

THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

VOL. 11.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, MAY 23rd, 1883.

No. 21.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

A CORRESPONDENT of the "Advance" says there are nearly one thousand members of Protestant churches in Rome who are converts from Romanism. These represent a much larger Protestant population, and are the results of ten years of missionary labour.

THE census of 1880 gives New York a population of 1,206,299, of which 727,629 are natives of the United States, and 478,670 were foreign born. This large proportion of foreigners, says a contemporary, accounts for the rule of rum and Romanism in that city.

THE pope has made a protest against the proposed establishment of civil marriage in Spain. The Premier, Señor Sagasta, in reply, informs the papal Nuncio that the project will not be pressed in parliament this year, and that when it is brought forward it will be a more modified form than in France and Italy.

THOSE interested in the liquor trade have shown marked earnestness in their efforts to get the pending License Bill made as favourable to their ideas as possible. Influential deputations from Toronto and Montreal have watched the progress of the measure with unflinching attention. They have urged their objections against those provisions that favour local option. The early closing of bars on Saturday evening also meets with strong opposition from the guardians of—well, "Trade Benevolence."

THE death of Warren Rock, Q.C., London, was sudden and unexpected. He was in Toronto two or three days before he died. He attended St. Andrew's Church, London, on Sabbath week, and early on Monday morning he was suddenly called away. Heart disease was the cause of death. Mr. Rock was a successful barrister, an active promoter of the temperance cause, and ever ready to take a part in religious work. He was a consistent member of St. Andrew's Church, with which he connected himself on taking up his residence in London.

BERTHA M. KING came over from England, where she has a great reputation as a spiritualist, and advertised in Boston an exhibition of her power to produce ghosts. Horticultural Hall was crowded, and a number of materialized spirits had appeared, when the committee whom the audience had chosen to see that all was honest insisted suddenly upon opening the cabinet. The manager protested that Mrs. King might be injured by a premature rousing from her trance, but they forced the door and caught her coming up through a secret trap, costumed for the next apparition.

AN old English Church clergyman, the Rev. John Russell, of Black Torrington, died recently in his eighty-eighth year. He was a famous man in his day. His death has called forth warm eulogies. These, however, are not found in Church papers, but in the organs of the sporting world. Mr. Russell's attainments in theology are not stated; he was considered rather as one of the best authorities on fox-hunting and kindred matters. He was the last representative of an extinct race—the sporting parson—once familiar in the good old days which tearful regrets will not bring again.

THERE are comparatively few business men in our cities who know the pleasures of early rising. This is the period of the year to enjoy a surprise by getting up in time to see the sun rise and turn his genial face beamingly toward the just and the unjust. An early morning stroll gives a rare appetite for breakfast and a taste of fresh air that is a tonic to the mind and the body. Our population is addicted to late hours. It takes half of the night for the city to get settled for a little rest before the next day's work begins. Earlier hours for retiring would transform the throng into well-braced, spirited, healthy human beings. The

mind is clearer in the early morning hours, the muscle is firmer, and the nerve is stronger, and that is why the world remembers Poor Richard's "Early to bed and early to rise."

COLUMBIA COLLEGE having given her graduates a chance to subscribe generously to the funds of the institution, Princeton now comes to the front with an appeal to her alumni for aid in establishing the School of Philosophy on a proper basis. It must not be doubted that the Princeton men will promptly be ready with a generous response. They now have a chance not only to help the college in its new departure, but an opportunity to show gracefully how highly they appreciate the faithful and able services of Dr. McCosh—for the advancement of the School of Philosophy is what the President of Princeton has set his heart upon. The amount asked is not large—only \$60,000. If the alumni raise it, other friends of Princeton stand ready to double the amount.

SPRING has visited us at last. The buds are bursting, the mornings are musical with the songs of birds. The olive-complexioned Italian, with his organ and monkey, is abroad in the land. The tramp is also yielding to the fervent persuasions of the season to leave his seclusion and come forth to add picturesque interest to the vernal scene, and give a new zest to life. To put it mildly, however, the tramp is an unmitigated nuisance. It is about time he were suppressed. The abatement of the tramp plague is easy of accomplishment. Let him work or want. Work he hates, but if it must be he will fall into the industrial ranks, not very cordially, but work he must. Indiscriminate almsgiving by soft-hearted and not too hard-headed householders to sturdy vagrants has much to answer for in maintaining the tramp guild. They are vengeful it is true, but it has not come to this yet that honest Canadians are to succumb to terrorizing tramps. One of the fraternity celebrated the advent of spring by stabbing a telegraph operator at Cornwall last week.

