

will be rendered *nil* if pastors and friends will respond to our request, and write—as some friends have already done—a leading article for us, which article we shall insert editorially, with an asterisk or initial. We reap no reward, nor expect any save the consciousness of endeavouring faithfully to serve Christ through the denomination. We have no jealousies, no axe to grind, and whilst conserving our own self-respect, we again express ourselves, 'Your servants for Jesus' sake.'

CONGREGATIONAL COLLEGE OF B. N. A.

The Session of 1881-82 will be opened with the usual public service, to be held in the lecture room of Emmanuel Church, Montreal, on Wednesday, September 21st. Candidates for admission are requested to forward their applications and testimonials to me, on or before August the 15th, that time may be afforded for necessary correspondence.

My address till September 8th will be *Cacoma, Quebec.*

GEORGE CORNISH, I. L. D.,
Secretary.

CACOMA, July 12th, 1881.

"SECOND THOUGHTS ARE SOMETIMES BEST."

It cannot but strike the thoughtful mind, that nearly all Christian communities in Canada have of late displayed no small amount of irritability when dealing with questions affecting their individual welfare. Congregationalists have not been entirely free from following the contagious example.

In some instances, misdirected zeal on the part of undoubtedly good men has evoked soreness in the minds of men equally worthy.

Then again, there has been a tendency to impute motives to one another, not calculated to sustain harmonious feeling. Of all the causes, however, which have produced this irritability of feeling, none have operated so largely and widely, as the disposition to *rush into print* at every conceivable opportunity.

Not only have the various denominational journals been used for this purpose, but the secular press has also been diverted from its legitimate channel, for a similar end. Would it not oftentimes be well for those upon whom "the itch for writing" has fallen, to pause, and ask themselves:—Shall I effect any real good by my letter or editorial? Am I actuated by pure motives in this matter? Am I battling for principle? Am I doing unto others as I would they should do unto me?

It is more than possible that if such questions were fairly asked, and frankly answered, many a hasty article and letter would have been strangled in the birth, and feelings would probably not have been engendered, which when once aroused, are very difficult to allay.

H.

Correspondence.

A PASTOR TO TRAVEL.

To the Editor of the Canadian Independent.

DEAR BROTHER,—Our little church at St. Catharines is like a thrifty child, unable to stand alone. We have not much money, but if unity of spirit, showing itself in mutual forbearance and brotherly love, is a test of prosperity, we are a prosperous church. I clip the following from the *St. Catharines Journal*, and propose to hunt up our brother Silcox.

Faithfully,
W. WETHERALD.

"PLEASANT REMEMBRANCE.—Through the courtesy of Mr. James J. Hill, of the Pacific Syndicate, and General Manager

of the St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Manitoba Railway, Pastor William Wetherald, of the Congregational Church, in this city, leaves on Monday, July 18th, for a month's vacation at St. Paul and in the Canadian North-west. Many years ago Mr. Hill was Mr. Wetherald's pupil at Rockwood Academy, and in loving remembrance of the influence and training received there sends his old teacher railway passes both ways and other supplies to cover the incidentals of travel. Plainly Mr. Hill has a good memory and a large heart, and proves possession of these qualities in a most excellent way.

DR. JACKSON'S ADDRESS.

To the Editor of the Canadian Independent.

DEAR SIR,—Was not Dr. Jackson's paper, read at the Union, to be printed in pamphlet form, at ten cents? Can you answer, and favour?

I have been waiting for the issue. I want fifty copies to distribute among our young people.

A CONGREGATIONALIST.

July 15th, 1881.

News of the Churches.

YORKVILLE CONGREGATIONAL S. S. PICNIC was held on the 4th inst. at Shuffle Hill. A hearty invitation was extended to the School by Mr. John Wightman, Jr., to a lovely sequestered spot where everything was that could be desired—hills, dales, sweet shades, groves, and cosy nooks, and the running creek that supplies the village of Yorkville. The day was lovely, the scene most joyous. Over two hundred and fifty were present, dressed in holiday attire. Everything was done that contributed to happiness. Youth, cheerful old age, room to play, lots of amusements, and the good things that are to be found on picnic grounds. Groups of grandfathers, grandmothers, fathers and mothers, reclining under the grateful shade were happy spectators. Kindly visitors were heartily welcomed, among whom were Mr. Parker, Bloor St. Methodist; Mr. John Wightman, Sr., Zion; Mr. Tom Webb, Northern; Mr. Thos. Edgar, Bond St. The kindness of our host and hostess was boundless. The children's chorus is, *Long live to Wightmans on Shuffle Hill.*

TEACHER.

