

the kingdom of heaven. For it was not said to him, Thou art a rock (Petra), but thou art Peter (Petros); and the rock was Christ, through confession of whom Simon received the name of Peter." He says, "The Church was founded on a rock, from which Peter received his name. For the rock is not so named from Peter, but Peter from the rock." Dr. Daniel Brown, Principal of the Free Church College, Aberdeen, in his "Critical Commentary" says: "As the same power is expressly extended to all the apostles in Matthew xviii. 18, the claim of supreme authority in the Church, made for Peter by the Church of Rome, is utterly baseless and imprudent. As first in confessing Christ, Peter got this commission before the rest and with these keys, on the day of Pentecost, he first opened the door of faith to the Jews, and then in the person of Cornelius to the Gentiles. Hence in the list of the apostles, Peter is always first named. (Matthew xviii. 18.) One thing is clear, that not, in all the New Testament, is there any vestige of any authority claimed or exercised by Peter, or conceded to him above the rest of the apostles, a thing conclusive against the Romish claims on behalf of that apostle." Archdeacon Farrar, in his "Life of Christ" says. "Were it not a matter of history, it would be deemed incredible, that on so baseless a foundation should have been rested the fantastic claim, that abnormal power should be conceded to the bishops of a Church, which certainly Peter did not found, and in a city in which there is no indisputable proof that he ever set his foot. The immense arrogances of sacerdotalism; the disgraceful abuses of the confessional; the imaginary power of absolving from oaths; the ambitious assumption of a right to crush and control the civil power; the extravagant usurpation of infallibility in wielding the dangerous weapons of anathema and excommunication; the colossal tyrannies of the Pope, and the detestable cruelties of the Inquisition—all these abominations we may hope being of the past. But the Church of Christ remains, of which Peter was a living stone." According to the best authorities, Peter never was in Rome. This was affirmed about forty years ago by a very able writer in the Edinburgh *North British Review*, who held that he was martyred in Asia. Certainly, he never was Bishop of Rome, else the apostle Paul would have referred to him in his Epistle to the Romans and have called on him when in Rome over two years-

(To be continued.)

FRAGMENTARY NOTES.

MONTREAL—QUEBEC—MORRIN COLLEGE—TRADE IN HALIFAX—PROSPEROUS CHURCHES—DALHOUSIE COLLEGE.

The talk in Church circles in Montreal was the probability of the success of the call from Knox Church, Winnipeg, to the Rev. James Fleck, but as is now well known, the reverend gentleman, much to the gratification of his congregation and the Christian public generally, has decided "to remain among his own people," and whilst the claims of the Winnipeg Church were admitted on all sides, still it would have been hard to fill Mr. Fleck's place in Montreal, where for some years Presbyterianism has been so aggressive and so prosperous, and to lower sail or reduce steam at this particular juncture would have been undesirable. The standard-bearers of Presbyterianism in Montreal deserve great credit. They have a giant foe to contend against; all that wealth, learning and political power can do is arrayed against them, and yet we are steadily gaining ground. "The sling and stone is still able to slay the Goliath of Gath."

A large addition is being made to the school at Pointe-aux-Trembles, which will give increased accommodation. The excellent work of this institution is being recognized by the entire Church. If it is important to take a stand against the encroachments of Rome in the North-West, how much more necessary is it to stem the tide at the fountain head, in the Province of Quebec, where able and devoted men have been fighting the enemy for a quarter of a century?

QUEBEC

has been agitated by the coarse conduct of the mob toward the Salvation Army. The people who could treat defenceless innocent girls in such a manner are capable of doing anything; and it is to the credit of a portion of the French press that it spoke out, and

denounced the conduct of the rioters, and demanded for the objects of their attack, the protection of the law.

The staying power of Presbyterians as exhibited lately is worthy of all praise: both congregations are increasing notwithstanding the determined efforts that are being made to crush out every spark of Protestantism. I sincerely trust that the brethren who are doing the Church's work so well will meet with the sympathy of the entire Church, and that whilst great efforts are being made to send the Gospel to the heathen abroad, let us not forget those at our own doors.

MORRIN COLLEGE

is putting forth fresh efforts, and all interested feel buoyant as to its future. The governors have decided to raise an endowment of \$150,000, which sum would place it in a safe position. This should not be beyond the powers of the college to raise, as there is considerable wealth represented among the members of our Church in Quebec. This college certainly has strong claims, as hitherto it has cost the Church very little, if anything.

SOCIAL DISCONTENT.

When passing through Quebec, I had the good fortune to hear a lecture on the above subject by the Rev. Principal MacVicar, of Montreal. Although the evening was severe, the large hall was crowded with a highly respectable and intelligent audience. Dr. MacVicar appeared in good form, and for an hour held the attention of his hearers, who showed their appreciation of the discourse by several rounds of applause. The lecture is very able and timely, and should be heard all over the country.

The Dominion Cabinet ministers were banqueted, and several oily speeches made, the Conservative party lauded to the skies, still the enthusiastic Quebecers failed to "pin the Premier to the bridge." "What bridge?" "Oh, the bridge that is to be built." "Man always is to be, but never blest." When this long talked of bridge is built, Quebec will take her place among the cities of the Dominion, then the golden age will have arrived; the city will be connected by a bridge.

