

THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

VOL. II.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29th, 1883.

No. 35.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE Hon. and Rev. Canon Anson, rector of Woolwich, writes to the London *Guardian* urging the formation of a band of unmarried clergymen and laymen who would volunteer to go to the North-West of Canada for a number of years for the purpose of performing missionary duties among the newly arrived settlers. He submits an elaborate scheme for the favourable consideration of his fellow-churchmen and announces his readiness to devote his services to the work of promoting it.

THE recently instituted Royal College of Music has already made a good beginning: Fifty scholarships have just been competed for, with this wonderful result, that many of the successful candidates are children of artisans. The son of a farm labourer has won a scholarship for violin playing; a factory girl who works over thirteen hours a day, has found time to make herself proficient in singing. Out of the fifty scholars, only twelve are from London and eight are the children of musicians.

THE action of Admiral Pierre in the arrest of the Rev. Mr. Shaw, an English missionary in Madagascar, has occasioned considerable excitement. Mr. Shaw is charged with maintaining correspondence with the Hovas and being engaged in acts of hostility to the French. Mr. Gladstone in answer to enquiries in the House of Commons stated that Mr. Shaw was confined on board a man-of-war, and would be tried by court-martial. The British Government declare that he will have full facilities for defence and right of appeal.

THE question of Church disestablishment in England is not allowed to subside. A notice of motion has been given in the House of Commons to be disposed of next session which reads thus: That the establishment of the Church of England by law imposes upon Parliament duties which it cannot effectually discharge; deprives the Church of the power of managing her own affairs; inflicts injustice on a large section of the community; and is injurious to the political and religious interests of the nation, and that therefore it ought to be no longer maintained.

THE High School at Weston has earned for itself an excellent educational record. In the Intermediate and Professional examinations its pupils have been exceptionally successful. Indeed it is stated that every one of its candidates either for junior or senior matriculation since 1875, has met with the fulfilment of his hopes and the reward of his application. This educational institution, under Mr. G. Wallace, B.A., Principal, has many attractive features. It is situated in a healthy and pleasant locality, and the students enjoy personal supervision and careful moral training. Weston High School will continue to maintain its well-deserved reputation.

AN exchange says: The liquor dealers of Ottawa seem to have very little faith that the Dominion License Act will ever come into force. On Saturday evening Mr. Casey, Chief Inspector and Auditor of licenses for Ontario, heard the views of a number of the licensed victuallers of that city regarding the Saturday night closing law. The saloon-keepers unanimously advocated an extension of time on Saturday night from seven till eleven o'clock. They argue that if such an extension went into effect the amount of illicit liquor selling on Saturday night would be greatly reduced. Mr. Casey promised to lay the views of the saloon-keepers before the Ontario Government on his return to Toronto.

"HARPERS' WEEKLY" of the 18th inst. contains an engraving of a picture by T. Shepherd which is worth a hundred treatises on temperance. In the centre stands a wheat-sheaf with a sickle in its band. Out of the sheaf rises a graceful female form holding a loaf to the workman and his family seated at their

humble board. From out the sheaf also rises a grim skeleton form with grinning skull holding in its bony hand a bottle from which it pours fiery fumes over the prostrate form of the once happy husband and father. The mother and children sit by in misery and dejection. The picture is Hogarthian in its fidelity to nature and fact. It tells its own moral with an emphasis that cannot be mistaken.

WHEN Balie Nichol Jarvie made his famous expedition to the clachan of Aberfoyle, he was reminded that he could not, like the snail, carry his domicile with him, and that he must get along without his customary home comforts while in the Rob Roy country. Irishmen would be unhappy if, on leaving the land of their birth, they left their beligerent proclivities behind them. Many Irishmen find employment in the Scottish black country, where the largest mining enterprises are carried on. Last week disgraceful riots disturbed the ordinary quiet that prevails at Coatbridge. The feud was the usual one between the orange and the green. It ended for the present in the infliction of dangerous wounds on some of the combatants, and their dispersal by the reading of the riot act, the energetic action of the mounted police and the arrest of a goodly number of beligerents. Picks and hammers are not enumerated as syllogistic forms in our usual treatises on logic.

THE ancients had an idea that age and experience were important qualities in those who bore rule. We are gradually changing all that. A significant move has just been made at Amherst College. It has resolved on a new departure in college discipline in the recent organization of a "college senate." The scheme was proposed two years ago by President Seelye, but did not meet the approval of the students till the end of the present academic year. The "senate" will be composed of ten members—four senators, three juniors, two sophomores, one freshman. President Seelye is chairman of the board, and will refer to it all questions concerning the discipline and welfare of the college hitherto brought before the Faculty, only reserving the right to veto. "The object of this innovation," says the New York "Independent" "is to make the students more than ever self-governing, and put upon them something of the responsibility for the good order and welfare of the college at large, which has previously rested wholly on their instructors. Like the 'new system' it is an experiment, and will be watched with interest by many."

