

THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

Vol. 24.

TORONTO WEDNESDAY JUNE 12th, 1895.

No. 24.

Notes of the Week.

A memorial-stone has just been placed over the grave of Dr. Jowett, the late Master of Balliol. The inscription runs as follows:

BENJAMIN JOWETT.

Born April 15, 1817—died October 1, 1893.

Master of Balliol College, 1870-1893.

"They that put their trust in Him shall understand the truth."

Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, has published what she calls "The Woman's Bible." Not satisfied with the teachings of the Word as to women, she has undertaken to amend certain passages to suit her own views. Miss Frances Willard and Lady Henry Somerset have published a card, withdrawing their sanction of the book, which had been given without having seen any part of it.

Dr. W. T. Harris, the United States Commissioner of Education, says that the general prevalence of elementary education in America is accompanied by a general neglect of secondary and higher education. While more than ninety-six per cent. of all enrolled pupils are pursuing elementary studies, less than three per cent. are in secondary or academic courses, and only one per cent. in colleges and higher schools.

The alumni of Cornell University have nominated Miss Mary Carey Thomas for one of the trustees to be elected in June. Miss Thomas was graduated from Cornell in 1877, and is now President of Bryn Mawr College for women. She was made Dean of that college when it was opened in 1885, and was elected President in 1893. "This is probably," says the *New York Sun*, "the first time in the history of any of the leading universities in this country that a woman has been named for trustee."

"The issue from foreign depots," of the London Religious Tract Society says the report, "may be safely stated at 20,000,000." The total income, including trade receipts, £134,233, subscriptions, donations, legacies, and the balance of last year, was £160,800. Out of this grants in money, paper, electrotypes, etc., have amounted to £25,963. In view of special needs that are expected to arise before long, the committee have made additional investments, the interest of which will be applied to missionary purposes.

Mr. Henry Gannett, a careful statistician, does not give support to the idea that wealth in the United States is largely held by a few. According to his estimate the total wealth of the country is thus distributed: 5 per cent. is held by millionaires, 27 per cent. by those worth from \$1,000,000 to \$100,000, 25 per cent. by people worth from \$100,000 to \$10,000, 37 per cent. by those worth from \$10,000 to \$1,000, and 6 per cent. by those holding less than \$1,000. The total wealth of the country is \$62,600,000,000, or \$1,000 for each inhabitant.

Mr. Altgeld, the Governor of Illinois, who censured President Cleveland for interfering to suppress the railway strike at Chicago last summer, is in favour of the free coinage of silver as the popular side at present in that region. In the printed lease-blanks, however, which he issues to his numerous tenants, he has stipulated that he shall be paid his rents "in standard gold coin of the U.S." Thus he secures himself against pecuniary loss in case the monetary doctrine should prevail which he preaches for the promotion of his political fortunes.

The Duke of Connaught, who presided over the annual meeting of the Army Temperance Association, expressed his satisfaction at the rapid progress of the movement, which was of great benefit to the army, and mentioned that in his command at Aldershot there were 1,286 teetotalers, or nine per cent. of the whole. The association, which includes moderate drinkers and abstainers, has a total membership of 8,641. The Duke distributed the decorations which had been bestowed by the association on soldiers who had done good service in the Temperance cause.

The life of the late Rev. Principal Cairns, D.D., of the United Presbyterian Theological Hall, Edinburgh, by the Rev. Dr. MacEwen, London, has just been published by Hodder & Stoughton. Mr. Peter Bayne says of it in the *Christian World*: "Dr. MacEwen has added another to the masterpieces of biography that enrich our English language. He had a difficult but a very noble subject and he has achieved a shining success. The book enables us to feel how priceless is the treasure of such a man as Cairns, how quickening is the radiance of faith, hope and love, which, as an epistle of Christ, 'a poem of God,' such a man casts round him as he moves through life. He did good and not evil all his days."

In a discussion in the Southern Presbyterian General Assembly on the organization of Young People's Societies on denominational lines, Rev. F. M. Woods, D.D., stated that he had had a great deal of experience with union churches, union societies, union work, and when all was accomplished the Presbyterians generally footed the bill and the others secured the churches. He added: "I favor the organization of the Westminster League. I do not advocate a spirit of sectarianism, but the spirit of Christ. Our societies for young people should be brought strictly under the associations of the Presbyterian Church. They should be denominational and when it is necessary to confer with the others, all well and good."

