

# THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

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JUST OUT:

## The "Presbyterian Year Book,"

EDITED BY REV. JAMES CAMERON.

This valuable ANNUAL for 1881 is unusually full of excellent and suggestive reading. The paper, by the Editor, on the proceedings of the Presbyterian Council at Philadelphia, occupying forty pages, is worth the price of the book; while the general articles are exceedingly complete and interesting.

The N. Y. "Independent," in noticing the volume for 1879, says: "It is one of the best ecclesiastical Annuals published in THE WORLD."

The present issue is better than any previous one; and every office-bearer, at least, should have a copy.

Mailed free on receipt of twenty-five cents.

C. BLACKETT ROBINSON,  
PUBLISHER,  
5 JORDAN STREET, TORONTO.

## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

ONE church in Lagos, Western Africa, has contributed during the past three years £3,412 for church purposes.

LIVERPOOL has now forty-one cocoa-rooms; a dividend of 10 per cent. on the business of last year has been declared.

FOUR missionaries have sailed from England for the Congo, West Africa, to reinforce the Livingstone (or Congo) Inland Mission. This new expedition took with them a steam launch for the navigation of the lower river, and a seven-roomed house, in sections, to be erected as a depot and mission station at Banana, at the mouth of the Congo.

MR. STANHOPE has introduced into the British Parliament a Bill to remedy the abuses of church patronage. The Bill provides that all exchanges and resignations of benefices, for which a pecuniary consideration is given, must be first approved by the bishop of the diocese, who shall, under his own hand, state all the terms and considerations of the transaction.

A ROYAL Commission to inquire into ritual and jurisdiction in the Church of England is appointed, and the "Rock" has sounded the note of warning. It fears that the Low Church and Evangelical party will not be sufficiently represented on it, but be monopolized by High and Broad. Dean Stanley will have a seat, and so will Canon Liddon. Such a Commission is superfluous, and will result in nothing.

THE "Tablet," the English Roman Catholic organ, while expressing thankfulness for the good work done for Rome by the Ritualists, adds significantly: "But while, as we thus frankly own, our sympathies are with them, we as frankly confess our judgment is against them. It seems to us contrary to common sense to maintain that they have any just cause of complaint if the law is invoked to prevent them from revolutionizing the services of the Protestant Church of this country, as by law established." After stating that there must be some standard of doctrine or worship in every communion, and some constituted authority to test it, it proceeds: "That authority, exercised according to the law which is binding on every subject of the realm, has interpreted the Anglican formularies against the Ritualists. What have they to complain of?"

IT gives us pleasure to learn that Mrs. Mackay, of Windsor, Ont., has intimated her intention of giving another noble gift to our Foreign Missions. It will be remembered that some time ago this lady gave, in two donations, the sum of \$1,700, to erect a permanent building in connection with the Formosa mission, as a memorial of her husband. This sum was applied

towards the erection of the hospital at Tamsui, which was opened last year, and which is now known as "The Mackay Hospital," in memory of its origin. The building, however, cost nearly \$3,000, and we are glad to learn that Mrs. Mackay has written to Rev. Dr. G. L. Mackay, intimating her intention of giving the remaining \$1,300 which were required to complete the hospital. The entire \$3,000 therefore spent in the erection of this hospital, will be due to the large-hearted liberality of this Christian lady. It is not often we have the satisfaction of recording such gifts. We trust Mrs. Mackay's example will stimulate others to devise liberal things.

IN the last number of the "Contemporary Review" Rev. J. H. Hopkins, of Williamsport, Pa., urges upon the English Church to give to "the laity in England the same position which they enjoy in the Church (Episcopal) in America." And with more force than politeness he ridicules those in America, who are striving to assimilate this American Church to the Established Church of England. "We have American stupids (bishops included) who, while abroad among you, talk of the superior advantages" (Heaven save the mark!) of a "union of Church and State;" and some of our dignitaries bring back with them strings and rosettes in their hats, and braided coats, aprons, and leggings, and even call each other 'My Lord' on the sly, in a semi-jocular way, when no dangerous ears are within reach. "We have a natural genius for making church blunders over here, and we have not done with it yet." Dr. Hopkins doubtless knows of what he affirms.

THE Nonconformists of England have had a legal case lately decided in the High Court of Judicature, which has been of special interest to them, and which has been noticed with abundant comment by the great secular journals. Huddersfield Chapel was held by trustees under a trust deed which required that the officiating minister should hold certain doctrines, and as it was in evidence that the present occupant of the pulpit did not hold them, the Vice-Chancellor decreed that he could not use that chapel in which to preach his faith. The particular doctrines which he refused to preach are not all given, but it is said that he did not believe in universal depravity nor in eternal punishment. The judge in the Vice-Chancellor's Court dealt with the case as simply a case of "hard law." He did not pass on the policy of the Church or on the wisdom of the provisions of the trust deed; he interpreted the terms of the contract and applied them. So the chapel property went to the minority, who held the doctrines named in the trust deed, and the preacher and his supporters lost their case.