July 15, 1881.

EMBRIO gave their Sunday-school a picnic on July 1st. There was a good attendance and the young people enjoyed it much.

STOUFVILLE.—According to the Stouffville *Advertiser*, the Ladies' Sewing Society realized over \$80 from their bazaar held on 1st July.

BRANFORD.—The Rev. J. W. Cutler was installed as pastor of the Congregational Church, Brantford, on June 16th, the Rev. Dr. Wild, of Toronto, Rev. Mr. C'iffith, of Hamilton, and Rev. Mr. Allworth, of Paris, taking part in the services.

Sunday, July 13th, 1881.

LANARK VILLAGE.—A very successful strawberry festival, under the auspices of the ladies of the Congregational Church, was held on July 1st, the proceeds of which, after paying all expenses, amounted to over fifty dollars. The week previous a concert was also held on behalf of the Sunday-school, which resulted in adding twenty dollars to its funds. In fact, there has been a general advance in every department of finance, for the Church has not only given up the missionary grant and become self-supporting, but has also contributed more liberally than ever to the College Missionary Society, Indian Mission, and other objects; while there has also been fifteen added to the Church during the past nine months,

with other cheering indications of enlarged spiritual life. To God be all the glory. Amen.

LITERARY NOTES.

The Sunday-school lessons for the next six months go back into the Old Testament, taking up the history of the chosen people just at the most interesting period when they passed from being a race of slaves to a nation of free men. About the best help obtainable in getting a full and clear conception of this period and the events touched upon is to be found in *The National Sunday-School Teacher*. Its treatment of the lesson is full, complete—satisfactory. It leaves nothing to be desired—condensing a wonderful amount of matter into small compass, and giving the results of the latest Christian scholarship. Begin with the July number. Chicago: Adams, Blackmer & Lyon Publishing Co., 54 and 56 Franklin St.

BENGOUGH, MOORE, & Co. have issued the first number of the *British American Workman*. Of course a first number cannot be taken as a criterion of what a paper is to be, yet if the succeeding numbers are equal to this it will fill a valuable place in the literature for distribution. We imagine that it will be specially welcome in many of our Sunday-schools. It is principally filled with sketches, all of which are readable and of a character calculated to do good. The illustrations are good but want better working—we are accustomed in these days of superb wood-cuts to see the lights and shades well brought out by very careful preparation for the press, that the ordinary style of newspaper cut is unsatisfactory. However, as we said before, this is a first number, and no doubt improvements will appear as the work goes on. We very heartily wish it success.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE.—The numbers of *The Living Age* dated June 18th and June 25th, contain articles on *The Sword, Blackwood*; *Autobiography of an Agnostic*, and *A Lancashire Poet's Corner, Fraser*; *A Dialogue on Poetic Morality, Contemporary*; the "Silver Streak," by Admiral Lord Dunsany, and George Eliot, *Nineteenth Century*; *Statius, Fortnightly*; *Spring Wanderings, Cornhill*; *The Revised New Testament, Spectator*; *Refugees, St. James's Gazette*; with an instalment of "The Frere's," by Mrs. ALEXANDER, "A French Speculation," and "Molly: a Sketch in Three Tones," and the usual amount of poetry.

Also the Title and Index to Volume CXLIX.

A new volume begins with the next number, making this a good time to subscribe.

HEART AND VOICE.—John Church & Co. Cincinnati, O.: Copp Clark & Co. Toronto. A new candidate for Sunday-school favour. We feel like quietly protesting against so much change in our Sunday-school song, but we know our protest would go for nothing, therefore, accepting the inevitable, we seek only to discriminate in the choice of new books. This book from a hasty glance we commend to the notice of Sunday-schools seeking change, or a pleasing and sensible collection. It is edited by Mr. W. F. Sherwin, who is also a contributor. Mr. Sherwin is known and well known as a specialist in this department, the pieces marked W. F. S. are not the least beautiful in the collection, and his name is a guarantee that the book as a whole is Evangelical, suitable for the School, and full of beauty.