The judgment of Ontario is being made very fully known upon the Manitoba School Case. Presbyterian Synods have already spoken, and the General Assembly, which meets this week, will almost certainly declare against interference in the matter by the Dominion Government. The Methodist Conference, which met in Hamilton a few days ago, and the Baptist convention, which met in this city, both passed strong resolutions against interference with Manitoba. The motion proposed in the former body, indeed, went further and proposed an amendment in the Confederation Act, "so as to entirely abolish all enactments perpetuating the Separate School system in the Dominion." This is the only logical position.

The Society of Friends lately held their annual gathering in London, Eng., which has maintained an unbroken continuity since 1672. The Society in England, plus a tiny contribution from Scotland, now numbers 16,400. Normally, Friends keep up to the growth of population, which this year would have given them a gain of 130. Among their meetings is a Home Mission meeting and a Foreign Mission meeting, both large; and meetings in support of temperance, against vivisection and the opium trade, in the interest of education or of special schools, and the Friends' Provident Institution, a life assurance society. A deputation of the body has just returned from Russia, where it has preached religious liberty to the Tzar and Tzarina in a private interview and been well received. Ever since the Tzar Peter attended Friends' meetings at Deptford, the Tzars of Russia in particular have been under special oversight from the Society. It is a pity they do not do it more credit.

The Queen of Madagascar, in a late interview, is reported to have expressed herself thus in regard to their struggle with the French: "Theirs, they believed, was the holiest of human struggles—the right to live their lives in the fear of God, and in defence of their homes and native land. If needs be, they would struggle until the last man and last drop of Malagasy blood had been poured over their plains and mountains, and their name and people became but a memory." If the people as a whole are animated by the spirit of their Queen, they may be conquered, but can never be crushed—

"For freedom's battle once begun,
Bequeathed from bleeding sire to son,
Though baffled oft, shall yet be won."

At the late gathering of the Chiefs of Police of the United States and Canada, at Washington, a new office was created, that of a chaplain. Their convention was opened by prayer. D. C. Oliver, the Chief of Police at Athens, Ga., was the man chosen. "Never, from my infancy," said Chief Oliver, in speaking of this action of the Chiefs, "have I got up in the morning without asking a blessing on myself and my efforts for the day. And never have I gone to bed without asking the blessing of God on me and mine and upon my country. I esteem it a great privilege to call upon my Maker for assistance in all the affairs of life. I am glad to go on record as one who believes in God as the ruler of the police and of all government. You strike out the idea of divine guidance and this police business will be wrecked upon a rock."

The enactment of an Income Tax by the Congress of the United States, and the decision of the Supreme Court upon appeal made to it, that it is unconstitutional, have caused much discussion in the press of that country, and very various opinions are being expressed as regards the decision just given, and the court which gave it. The following are specimens:

Class legislation in this country is absolutely repugnant to the people, when in their sober senses, and the decision of the Supreme Court, in putting its foot down on the income-tax law, has not only responded to the requirements of the Constitution, but to the real opinion of the masses of the American people.—*The Dispatch (Rep.)*, St. Paul.

To-day's decision shows that the corporations and plutocrats are as securely entrenched in the Supreme Court as in the lower courts which they take such pains to control. It is a fact of solemn import.—*The Post-Dispatch (Dem.)*, St. Louis.

The right to levy and collect an income tax is an important assertion of Federal authority. The denial of that right is in the direction of weakening the central power. But the millionaire influence and power of the corporation capital of the country is more apparent in the decision than old-fashioned political principles of any kind.—*The Post (Dem.)*, Pittsburg.

The conduct of the Queen of Madagascar at this dark and threatening crisis in the history of the Island reminds us of the days of Queen Elizabeth and the Spanish Armada. To greet her and her Prime Minister and assure her of their devotion to the throne and their native land, 50,000 people are said to have gathered at the capital. The Royal Pavilion was spread, and in the centre, on a dais, sat the Queen in a Chair of State. On the sides of the canopy were devices such as these: "God shall be with us," "Glory to God," "Goodwill to the people," "Peace among men." The Queen arose, and in a clear, sweet, firm voice announced to the multitude the intention of the speaker, "though a woman, to lead them herself into the field against the enemy, and perish in battle rather than survive the ruin and slavery of her people." The enthusiasm caused by the speech of the brave woman was irrepressible, and became more glowing when the Prime Minister came to the front and, bowing to the Queen, said: "Sovereign Lady! Madagascar is not a captured land, but one which belongs to you alone. Not for two rulers is Madagascar." Would that the result might be such as it was in the case of the boasted Armada.