

Dominion Churchman.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1877.

THE PHOTOGRAPH OF THE HOUSE OF BISHOPS.

WE are gratified to announce that our Premium Photograph, as we anticipated, is giving universal satisfaction to those who have seen it. It has been subscribed for to a considerable extent, and we would remind our readers of the desirableness of bringing the subject before their friends and acquaintances. Those who have not subscribed for it should do so at once, as we feel assured that all churchmen will be proud to possess so valuable a memento of the late meeting of the Provincial Synod. Our subscribers by paying up to the end of 1877 and remitting \$2.50 for 1878 will be entitled to the photograph. Those who have already paid for a part of the year 1878 will have to pay for the remainder of that year and fifty cents additional. All new subscribers, by sending us \$2.50 at once will receive the photograph and also the DOMINION CHURCHMAN for one year. The price of the Photograph, if ordered alone, is \$2.00.

The following are extracts from notices of the Photograph given by the press:—

"Mr. Notman, of Montreal, has produced a very fine photograph of the House of Bishops. The figures are nine in number and full size. The likenesses are perfect. . . . The picture will ere long adorn many a Canadian home."—*Mail.*

"A most excellent photograph of the House of Bishops. . . . As a work of Art it is perfect. The grouping is excellent and the likenesses speaking. . . . Such a memorial of the late Assembly ought to be highly prized by the Episcopals in this Dominion."—*Leader.*

"An excellent photograph. . . . The likenesses are good, and the grouping well done. The photograph cannot but prove to those who secure it an interesting memorial of the meeting of the Metropolitan Assembly."—*Globe.*

THE WEEK.

SOME of our contemporaries are much exercised over the question of the amount of knowledge possessed by the Old Testament saints on the subject of immortality. Some contending that they were in profound ignorance of a future state, that the doctrine of the immortality of the soul is not taught in that portion of the Scriptures, and that consequently the Jewish people were altogether without a hope in connection with the hereafter. To aid in settling the controversy, the shade of Confucius has been invoked; although what intercourse he carried on with Moses does not at present appear, the subject not having been hinted at either by Jewish or Chinese historians. It has however been very properly remarked that it would be strange if Moses, who was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, should not have known as much on such a subject as the Egyptians evidently did. The instance referred to by our Saviour where Jehovah is called the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, is adduced by Him to show that the doctrine of immortality was

involved in that expression. It is difficult also to understand what possible sanction could be supposed connected with such prohibitions as that contained in the tenth commandment if the retributions of the future life were not held as an article of belief by the lawgiver. The laws against necromancy or invocation of the departed also point in the same direction, as well as the name so often given by the Old Testament writers to the kingdom of the dead; and all such statements as: "I know that my Redeemer liveth;" "Many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake;" "Thy dead men shall live;" &c.

The amount of actual legislation attained by the Convention of the Church in the United States does not appear to have been very considerable. Perhaps on the whole so much the better. We do not believe much good is secured by incessantly tinkering with the constitution of any branch of the Church. As a general rule the details of practical Church work are of far more consequence, and their consideration will result in a much greater extent of benefit to the body. It is remarked that no stormy scenes of party strife have been witnessed in the Convention. On some points there has been an agreement to differ. The question of an alteration in the name does not appear to have met with much favor. It seems to have been thought that the essential character of the body is of far more consequence than the name, however inappropriate, adventitious, and meaningless that name may be. The different parts of the compound name of the organization as at present existing are regarded as rather contradictory. The House of Bishops, however, decidedly opposed any alteration, and the general feeling in the House of Deputies was also expressed in the same direction. A vote by dioceses and orders was called for. It resulted in three votes only, out of more than two hundred, that were in favor of changing the name. The attention of the Convention appears to have been more thoroughly directed to the Missionary work of the Church, Sunday School work, lay reading, and the care of the laboring classes. The duty of the Church to Society has been admirably discussed and some valuable resolutions have been arrived at upon it. Three new dioceses, Quincy, Springfield, and West Virginia, have been formed. An amendment to the Constitution, authorizing Missionary jurisdiction within the limits of established dioceses, passed the House of Deputies, but was not ratified by the House of Bishops. The Bishops state that they approve of the means sought to be attained, but they consider the present provisions of the constitution sufficient for the purpose. Long debates have taken place in the House of Deputies in reference to shortened forms of Morning and Evening Prayer, but the attempt to secure them failed of success. Nothing seems to have been determined on, although the general

feeling appeared to be that it might be desirable to have short services on week days and in places where the ordinary services cannot be held.

Considerable political significance has been attached to the assertion as to the unsuitableness of the mouth of the Kaministiquia as a harbor of refuge, and the impossibility of its being navigated by large craft. In reply to this allegation, it is now stated that the *Ontario*, which is the largest propellor afloat on the Lakes, went up the river a few days ago, at night, and fully laden. It is understood that no further proof is needed as to the propriety of the selection for the purpose intended. It must however be stated that this account has been disputed.

The late Indian treaty is one of considerable importance to the Dominion, from the fact that we all are very deeply interested in the treatment the aborigines receive from the government, as well as more or less responsible for it. The treaty to which we refer finally extinguished the Indian title to lands in that portion of the country required for settlement, and made permanent arrangements for maintaining the Indians, apportioning a reserve for them, to which they will have undisputed right in perpetuity. It is not necessary to go into all the details of the treaty in order to excite that amount of attention to it which the interests of the country require. The terms of it appear to be identical with those of Treaty No. 4, concluded Sept. 13, 1874, at the Qu' Appelle Lakes, by Commissioners Laird, Morris and Christie, and with the terms of Treaty No. 3, made with the Salteaux of Ojibway by Commissioners Morris, Provencher and Dawson. In return for the lands to which the Indian title is extinguished, the government agrees to set aside reserves for each band, giving to each family of five persons one square mile of land. In addition, each chief is to receive a present of twenty-five dollars in cash, a uniform, and a Queen's medal in silver. Other head men under each chief receive proportionate sums. Presents of miscellaneous articles are also to be made, and after the first year regular annual payments are to be made. Other arrangements are also entered into in order to encourage agricultural pursuits and the arts of civilization, such as gifts of seed grain, cattle, and carpenter's tools. Pledges are also to be given in reference to the maintenance of the laws and bringing to justice any Indians guilty of violating them. Every new treaty of this kind should be carefully drawn up and all precaution should be exercised in order to secure its faithful observance on both sides. The permanent prosperity of the Dominion depends upon it far more than some people seem to imagine.

The Commission appointed at Washington to confer with Sitting Bull has held its con-

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