

THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

VOL. 11.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30th, 1883.

No. 25.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE presence in the General Assembly and the cordial words spoken by the Bishop of Huron were received by the members with the utmost cordiality. The spirit of liberality is growing.

THE Bible Christian Conference, at its meeting in Exeter, after an animated discussion, adopted the basis of Union. Fifty-four voted in favour of the basis; sixteen pronounced against it, and eleven declined to vote. This is another indication in favour of the speedy accomplishment of the movement decidedly popular in all sections of the Methodist Church in Canada.

THE REV. H. R. HAWES, the eccentric London clergyman, aesthete and connoisseur in violins and old china, last year delivered a series of lectures on American humourists. This year he is giving a special course of sermons at St. James's, Marylebone. Amongst the "texts" are included "Extravagance and Luxury," "The Stage," "Occupation of Women," "Music," "Infidelity" and "Holidays."

The Lakeside Home for convalescent children on the island, which has just been completed and furnished at a cost of \$2,000, is the gift of Mr. J. Ross Robertson, and will be managed in conjunction with that admirable charity, Toronto Hospital for Sick Children. The only condition restricting the generous action of these excellent charities is that the children of Freemasons, in the case of both institutions, are to have the preference of admission.

PROF. LEE, of Glasgow University, at the close of the last session, said the theological classes at that university were never so well attended during the time he has occupied the Church History chair as they are at present. There were nearly three times as many students during the past session as there were ten years ago. Why do so many promising young men desire to enter the ministry in Scotland, and in the United States a ministerial famine is feared?

We are glad to observe that the people of Kingston have taken practical steps to secure the establishment at their city of a Women's Medical College. The great point of securing a sufficient sum annually for five years to meet the necessary expenses has been almost attained. All women should know something of medicine, and there is besides a large and increasing sphere of usefulness for women as medical practitioners. We shall be delighted to record the success of the movement so well begun at Kingston.

THE Synod of the Diocese of Toronto was opened last week in St. James' Cathedral. About a hundred male choristers, in surplices and cassocks, with the officiating clergymen, walked in procession from the adjoining schoolhouse at ten o'clock, and on reaching the centre aisle, opened out, and permitted the Bishop to pass between. They then took their places in the chancel. Rev. Dr. Courtney, of New York, preached an able sermon. This scenic innovation caused great dissatisfaction to those who are attached to evangelical principles.

THERE have been further embezzlements in Toronto, where a certain class of young men appear to be losing their honesty and sacrificing their honour and good character under the influence of high living and fast associations. Within a short time it has leaked out that two trusted clerks in leading wholesale houses in this city have been helping themselves to the property of their masters. In both cases quiet settlements have been arrived at, the pilferings being either returned or a cash equivalent supplied. In one house goods to the value of \$4,000 or \$5,000 were acknowledged to have been taken.

DR. MACKAY, of Hull, was the master of a feast given lately to the waiters from the lodging houses in that town. "Come, lads!" cried the doctor as soon

as he had said grace, "wine in! You don't get grub like this on Hedon Road"—a quietly suggestive bit of sarcasm that greatly tickled the guests, the road named being the site of the gaol. Supper over, Dr. Mackay said, "Come, lads, clear out while we get the tables removed; you can come back after if you like." Nearly all returned and listened most attentively to a religious address. Dr. Mackay is a shrewd judge of human nature.

AT a recent meeting of the London Teachers' Association, Dr. Bucke, medical superintendent of the asylum, delivered a lecture on "Primeval Man." He took the position that man is of far greater antiquity than is ordinarily supposed, and carried the date of his existence as far back as 240,000 years ago; then sketching briefly his development civilly, mentally and morally up to the present, and from this pointing to the great hopes of man's advancement in future ages. Dr. Bucke has also put himself on record as of opinion that Walt Whitman is the greatest genius the world has seen. His ideas of proportion are erratic.

AT the annual meeting of the Church Association in England the usual bellicose resolutions were passed. Among other speakers Canon Taylor specially distinguished himself by advocating the revival of Queen Elizabeth's Act of Uniformity. It may be as well to give the words of this Act: "It prohibits, under pain of forfeiting goods and chattels for the first offense, of a year's imprisonment for the second and of imprisonment during life for the third, the use by a minister, whether beneficed or not, of any but the established liturgy; and imposes a fine of one shilling on all who should absent themselves from church on Sundays and holy days."

THE gambling den at San Carlo has put one of the first Schleswig-Holstein families into mourning. The second son, a promising young nobleman, visited Monaco during his journey through Italy. He had a large sum with him, which he lost at roulette, and he had to telegraph to his family for more. Having received a supply he again took part in the play, but ill-luck pursued him. When the last franc was gone, and his watch, studs and rings, he tried to borrow 500 francs to pay the bill at his hotel; but, not being known, he got only a trifle. Exasperated, and ashamed to ask his family a second time, he shot himself.