THE effort to establish an industrial school and farm, mooted some time since, has not been abandoned. The parties interesting themselves in the undertaking are sufficiently energetic to secure if possible its establishment. Last week a deputation of gentlemen interested in philanthropy and education waited on the Premier of Ontario to urge the claims of their scheme for the reclamation of a large class certain if neglected to swell the dangerous element of the city population. The plan proposed has strong recommendations. It is cheaper to make viciously inclined children work for a living than to permit them to grow into hardened criminals. It would give them a chance to enter on the path of honest industry. Where these efforts at industrial training have been made they have been attended by the most encouraging results. There is no reason in the world for believing that what has been an eminent success in London and New York would be a failure in Toronto or any other Canadian city. The municipality of Toronto has placed the old House of Refuge and eighty acres of land at the disposal of the promoters of this praiseworthy enterprise.

THE eighth annual meeting of the Toronto Women's Temperance Union was held last week in Jarvis Street Baptist Church. The chair was occupied by Mr. S. H. Blake, Q.C. Rev. Mr. Antliff, after reading the report, made an admirably practical address; and the chairman concluded a characteristic speech, as follows: If they wished their association to become powerful they must concentrate it. There were a great many temperance organizations and there was a great deal of work to be accomplished. His advice was to concentrate upon some one matter, and at the next annual meeting they would see how much they had done. Liquor sellers, he thought, were not comfortable. He instanced a case where a man in Toronto had been spoken to by a clergyman regarding his being a liquor seller, who when he had had explained to him the evil results of his work, could

not rest till he had retired from the business. In his opinion a great deal could be done by moral suasion and by speaking to the people in a kind, Christian spirit and showing them what they were doing to the bodies and souls of their fellow creatures. He believed it was impossible to regulate the liquor traffic and would like to go in for prohibition.

PRESIDENT ELIOT, of Harvard College, in a speech before the Rhode Island Harvard Club last week said that it is quite evident that, whatever has been accomplished by even the highest seat of learning in the country, there is yet no institution that comes anywhere near our ideal of what a university, in the proper sense of the word, ought to be. We have made very great progress during the past twenty-five years, but we have nothing like the great universities of Vienna, Leipsic, Berlin, or even Strasburg, not to speak of Oxford and Cambridge in England. Ezra Cornell, himself not a liberally educated man, gave one of the best definitions of a university when he said that he would found an institution where anybody could learn anything. On the side of teaching, we have not half enough teachers. At Harvard more is thought than ever of the importance of producing effect on character, of training men to respect themselves and rely on themselves. It used to be said that the college stood the student *in loco parentis*. The speaker did not accept this theory, inasmuch as there are various kinds of parents, and it was impossible from the very nature of the case that any college instructor would take the exact place of any, even the best parent.

WEEKLY HEALTH BULLETIN.—There have been extremes of heat and cold, and extremes in humidity last week. Hence Bronchitis still maintains a high degree of prevalence, having again risen to over 10 per cent. of the total diseases reported. Influenza, however, has slightly decreased, while Neuralgia and Rheumatism have maintained their previous position. Anæmia has exactly the same degree of prevalence as last week, but it has been preceded by Intermittent Fever, which has taken a great step in advance. Amongst the Fevers, Intermittent shows not only a persistency, but a marked tendency, to spread, since it has appeared this week in two other Districts, in addition to the three where it is endemic. As will be seen, the degree of prevalence corresponds with the area, since it amounts this week to 9 per cent. of all diseases. Fever Typho-Malarial has again made its appearance after a long period of quiescence. Amongst Zymotic diseases much the same conditions prevail as during last week. While almost every form prevails in some one District, yet the changes in prevalence are considerable. For instance, Measles has markedly decreased, falling from 7.1 to 4.2 per cent. Diarrhoea and Mumps maintain their previous prevalence, but Whooping Cough, and especially Diphtheria, show an increase. From various quarters comes the ominous sound of an increase in Diphtheria. One correspondent reports its extreme prevalence amongst the children of one school, the surroundings of which and the utter disregard of the provisions of the School Law, by which those exposed to it are required to present to the teacher certificates of health from a physician, may be stated to be the direct causes of its prevalence and extension. It may be well to call the attention of teachers everywhere to the clause of the School Regulations (Chapter XI., Part IV.) which makes it imperative for the teacher of any school, in which cases of contagious diseases have occurred, to prevent scholars affected with, or exposed to, any such disease from attending school until such time as he shall have been informed by a physician's certificate of the recovery of the same. Consumption, Pneumonia and Pleurisy maintain their previous position. Erysipelas does the same, while Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis has apparently increased in District III, Muskoka and Parry Sound. The week's record shows a very considerable variety in the prevalent diseases of the various Districts, there being, as noticed above, nineteen diseases which have appeared at least once in some one District.