

judgment, and urge to repentance, faith, duty and holiness of heart."

Our readers will be glad to know that work has been commenced on the buildings to be erected in the Queen's Park, Toronto, for the federated Victoria College, the cost of which will not be less than \$180,000. The daily *Globe* in one of its recent issues contained a fine engraving of the new building, with portraits of Chancellor Burwash, Dr. Potts, Secretary of Education, and Mr. Strong, the architect.

During the past decade the communicants of the Methodist Churches throughout the world have gone up from five million to six and a quarter millions. In the United States of America for every one hundred communicants in the Protestant Episcopal Church Methodism numbers over one thousand!

ITEMS.

Archbishop Ireland, a Roman Catholic prelate in the United States, declares in the *Catholic World*, that "intemperance is doing the holy Church harm beyond the power of the pen to describe, and unless we crush it out, Catholicity can make but slow advance in America."

The Upper Canada Bible Society has decided to make a permanent fund of the late Mr. W. Gooderham's bequest of \$10,000.

Off the continents of Asia and Africa are the Islands of Japan and Madagascar. Three hundred years ago Rome's converts in Japan numbered many thousands, but Rome gave them no Bible. What became of that mission in Japan? Persecution broke out and it was annihilated. Sixty years ago Protestant missionaries planted a church in Madagascar, and gave the people the Bible. Persecution broke out as bitter as that in Japan. Was the missionary work annihilated? No! Madagascar is a Christian country to-day.

In Damascus, where thirty years ago 6,000 Christians were slaughtered with great cruelty, Christianity still flourishes. Beirut is almost a Christian city. Jerusalem itself is more Christian than Mohammedan. At

least the forms of Christian worship are more stubbornly and more consistently observed.

THE DEATH ROLL.

Rev. Alexander M'Aulay was an esteemed minister and one of the ex-Presidents of the Wesleyan Conference. He was a man greatly beloved. Through life he took an active part in Evangelistic and Home Mission services. Some regard him as the father of the "Forward Movement." Since his superannuation, in 1886, he has laboured as an evangelist both in the West Indies and South Africa. His death was sudden and unexpected. He had been fifty years in the ministry.

The Bible Christian Church has lost by death the following ministers:

Rev. John Hicks, who had been in the ministry fifty-seven years, and was the oldest minister in the Connexion.

Rev. Thomas Harris died at Tiverton, aged sixty-eight years.

Rev. J. Carter only a year ago went to China as a missionary. He was in the China Inland Mission Institute, at Gan-K'ing, studying the Chinese language, and was ill for a few days only before he passed away. He was a young man of great promise.

Rev. John McMurray, D.D., a venerable minister and a member of Nova Scotia Conference, died in December, at the ripe age of eighty. He was a candidate at the Conference of 1833, and laboured in various circuits in the Eastern Provinces and Newfoundland. For six years he was Editor and Book Steward in Halifax. For several years he was Chairman of District, also President of Conference three times. He was a member of the first General Conference and was a member of the committee which compiled the Methodist Hymn-Book. In 1875 he retired from the active work. He was a man of great energy, well read in Methodist literature, and even in his retirement laboured to the utmost of his ability to increase the efficiency of the Church he loved.