CONCERNING the copyright of the revised Scriptures the London "Pall Mall Gazette" says: "The Universities of Oxford and Cambridge appear to be looking very sharply after their copyright interest in the Revised New Testament which is about to be published. The 'Record' recently printed a summary of the points of difference between the revised and the authorized versions; and the 'Christian World,' like the majority of the newspapers of the United Kingdom, religious and non-religious, borrowed more or less freely from the 'Record' article, or from articles derived from that source. The solicitors to the Universities pronounce the summary to be an infringement of the copyright of the Universities, and have demanded an apology from the offenders for anticipating the publication of the volume. In a copyright of this peculiar nature such proceedings seem to be a little out of place. From the point of view of pecuniary interest the printing of a summary is in reality so valuable an advertisement that the solicitors to the Universities must have acted in this matter out of excess of professional zeal without consulting their principals."

THE journals which have least sympathy with the total abstinence movement are compelled to take notice of the vigorous advance which is just now taking

place along the lines of the temperance reformation. The New York "Herald" says: "The total abstinence advocates all over the country are just now vigorously at work pressing their pet theories, and, strange to say, they are meeting with a fair degree of success in fields which seemed to be the most unpromising and unproductive. Away down in Texas, for instance, where the opportunities for moral reform and regeneration are almost unlimited, the State constitution has been amended by an immense majority, prohibiting through all time the manufacture or sale of alcohol except for the most innocent purposes; all that is required to give it effect is the passage of a few trifling statutes. Petitions are pouring in upon the wise men of the Indiana Legislature asking them to engage vigorously in the anti-whiskey campaign, and bills on the same subject are falling thick as snow-flakes in the Pennsylvania Assembly. The temperance fever has again broken out in Ohio, while Iowa is moving in the direction of enforcing the prohibitory clause of her constitution, which has been a dead letter for a quarter of a century."

THE Waldensian Church reports that progress has been made in all departments the past year. Matteo Prochet writes of changes in public opinion as follows: "At Pignerol, at the very gates of the Vaudois Valleys, clerical agitation, which has for its centre the pulpit of the Catholic cathedral, has had the effect of bringing hundreds of hearers to the meetings of our evangelist and to the funeral services conducted by him in the cemetery. All honour to the authorities who have done away with the distinction between a Protestant and a Catholic cemetery! The good example which they have given in this matter has greatly contributed to remove the prejudices of the middle class of society. At Susa the gross attacks of the Canon Peinetti have also served to bring us a number of hearers. At Aosta the front of our chapel, decorated with the inscription *Capella Evangelica* and the escutcheon of the Vaudois Church, is set exactly opposite and in contrast to the famous fountain erected in memory of the flight of Calvin. At Ivrea a pastoral diatribe of the bishop, directed expressly against the evangelicals, has called forth on the part of our evangelist a pamphlet, 800 copies of which have been sold. At Favale (Liguria), where itinerant evangelization is pursued with success, many thousands of copies of the most beautiful of our hymns have been bought up, and may be heard sung in stables, houses, schools, in the fields, and even in certain Catholic churches."

DR. SOMMERVILLE, the venerable evangelist and minister at large of the Free Church of Scotland, continues to meet with marked success in Berlin, the great capital of Germany. In addition to meetings in smaller halls, he has recently held five services in the Reichshallen, which we find thus described in the March "Record": "At the first of these meetings 2,000 persons were present; and after the address, which was listened to with the utmost quiet and reverence, 1,400 'Gospels' were given away. At the second meeting the interest had deepened, and 2,500 attended, among whom a large proportion were young men from the Government offices and elsewhere, a fair representation of the Jewish community being also observed. At the third meeting the attendance reached 3,000. The fourth was a children's meeting, largely attended, 2,200 children and 1,000 adults being gathered together. At the fifth 3,500 were present, and as they overcrowded the hall several hundreds failed to obtain admission. The representation of all classes of the community, from the nobility to the poorest citizens, has been a singularly affecting characteristic of these remarkable meetings; and at the fifth and final meeting a spirit of earnestness and solemnity prevailed in a marked degree. The Rev. Dr. Wangemann, whom many will remember at the Presbyterian Council in 1877, gave a hearty farewell address, grasping the hand of Dr. Sommerville, and giving loving expression to the universal feeling of gratitude and respect."