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SABBATH SCHOOL PAPERS.

THE SABBATH SCHOOL PRESBYTERIAN, GOLDEN HOURS and EARLY DAYS will be continued for 1885, greatly improved and at reduced prices. Illustrations of a very high character have been secured in England; the size of the type will be reduced in the case of the SABBATH SCHOOL PRESBYTERIAN; and no efforts will be spared to make all the papers more attractive and useful than ever before. The price of each has been reduced to \$10.00 per 100 copies for one year; \$5.00 for 50 copies; and \$4.00 for 40 copies. Special rates for smaller quantities. EARLY DAYS is published twice a month, and is a favourite paper for Infant Classes, the other two are monthly, and suited to more advanced scholars. In the SABBATH SCHOOL PRESBYTERIAN will be found, from time to time, interesting missionary matter from the Home and Foreign Fields. Send for specimen copies. Address THE PRESBYTERIAN PRINTING AND PUBLISHING CO., 5 JORDAN STREET, TORONTO.

Notes of the Week.

THE Bill passed by the Dominion House of Commons last session declaring seduction a criminal offence was subsequently defeated in the Senate. Mr. Charlton again introduced his Bill this session. Though not approving of all its provisions, the Premier intimated his intention of voting for it. When first introduced this salutary measure encountered much opposition. It is evident that the successive discussions have done good. This time but little was said in opposition. The House of Commons now appears to be convinced that the bill is eminently proper. It is a proof that honourable members, whatever opinions to the contrary may exist, are open to conviction. The action of the Senate will be awaited with curious interest.

THE other week the first of a series of concerts, giving high-class music at popular prices, was held in Shaftesbury Hall. The leading artistes on the occasion were Miss Agnes Huntington, and her sister, an accomplished pianiste, whose solos displayed a finished technique, cultivated taste, and striking expression. The singing of Miss Huntington was marked by sweetness, power and brilliancy. Mrs. Agnes Corlett-Thomson was also very effective in her tasteful rendition of several favourite songs, while Mr. J. F. Thomson sang several selections which were much appreciated. The next of the series will be held in the Horticultural Gardens Pavilion on the 10th April, when Miss Clara Louise Kellogg and Miss Huntington will sing a duo from *Mefistofele*.

THE last number of *The Canadian Independent* vouches for the accuracy of the following: A new form of boycotting has appeared in this city, and one which has its lessons. The homes of the members of a well known brewery firm were visited by two ladies in the interest of one of the recognized charitable institutions of Toronto. These ladies were distinctly told that the usual contributions would be withheld in consequence of the part taken by many of the promoters of these institutions in pressing on the Scott Act! The resolve was made, by this firm at least, to contribute no longer to the charitable institutions of the city. As a member of the editor's family was one of the collectors, this matter is not an item of hearsay, and manifests too truly the general spirit of the liquor traffic.

IF after the close of the present session of the Dominion Parliament, Temperance Legislation is not very much improved it will not be for want of repeated effort in that direction. The last reported proposal, if lacking in other merit, certainly can lay some claim to originality of conception. Mr. Bourbeau has introduced a Bill to amend the Scott Act. It is designed to extend the power to grant certificates. At present physicians have that power; but this, in Mr. Bourbeau's estimation, is not sufficient. His Bill proposes to confer this dubious honour on ministers and priests. Some men are unconscious humourists, and the honourable member for Drummond and Athabasca appears to belong to that class. Suppose the Scott Act passed in this city, and suppose Mr. Bourbeau's bill carried, we would nominate Revs. John Smith, or J. M.

Cameron, as proper parties to whom applications for certificates may be made.

WHEN the Children's Book of Praise made its appearance we gave a brief notice of its excellences and predicted its welcome reception into our Sabbath schools, and so well has this been done that the Hymnal Committee report a sale of over 24,000, in little over two months. We are also glad to know that the little book has won its way into many weekly prayer meetings, and evangelistic services where it is rendering good service, and will no doubt be largely used. The Harmonized Edition advertised in our paper with its four-part music, and large type, will commend itself at once to old and young. The Editing and Publishing Committee have done their work well, and have judiciously conserved the Psalm of David which speaks so much of the "Precepts Divine," "The Perfect Law," "The Right Statutes;" and the "Lord's True Command" mingles with the Christian experience of the excellent Hymnal. For Harmonized Edition see advertisement in our pages.

THE other week a zealous Roman Catholic ecclesiastic made an appeal through the press against what he deemed unfair treatment in relation to a little patient in the Home for Sick Children. From the correspondence published it does not appear that his complaint was well founded. All conversant with the management of this admirable institution, are satisfied that nothing unfair or intolerant could be sanctioned. The Roman Catholic Church maintains many strictly denominational benevolent and charitable institutions. In these institutions Protestants would not expect to receive exceptional favours. Were such asked, any one can easily anticipate the answer that would be given. The complaints and demands made on behalf of the Church of Rome as to the management of public institutions, mainly supported by Protestants, are loud and frequent. Occasional glimpses of the modes in which matters are managed where that Church has the ascendancy do not create a favourable impression on the public mind.