THE OATH KEEPER OF FORANO, by the American Sunday-school Union of Philadelphia. This volume, like to the one last noticed in these columns, "Through the writer," is a well-printed and handsome volume, and also worthy of a place on the shelves of our Sunday-school libraries. The story is historically true "giving a picture of struggles and sufferings on the part of the Vaudois Church, and presenting to the young a truthful study of Italian life, and Protestant earnestness." Its perusal may lead us to prize more highly than we are wont to do the heritage of freedom we have received from our fathers.

THE PERSIAN QUEEN and other pictures, by Rev. E. P. Thwing being No. 65 of the Standard Series (octavo) of I. K. Funk & Co. is a profitable volume of Sunday reading and Bible pictures. The character of the series is well-sustained in the last volume, and that is saying much for its character.

SECRET OF A TRUE LIFE

Dr. Arnold, of Rugby, gives in one of his letters an account of a saintly sister. For twenty years, through some disease, she was confined to a kind of crib, never once could she change her posture for all that time "And yet," says Dr. Arnold, and I think his words are beautiful, "I never saw a more perfect instance of the spirit of power and love, and of a sound mind. Intense love, almost to the annihilation of selfishness; a daily martyrdom for twenty years during which she adhered to her early formed resolution of never talking about herself; thoughtful about the very pins and ribbons of my wife's dress, about the making of a doll's cap for a child; but of herself, save as regarded her improving in all goodness, wholly thoughtless. enjoying every thing lovely, graceful, beautiful, high-minded, whether in God's works or man's, with the keenest relish; inheriting the earth to the very fullness of the promise and preserved through the very valley of the shadow of death from all fear of impaired reason which might mar the beauty of Christ's glorious works. May God grant that I might come but within one hundred degrees of her place in glory!"

—From the last published reports of the Winnipeg Young Men's Christian Association we learn that though the Association was only organized about two years ago it is in full and active operation. There are free reading-rooms in Mackay's block, Main street, to the use of which all are welcome, while the immigrant sheds are regularly visited and all possible help given to new comers in the way of seeking employment for them and directing them to respectable lodging places, etc. When so many young men are turning their steps to the North West we advise all to take advantage of the kind services of the Young Men's Christian Association in Winnipeg, and let those who do not need help themselves try to assist those who do. A kind word and helping hand are mighty factors for good everywhere. If every professing Christian who goes to the North West were doing his best in this respect, what a grand result there would be for good.

—Dr. Cuyler writes from Jerusalem to the *New York Evangelist*: "New ideas are working into Palestine. A new city is going up on the west side of Jerusalem, outside of the gates. Along the turnpike to Jaffa runs the telegraph wire, and on the plain of Sharon stands the large Jewish Agricultural College, surrounded by a model farm and thrifty nurseries. Bethlehem is a thriving town—largely it is nominally Christian—and it carries on extensive manufactures in mother-of-pearl. The Bethlehemites brought back from our Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia about \$70,000 as the net profit of the sale of their beautiful wares. If Palestine were only delivered from the tyranny of the Sultan, or were ruled by such a man as the Pasha Rouff (the Governor of Jerusalem), it would rise rapidly into a new era of economic progress. The Sultan's touch and tread are death."

—Dr. Knox, of Belfast, is credited in his address before the Presbyterian Council with the following which is too good to be lost: A member of the Church was seeking the office of elder. On being asked: "Could you, being an elder, conduct a prayer-meeting?" "No, I am not qualified for that," he said. "Well, you could at least teach a class in Sabbath-school?" "No, sir; I have no aptitude for giving instruction to the young." "But you could go and visit some of the sick?" "No, sir; that is just the thing I am not fitted for." "Well, what could you do?" To which general question he replied: "I think I could, if a matter were brought up for determination, manage to raise an objection."