THE Guelph "Mercury" calls attention to the fact that the lottery scheme started to provide funds for the erection of an opera house in the Royal City is still being forwarded in a furtive and not too reputable fashion. The "Mercury" says: "We only call attention to the fact that tickets are being sold on the strength of the names of the trustees and sponsors which appear in the prospectus, and that very considerable sums of money are being daily received by the secretary as the result of such sales. Those who were improperly brought into the scheme had better look to it at once, as we understand that their reputation is being traded upon in order to float the undertaking. We have given warning, and whether heeded or not we have done our duty." So far well. If lotteries are illegal—and of that there is now no longer any doubt—what are the proper authorities about when lottery tickets are allowed to be sold without interference. Remissness on the part of those whose duty it is to interfere for the suppression of these demoralizing schemes only encourages defiance of the law, as well as of the moral sense of the community.

THE English Bible Christian Conference has pronounced against the Union of the Methodist bodies in Canada. A special Conference of the Canadian branch of this Church will be held this week at Exeter. The officers of this branch of the Methodist Church in Canada have taken legal advice upon the question whether they can unite with the sister Methodist bodies without the consent of the English Conference and still hold their property. The opinion given is

that if the Canadian Conference is united in taking such action the English Conference will have no power over the property, but that if the Conference is divided on the matter the English Conference may possibly be able to secure it. Since the year 1854 the Canadian Conference has maintained a separate financial existence, and the property, amounting to nearly half a million of dollars, has been mostly collected since that time. There is a strong feeling in favour of going into the union without the consent of the English Conference; but the Canadian Conference will hesitate before taking that step, because it is not known how far the former opponents of the union are prepared to go, and opposition by them might endanger the property. Another point which will require consideration is whether the English Conference would stop the money paid to eight Canadian superannuated ministers. The Canadian Conference might decide to take the risk and provide for these men in the event of the money being stopped.

THE United Presbyterian Church of North America at its late Assembly passed a resolution declaring the use of instrumental music permissive. A strong feeling against the organ exists among the ministers and members of that branch of the Presbyterian Church. They are most decidedly opposed to the introduction of instruments into the service of praise. This opposition is not unexpected. The United Presbyterians in the States hold their convictions with a praiseworthy firmness. Changes which others recognize as required by the spirit of the age will not be made without the greatest reluctance by conscientious men. The opposition to instrumental music has assumed an organized form. A large Convention was held last week in Alleghany, Pennsylvania. The proceedings were characterized by intense earnestness and firmness of purpose. The great majority of those present were decidedly in favour of excluding instruments from the public worship of the Church. Several excellent papers were read, and the tone of discussion was almost entirely in the line of opposition. The resolutions, finally adopted concluded with the following:

That the officers of this Convention be instructed to memorialize the next Assembly to adopt the proper steps for ascertaining in a constitutional way the sense of the Church on the question of the lawfulness of using instrumental worship. The conclusion is both wise and sensible. What is the use of rending a grand historic Church with a subordinate question? Would the apostolic Church have wrangled over it?

WEEKLY HEALTH BULLETIN.—The week has been marked by very considerable alternation of high and low barometric pressures; otherwise the weather has been of a normal character. Regarding its effects upon disease, very little can be added distinctive for the week as compared with the previous. The night temperatures have been higher, and thence, apparently, arises the fact that Bronchitis has somewhat decreased its prevalence. Other diseases of the respiratory organs have remained in a large degree stationary. Neuralgia and Rheumatism do not show any marked changes from their position during the past few weeks. Amongst Fevers, Intermittent retains the percentage of prevalence shown last week, and has likewise the same area of prevalence. Enteric (Typhoid) has taken a marked step in advance, amounting to two per cent. of all diseases reported. Typho-malarial shows likewise an upward tendency. Regarding the class of contagious Zymotics, Whooping Cough is the only one appearing amongst the ten most prevalent diseases, and its tendency is downward. Measles, etc., have disappeared from the twenty most prevalent diseases. Amongst the diseases of which diarrhoea is the prominent sign, we have to again record a marked change in Diarrhoea itself. Its temporary decline noted last week, has been succeeded by a rapid increase, its total percentage amounting to 14.9 per cent. Cholera Infantum, Cholera Morbus and Dysentery do not show any marked change. The hot weather, which began with the latter part of the week, may be expected to show some marked effects upon disease.