HALIFAX

is looking up. Real estate is improving, the banks, five in number, have all had a good year, and paid their usual dividends. The sugar refinery have had a most prosperous year, and besides paying a large dividend, has placed a large sum to rest. The Churches are all prosperous and harmonious, and under the watchful care of Brother Murray, of the *Witness*, are letting "their light so shine." The latest addition to the pulpit power of the city is the settlement of the Rev. D. M. Gordon, who will not only be a strength to Presbyterianism, but to the cause of evangelical truth generally. It is unnecessary to say that Mr. Gordon has made a most favourable impression, and good congregations attend all the services. The people of

CHALMERS CHURCH

have erected a handsome and commodious hall that will prove very useful and convenient for weekly meetings, of which there are so many now in all our congregations. The pastor, the Rev. John McMillan, is an able preacher, and stands high in the estimation of his congregation and the Christian public generally. St. John's Church, of which Rev. H. H. Macpherson is pastor, has joined the majority and has put in a handsome organ, which will be a decided improvement to the music. The various departments of Church work are vigorously maintained in this congregation.

THE RUNNING OF STREET CARS

on Sunday is objectionable to our Sabbath loving people, but whether they will be able to suppress them or not remains to be seen. The worst of it is that they are not required in a city like Halifax, except for recreation, and are used principally by parties who go from one end of the city to the other in search of pleasure. Even Halifax has not the same excuse as Toronto in the matter of pure air, of which there is abundance in Halifax at every point.

THE NEW DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY.

This is the latest and probably the most important addition to the many handsome buildings which have been erected in Halifax lately. Through the generosity of the late Sir William Young, the governors of the college felt justified in rebuilding on a new site, and for ever bidding adieu to the old musty building

on Barrington Street, which has for so many years served the purpose of a college. Although the masonry was only started in April, 1887, as early as October the college was made ready for occupancy, and the students in attendance during the present session, soon to close, occupied their rooms, although not completely finished.

The college building is situated in a good part of the city, commanding a splendid view of the harbour and is adjacent to the public gardens, Medical College and Hospital. The building is 198 feet long by fifty-five feet wide, with tower 140 feet high. The ceilings are lofty, and the class rooms large and well lighted; indeed I have seen few buildings so perfect in this respect, there being 382 windows in the whole structure. The entrance on the ground floor is spacious and at once impresses the visitor with the magnificence of the building. The hall is fourteen feet wide, and on one side is President Forrest's room, and on the other a ladies' waiting room, with lavatory, etc. The basement is used as a gymnasium, and during our visit the boys were giving some exhibitions which satisfactorily prove that they are determined to take advantage of their privileges in this respect. The plumbing and heating are perfect, and altogether "The New Dalhousie" will take rank among the best educational buildings in the Dominion. The entire cost will be about \$80,000. To meet this Sir William Young gave \$20,000, the old building sold for \$25,000, the city gave \$11,000, and a further appeal to the city and country is expected to bring in the balance.

This fine building, of which the Province of Nova Scotia feels justly proud, is mainly due to the enterprising spirit of the governors, and the untiring zeal and energy of the esteemed president, Rev. John Forrest, D.D., who since his acceptance of office has proved himself to be "the right man in the right place." The other professors are all able and competent men in their various departments, and without being invidious, I may mention the names of Professors Macdonald, MacGregor and Alexander, whom I have the pleasure of knowing personally. Professor J. G. MacGregor is one of Nova Scotia's sons; his father was the well known Rev. Dr. MacGregor. Professor MacGregor was born in the county of Pictou, a county which has given many able and devoted men to the Church, and the county which may be regarded as the cradle of Presbyterianism for Nova Scotia. Professor MacGregor is about taking a trip to Scotland, his business being full of interest to his friends, and his return anxiously looked for.

ENGLISH CHURCH.

Presbyterians are not uninterested in the prosperity of their neighbours. The sister Church here having proved able to elect a Bishop (a matter which is of every day occurrence in the Presbyterian Church), it is earnestly hoped that the Rev. Dr. Courtenay will be a man worthy of the high position to which he has been called. He is spoken of by those who have heard him as an able and eloquent preacher, and likely to advance the interests and prestige of the denomination in Nova Scotia.

DESIRABLE CITIZEN.

Halifax has got the addition of a desirable citizen, in the person of the Hon. Judge Townsend, formerly of Amherst. Judge Townsend is son of the Rev. Canon Townsend, of Amherst, and was raised to the Bench about a year ago. The learned Judge is in the prime of life and will be a valuable addition to the Bench. While practising law in his native town, he was esteemed by all classes and denominations. We wish for the Judge and his amiable wife (who by the way got a good Presbyterian training), a long and happy life in the high position, which by his abilities and high Christian character he has earned.

The return journey was made under some difficulties. We left Halifax on Monday, in one of the best Pullman cars on the Intercolonial line, but just in time to meet one of the severest storms of the season. We got along at a good rate of speed until we came to Rivière Du Loup, where we were obliged to hang up, having a heavy train, which carried a number of the *Sardinian's* passengers. The matter of provisions came to be a serious one. We never asked if the doughnuts were fresh, or the coffee hot, or if the hard boiled eggs were fresh; every creature was good and nothing to be refused. Having remained here twenty-four hours, we started and made about ten miles an hour. The snow banks in some places rising so high above the cars that we could not see to the top of the bank.

The railway authorities did everything in their power to make us comfortable, and we reached Montreal safely in due course. The storm seemed to gain its height about Point Levis and St. Charles, where storms generally rage fiercest. K.