

CONTEMPORARY CHURCH OPINION.

The North Dakota Churchman :

A British paper thinks that in the matter of divorces Canada presents a remarkable and gratifying contrast to the United States, and points to the fact that from 1867 to 1886 there were in the Dominion only 116 cases of divorce, while in this country during the same period the divorces numbered 328,613. This may be due to the difficulty with which divorces are procured in Canada, where a special Act of Parliament is necessary in each case; but it is also doubtless to a great extent a consequence of the profound regret for the sanctity of the marriage relation which prevails among our Northern neighbors, who have not strayed from the teachings of Scripture upon the subject.

The same paper says as to Bigotry:

Christians are often accused of being bigoted and narrow-minded. Are they more so than non-believers and atheists? We think not.

M. Biffel the 'tower builder' was for a time a 'lion' with the Parisians of all 'persuasions.' Lately the radical and infidel papers are 'down on' him, indeed seem to lose no opportunity 'to vilify him and his tower.' The secret of this attitude is found in the fact that in a recent address to some students, he declared himself a Christian, and urged them not to neglect the habit of prayer, 'nor ever to forget God or their country.'

This was too much for the 'liberal minded gentlemen.'

M. Pasteur the medical scientist was honored by having a street named after him in a French town.

He shocked the municipal council of said town not long since, by recommending publicly. 'The praise of Almighty God.' A scientist who believed in God was not worthy of the honor, and the name of the street has been changed.

DIVIDENDS IN PHILANTHROPY.

Sir W. Mackinnon and the other directors of the Imperial East African Company are making great progress in providing for law and order, and the development of communications in the extensive regions entrusted to them. A telegraph from Zanzibar to Mombasa, and thence northward along the coast, and preparations to carry it to the Victoria Nyanza; a fortified station at Machakos, 260 miles in the interior; material for the beginning of a railway to the interior landed, a tram-line across the island of Mombasa; a new coinage, postage stamps, etc., and the liberation of over 4,000 slaves—these are some of the substantial signs of progress, and the outlay for them is so great that we are not surprised to learn that the shareholders of the company at present "take out their dividends in philanthropy."

The English Church Missionary Society, which was the first to

begin labors in these regions, is fully awake to the present urgency of their claims. The *Intelligencer* of the society says: "The other day, with infinite pomp and circumstance, with a grand ceremonial in the cathedral at Algiers, Cardinal Lavignerie sent forth twenty priests and lay-brothers for Uganda alone. We do not want pomp and ceremonial, but we want the twenty men; and we want that number fresh and additional every year, if the new British territories in equatorial Africa are to be occupied."—*Mission Field*.

By taking revenge a man is but even with his enemy, but in passing it over he is superior.

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