

The Canadian Independent.

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

Vol. 25.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, Feb. 20, 1879.

New Series. No. 7.

THE CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.

Published by the Congregational Publishing Company

REV. W. MANCHEE, *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. MANCHEE, 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 Church of England is represented in China by twenty-three missionaries; the English Congregationalists by twenty-three; the Presbyterians by twenty-eight; the Wesleyan Methodists by twenty.

PROF. DAVID SWING, in a recent sermon, says: "It will never be the duty of a public speaker to keep everybody awake. He need keep awake only those whose wakefulness will ever be of any value to themselves or mankind."

AN American Methodist divine in a recent work denies God's absolute foreknowledge. He says that he embraces the doctrine that God does not absolutely know, because that doctrine alone "safeguards the doctrine of eternal punishment."

THE annual sale of pews in Plymouth Church (Mr. Beecher's) realized over \$4,000 in excess of last year's receipts. The aggregate of the premiums was \$27,978, which added to the rentals, \$12,743, makes a total revenue of \$40,721, as against \$36,904 last year.

STANLEY is returning to "The Dark Continent," this time under European auspices. It is said that King Mtesa has received the agents of the Church Missionary Society with great respect, and is desirous of entering upon diplomatic relations with England.

A MOST remarkable religious movement is transpiring in India. It somewhat resembles Mohammedanism in that it demands the abolition of all idol-worship, and the worship only of the one God. The Brahmins are already alarmed at the rapid growth of the new faith.

THE death of Bishop Bethune leaves the Toronto diocese open to the turmoil of an election. In the present excited condition of the respective High and Low Church parties in this diocese, there are all the possibilities of trouble. We hope the appointee may be a man who will be able to place Christian love above sectarian conformity.

THE Roman Catholic Archbishop of Cincinnati, Purcell, is in trouble. He has been receiving deposits of money from a large number of his flock, and it seems as if his accounts had not been kept after the most improved system of book-keeping. At any rate his liabilities far exceed his assets. He wants to resign, but the clergy want him to stay on.

TALMAGE has at last so outraged Presbyterian ideas of ministerial propriety, that he is being tried by his peers. The trial will be watched with interest by many. If we remember rightly, his Philadelphia session, years since, tried to bring him into shape. But he slipped through their hands unimproved. And

perhaps the Presbytery may not succeed any better. We shall see.

DR. HILP WORTH has resigned the pastorate of the Church of the Disciples (Congregational New York). He intends to go abroad to recruit his health. He began with this church seven years ago in Steinway Hall with a membership of twenty. He leaves them with a membership of over 800. The church has accepted his resignation and extended a call to the Rev. W. R. Davis, pastor of St. James' Methodist Church, Harlem.

THE Republican victories in France of late have significance in more respects than one. Religiously, it means a heavy blow to Roman Catholic arrogance and show, which blossomed so copiously under Napoleon and Eugene. There are now five Protestants in the Cabinet, M. Waddington, a Protestant, being leader. Besides this, Pere Hyacinthe is seeking to resuscitate his movement, and the Bible is finding a willing reception to French homes.

SUBSCRIBERS to the Toronto Prison Gate Mission are respectfully reminded that this Christian work has entered upon the second year of its existence; and looking back, upon what has been accomplished during the past twelve months, the managers can with confidence appeal to their friends and the public for further support. The funds are almost exhausted, and it is earnestly hoped, that a personal application for aid may not be necessary. Subscriptions and donations will be thankfully received by Mrs. Clarke Gamble, 22 Grange Road; Mrs. Harvie, 354 Front Street; Mrs. Laird, 232 Carlton Street, and the Rev. R. W. Greene, 182 Sherbourne Street.

THE Rev. Wm. Williams has resigned the office of Secretary of the French Canadian Missionary Society. The annual report of the Society says: "The committee regret that they have felt called upon to accept the resignation pressed upon them by their much valued general secretary, to take effect from the 1st May next. For some time he has urged upon the committee that an endeavour should be made to conduct the society's operations by a voluntary agency; and to enable the committee to act freely, he considered it his duty to tender his resignation. The committee have reluctantly concluded that it was advisable to follow his counsel." We understand that Mr. Williams intends proceeding to England.