THE *Christian Leader* states that the Rev. Dr. Wilson, in his Chalmers Lecture on "The Headship of Christ and the Independence of the Church," said that almost universally worldly potentates had been the enemies of the Church of Christ—had opposed it, and endeavoured to exterminate it in order to make it subservient to their carnal ambition. When the red hand of persecution had been stayed, and the rulers of the world had become the friends and patrons of the Church, the results had not been more favourable to its interests. Their embrace had been about as deadly as their hostility. Of this they had had in their own land a large experience from the time of the Reformation till the present day. The Church of England was the creature of the State, and to a greater extent than any other had no self-government. At the Reformation the king took the place of the Pope, and that servitude remained intact to this day. It was a servitude injurious to both Church and State, and had been a perpetual menace to the liberties of the Scottish Church.

DESPITE the gibes of some realistic journalists the good sense and proper feeling of the community have emphatically condemned the theatrical advertising indecencies with which our public thoroughfares have recently been disgraced. The London Ministerial Association, after full discussion, unanimously passed the following resolution: That this Association, for itself and in behalf of the Christian public, expresses its strong disapproval of the privilege allowed theatrical, circus and other troupes to post bills in public places that are shameful in their indecency, and urge our city authorities to take action for their suppression. That we also denounce in strongest terms those performances in the Opera House and public halls that are libertine in their character and demoralizing in their tendency, and those other performances that tend to glorify the lives of criminals, and we urge the police and other authorities to take action in the

matter. That copies of the above be sent to the Mayor of the city, the County Attorney and the Chief of Police.

THE voting on the Scott Act last Thursday resulted in substantial gains to the temperance cause. Four constituencies voted on the question, and in three of them the Act was adopted. The city of St. Thomas has followed the good example set by Guelph. These instances demonstrate that the feeling favourable to the measure in cities and towns is far stronger than its friends or opponents imagined. The success of the Act in St. Thomas is a substantial victory. In Elgin County the majority in its favour is emphatic, nearly approaching 2,000, while in Lambton it is close on 3,000. These majorities show how strong a hold the temperance sentiment has got in the popular mind. On the same day the Scott Act was submitted to the people in Mississquoi County in the Province of Quebec. The returns show that the Act was defeated by a majority of forty. In this there is nothing very disheartening. Our French-Canadian fellow citizens are very tenacious of old habits and customs, and if there is anything surprising in the defeat in Mississquoi it is the smallness of the majority against the Act.

AN Act of Parliament dealing with material things does not take long to dispose of, one way or another. After full discussion, it is passed or rejected. It is different with Acts involving moral questions. They are not usually so promptly considered as those affecting commercial, trading or railway interests. The widely expressed desire to make existing Sunday laws effective in restraining railway and steamboat excursions has taken a long time to reach a satisfactory conclusion. When the Ontario Government was approached on the subject the question of jurisdiction was raised. Application was then made to the Dominion Government, and after a lapse of time, Mr. Charlton introduced a Bill which was thrown out on its second reading. It was intimated that the matter was within the scope of Provincial legislation. Mr. Wood, during the present session, submitted a Bill making the necessary provision for carrying out the existing enactment respecting Sunday excursions. The measure was strenuously opposed by the Hon. C. F. Fraser, who had fully mastered the stock arguments in favour of a lax observance of the sacred day. The Hon. Oliver Mowat made a most effective speech in favour of the Bill, which passed without a division. Mr. Wood who introduced the measure is a respected elder in the Presbyterian Church.

A CASE now before the Court of Appeal in Montreal shows how relentless and intolerant Romanism can be even in the sacred domain of home life. In connection with a request for a writ of *habeas corpus* the following facts were stated by the lady in whose behalf the application was made. She says she is an Englishwoman and emigrated to New York in 1871. The following year she married her present husband, being then seventeen years of age. She is a Protestant and he is a Spaniard and a Catholic, and their married life has, in consequence, been a very unhappy one. Her husband did everything in his power to force her to abjure the Protestant faith and become a Catholic, but the woman refused, and matters grew worse. In March, 1884, he managed during his wife's absence to carry off their children, two boys, seven and nine years of age, and a baby girl. The woman traced her children to Toledo and subsequently to Montreal, and instituted proceedings against her husband. He stated that his wife was wealthy, while the woman swore she was destitute. In divorce proceedings, instituted previously in New York, the wife was awarded \$20 per week as temporary alimony and \$250 attorney's fees. No part of this was paid and a judgment is now pending against the husband for the full amount. Before the Court here, application was made to have the little girl, on account of her years, entrusted to the mother, while the other two could be left in care of a regularly appointed person in Montreal or vicinity.