OF late years the employment of women as clerks has greatly increased in England as well as in France; and in both countries it is generally agreed that the system works satisfactorily. At the Bank of France there are now 160 female clerks, who receive three francs a day to commence with, and whose annual salary, after a year or two's service, rises to 1,800 francs; and at the Paris offices of the Credit Foncier, where also there is a large staff of women, the remuneration, beginning at 350 francs a day, rises in some cases to as much as 4,000 francs, or \$800, a year. In both establishments the hours of attendance are from 9 to 4 on six days of the week, and the male and female clerks sit in different rooms—the women being superintended by officials of their own sex, and thus enjoying the greatest possible degree of privacy.

THE St. Louis Manual Training School is an interesting experiment. The first class of twenty-eight is about completing the three years' course. They have made three steam engines, doing all the work from the drawings to the final touch. This education of the hands has not been accomplished at the sacrifice of the education of the head, as only two hours of each day are devoted to manual labour. The course extends over three years, in which time they become skilled draughtsmen and gain a knowledge of materials. They learn to mould, to cast, and to plane, bore and drill castings by machine tools. Wrought iron and steel are worked by them at the forge, and tempering, brazing, and soldering are thoroughly learned. In view of the success of the St. Louis

school, Chicago has raised \$100,000 for the establishment of a similar institution.

IT is stated that the new English dictionary proceeds apace in Dr. Murray's workshop at Mill-hill. The printing has progressed to the end of the article "alternate," and at that point there are over six thousand entries as compared with under three thousand in Webster. By the end of June the whole of the manuscript to the end of "an" will, unless some unforeseen delay should occur, be in type. The statisticians connected with the project have calculated that the work will contain nearly 200,000 main entries, and that the quotations will reach to more than a million in number. The first part of the undertaking will probably be ready for distribution in a few months; it is probable, indeed, that by next spring English students will have in their hands the opening volumes of two works for which they have long pined, a new English dictionary and a new encyclopædia of national biography.

AN interesting competitive examination took place at the Royal Arthur School a short time since, between two girls and four boys, pupils of the Mackay Institute, and six girls and six boys of the senior division of the Royal Arthur School. The examination was held in order to see how the deaf-mutes of the Institute would acquit themselves when brought into direct competition with those who were blessed with both hearing and speech, and those who witnessed the examination at Royal Arthur School are loud in their praises of the manner in which the deaf-mutes conducted themselves. The Rev. Canon Norman presided at the examination, and among those present were Dr. Robins, Principal Widd, Mr. Humphrey (Head Master of the Royal Arthur School), Mrs. McFarlane, and a number of other friends of the Institute. The subjects in which they were examined were arithmetic, writing, grammar, Scripture and geography, and the results will be made known in a few days. At the conclusion of the examination, Miss McFarlane and Master Frank Wiggett, son of the mayor of Sherbrooke, were brought upon the platform, and gave an exhibition of the way in which conversation is carried on between deaf-mutes by means of the movement of the lips and tongue, etc. The Rev. Canon Norman thanked the pupils of both schools for their attendance, and the proceedings were brought to a close.

WEEKLY HEALTH BULLETIN.—The weather of the week has been typical of early June, except in the one fact of an abnormally large amount of rain. The number of diseases recorded by various reporters is smaller than usual. Amongst diseases of the respiratory organs we have occasion to note the fact of Bronchitis having taken the second place, the first in degree of prevalence being occupied by Measles, a Zymotic disease. Anæmia may here be noticed as occupying the position next in prominence. Neuralgia and Rheumatism both show a tenacity in maintaining their previous prominent positions, to be explained only by the damp weather characteristic of the week. Amongst Fevers, the continued prevalence of Intermittent must again be noted, it appearing this week in five districts. We fortunately have not yet to chronicle the re-appearance of Enteric Fever. Speaking of the class known as Zymotic diseases, it must be said that several of them, notably Measles, show an upward tendency. Mumps likewise remains in some localities still very prevalent. Diarrhoea, now classed here, does not show this week a very marked increase. Diphtheria has again appeared amongst the twenty most prevalent diseases, after a short period of absence. Whooping Cough has greatly fallen for several weeks past in its degree of prevalence, and this week is last in the list of the twenty most prevalent diseases. Erysipelas, it is pleasing to note—and especially so from what has been mentioned concerning its relation with puerperal fever—is decreasing. Cerebro Spinal Meningitis still retains its hold amongst the prominent diseases in District III., Muskolka and Parry Sound.