A CORRESPONDENT of the "Examiner and Chronicle" sends that paper a "poser." A convert on his death bed desired baptism, and his pastor lifted him out of bed into the water and back again to bed. A few days later he was carried to the grave. The question of the correspondent is, Was the action of the Church in accordance with Baptist usage and the teachings of the New Testament? The editor answers substantially that he does not know, but that he couldn't think it a duty to participate in such baptism. Another extreme case is put by another correspondent. It is that of a bed-ridden woman converted who desires to be received into the Baptist Church. She can't be immersed, and the query is, is it advisable to receive her into membership on the ground of her willingness to be baptised if her health permitted? To this a negative answer is given, on the ground that the woman is as well prepared for heaven without baptism as with it.

DOCTORS DIFFER.--Dr. Pentecost, in the beginning of his revival services in Chicago, plainly told the

women that they were not to pray in public. Dr. Thomas, a warm-hearted Methodist minister of that city, contends that though their voices may be weak yet they should not be hindered, for "where the spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." The Rev. Dr. Shaw, a Church Presbyterian minister of Rochester, says women shall pray at his prayer meetings and he should like to see anybody stop them, and the women say so too. We agree with the latter. Is it not true that one of the most effective prayers recorded in the Bible was offered by a woman in public? The men on that occasion interfered, with a "send her away." But she prevailed. "O woman, great is thy faith." There are in our churches to-day, women of faith-filled hearts, and who will dare forbid such to pray in public?

It may be known to some of our readers that Dr. Justin D. Fulton, a somewhat prominent Baptist minister, of Brooklyn, N. Y., has been suspended by his Association for unbecoming language toward a brother minister, at a recent meeting of the association. Dr. Fulton has been notorious in his opposition to open communionism. He persecuted or helped to persecute Hyatt Smith and Pentecost. But it is not of Fulton that we would write now. We would point out this fact to our readers. That at the meeting of the association at which Dr. Fulton distinguished himself so signally, a paper was to have been read and it has been read since--on the subject of Infant Salvation. And the writer maintains that to believe in the salvation of all infants opens the door to Universalism. The doctrine of eternal damnation cannot be saved unless some infants are consigned to it. Who was it that said: "Logic answereth not all things?"

A CONFERENCE of leading Unitarians was held recently in Brooklyn, N. Y., and the work of their sessions is worthy of notice even in orthodox circles. Dr. James Freeman Clarke opened the conference on the 28th of January with a sermon on "The Theology of the Letter and the Theology of the Spirit." On the following day there was a serious discussion opened with a paper by Rev. A. D. Mayo, of Springfield, on "Revivals, True and False." Mr. Mayo spoke very appreciatively of Mr. Moody's work, as did also Dr. Clarke. Dr. Bellows, of New York, was less eulogistic. Dr. Clarke was specially strong on the debt which so-called Liberal Christianity owes to orthodoxy. A missionary meeting was held during the sessions. Rev. M. K. Schermerhorn, of Newport, spoke in Methodist style of more consecration and of laying all on the altar of Christ. There is a great deal of Evangelistic sentiment and fervour in the conservative wing of the Unitarian denomination in the United States.

SOME of those modern philanthropists, whose benevolence and unscrupulousness are perhaps equally prominent, recently set on foot a great lottery scheme for the relief of the ruined shareholders of the City of Glasgow Bank. The error was pointed out from the pulpit and in the press; and great was the indignation in some quarters against those obstructionists who objected to the doing of evil that good might come. The promoters of the scheme felt themselves so hardly pressed by the opposition that they bethought themselves of making sure of their legal standing, and for that purpose they consulted the Crown Agent. The reply of that functionary convinced them that, in the eye of the law, their scheme was in no way different from a common lottery, and as such illegal; so the wonderful scheme was reluctantly abandoned. Moral: The moral law is infinitely better than the civil law, but for all that, the civil law is sometimes exceedingly useful.