev. David Macrae of Greenock, at the January meeting of the Presbytery of Paisley and Greenock:—"That in regard to the ultimate penalty of sin, the Church does not commit itself to the Westminster interpretation of scripture, and requires assent to nothing in these standards that belies or is supposed to belie the character of a good, and just, and merciful God." Of course, the resolution did not pass, but the time is coming when it will pass—pass, too, in a Scotch assembly of ministers.

TALMAGE is to be tried by the Brooklyn Presbytery. The Committee to whom the case was referred brought in a report on the 10th. They find no fault with his orthodoxy, but they want the Presbytery to censure his pulpit methods. That matter, however, is laid on the shelf for the present, until the charges of falsehood and deceit be gone into. It seems that the investigation will cover considerable ground. Even his withdrawal from the "Christian at Work" is to be reviewed. Talmage is eager for the fray. He cries:—"Come on Macduff!" And more; he pitches into the Presbytery vigorously. He asserts that for a long time past it has been against him. What the end will be no one can tell.

THE Presbyterians of Manchester are about to visit from house to house for the purpose of recovering Presbyterians who have lapsed from attendance on public worship. A committee has been appointed, and the work will most likely be accomplished before July. Here is a hint for all Christian Churches. Go after those who have deserted our services. And, while about that work, would it not be well to seek all who are not regularly in connection with some congregation? Is there not talent enough in every Christian Church that can be efficiently employed in that direction? Remember the command of the Master of the feast:—"Go out into the streets and lanes of the city, into the highways and hedges outside of the city, and compel them to come in."

DR. JOSEPH PARKER, we fancy, had something to do with penning this paragraph. We find it in "The Fountain" of Feb. 26th: "The Rev. Baldwin Brown, of Brixton, continues his protest against neo-Congregationalism with great vigour, supporting himself at every point by very solid and forcible argument. The 'Christian World' of last week reported in full Mr. Brown's earnest discourse. Congregationalism was once a theocracy, now it is one of twenty other sects; once it was a rope of sand like the sea-shore, now it is a rope of hemp, which will be strained and broken in a hundred places. Officialism blinds its devotees; but, for all that, a wide-spread and angry disaffection exists where it never existed before. Mr. Brown is to give another discourse, on the Future of Independency. When the whole argument is before us, we hope to return to it."