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## THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN,

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## Notes of the Week.

THE death of the Rev. George Moberly, D.C.L., Bishop of Salisbury, is announced. He was born in 1803, graduated at Oxford in 1825, and became successively Fellow and Tutor in Balliol College, public examiner and select preacher before the University. In 1835 he was appointed head master of Winchester School. In 1868 he was the Hampton Lecturer, and in 1869 was made Bishop of Salisbury. He was the author of several volumes of sermons, including a work entitled: "Sayings of the Great Forty Days," with an Examination of Mr. Newman's Theory of Development.

THE calendar of McGill College, Montreal, announces the opening of the fifty-third session of this, one of the best educational institutions in the Dominion of Canada. It is ably presided over by Principal Sir William Dawson, whose renown as a scientist is world-wide. McGill is most thoroughly equipped in every department, and its authorities are resolved on keeping it fully up to the requirements of the age. Through the munificent liberality of Mr. Donald A. Smith, an endowment, equal to the estimated value of the gift of the founder of the institution, has been made specially for the higher education of women, to be utilized in maintaining a separate special course or college for women, where they will be trained up to the standard now required for the B.A. examinations.

It was taken for granted that hostilities between France and China had ceased, and that the treaty of peace had been concluded, and yet an unexpected outbreak has occurred at Hué. The Annamese rose suddenly and attacked the French, inflicting considerable injury, and destroying much valuable property. This, however, may be regarded as only the expiring flicker of the Franco-Chinese conflagration, not seriously endangering the peace so recently concluded. In Madagascar French arms have met with a very decided reverse. The Hovas are a brave people and have striven hard to defend their island from French aggression. For the present they have inflicted a severe defeat on the invaders, and are determined to make a resolute defence. An additional vote of credit, amounting to nearly two and a half million dollars, and reinforcements numbering 4,000 men, have been asked for in the French Chamber of Deputies.

CHOLERA has for weeks been making awful havoc in Spain. The southern part of the Peninsula has been swept by its destructive force. The death rate has been appalling, about 10,000 lives have already been lost by this dread scourge. The epidemic has at length made its appearance in the capital, and it is to be feared that during the heated term the death roll will be large. The desolation of the southern provinces is terrible to contemplate. Business is paralyzed, and all who can escape from the infected districts flee to places where the contagion has not reached. It is stated that where cholera has done the greatest injury the sanitary conditions were just such as to invite the approach of disease. Cleanliness,

personal, domestic and municipal, is certainly being enforced with tremendous emphasis. The United States authorities have made arrangements for the strictest enforcement of adequate quarantine regulations to exclude cholera and yellow-fever if possible.

THE London *Christian World* says that Dr. Dyke's recent telling address at the Exeter Hall re-union may lead to some practical step being taken to reach the artisans in the large centres of population. There are several buildings connected with the Church in London admirably adapted for efforts of this kind, if strong congregations can be induced to take them in hand. There is a probability of a permanent superintendent evangelist being set apart for the oversight of such a work, as suggested by Dr. Gibson. And the Home Mission work of the English Presbyterian Church will rest on a new basis for the future. While the Central Committee continues to meet regularly in London, it is formed into three divisions, the members of each of which can associate other persons with them, and so constitute a District Board, the three headquarters being London, Liverpool, Newcastle, and these have the power of distributing the whole of the money raised within their districts on Home Mission work.

A MAJORITY of the Dominion Senate have shown a marvellous degree of persistency in their endeavours to destroy the Scott Act. It cannot be shown that the Canadian people have changed their opinions respecting its value as a means of greatly restricting the vice and crime of drunkenness. The alacrity with which large majorities in so many counties have adopted the Act has roused an unlooked-for opposition. The liquor interest has used every effort to defeat the law. It has had its agents at Ottawa using every endeavour to prevent the Act getting fair play. A majority of the House of Commons voted against the Senate's amendment, permitting the sale of wines and beer in counties where the Act was in force. With marvellous persistency the latter body of Canadian legislators have replaced the amendment. Final action for the session is awaited with interest. That this temporary check to progressive legislation will end the agitation no one believes. The earnest Temperance reformers of Canada by whose efforts the movement has attained its present proportion, will only cease when complete success crowns their work.

FATHER ANDRE, Superior of the Roman Catholic Mission in the Carleton District, N.-W. I., writes a long letter to the *Winnipeg Free Press*, in which he says some very severe things concerning Louis Kiel, and repudiates on behalf of his Church all complicity with the rebellion. The trial of the rebel leader and his associates, and full inquiry into the causes of the recent rising of Half-Breeds and Indians will enable the public to judge where the responsibility rests. Meantime passionate accusations and no less passionate disavowals will neither help matters nor bring out the truth. In one of his lines of defence, Father Andre has egregiously blundered. The candid ecclesiastic does not say in so many words that the ministers of other denominations fled from their charges to escape danger. To insinuate that they did is about as cowardly as to run away from one's post of duty when danger threatens. In Father Andre's own town of Prince Albert our missionary, the Rev. W. McWilliam, remained all through the disturbances; so did the brethren at Battleford and Edmonton. Father Andre does not need to strike below the belt in his own defence.

THE crime of suicide is obviously on the increase. What are the causes, physical and moral, of this increase? The sound mind in a sound body is not given to suicidal inclination. This state of things clearly indicates the growth of moral disorder, the absence of self-restraint, and parental training when so many young people are found yielding to so desperate an impulse. The *Chicago Tribune* declares that since January 1st the number of suicides reported

by telegraph is 378, or 100 more than ever before; four-fifths of these are males. Among these are several boys from eleven to seventeen years, who suicided because of a reprimand from a father or mother; one boy of eleven suicided because he had to take medicine; another because he failed of admission to a college; another from reading about a suicide; several of both sexes, quite young, because their parents would not allow them to marry. The suicide of a young girl by drowning at Rockfield, Illinois, developed several cases of suicidal mania among young girls—one of them, Nellie Canfield, grand-niece of Abraham Lincoln, who shot herself in a New Jersey boarding-school.

THE following strongly worded resolution, none too much so for the occasion, signed by Rev. Dr. McGregor, Moderator *pro tem.*, appears in several of our Maritime Province exchanges: At a joint meeting of the session and managers of Park Street congregation, the subjoined resolutions were unanimously carried. The session and managers embrace the earliest opportunity to record heartfelt sympathy with Mr. Simpson, their pastor, wounded in feeling, though in their opinion not in reputation, by a dastardly assault made on his character, and on that of Rev. T. A. Nelson, his substitute, while attending the General Assembly, by the publication of a telegram sent by some unknown person from Halifax, recklessly, if not maliciously, and falsely charging them with gross plagiarism. The session and managers unite in the opinion that the ministers so charged owe it to themselves and the cause of public morality to use all reasonable means to discover the author, and to rebuke this unmanly and wicked use of the Press. They hereby tender to their pastor the assurance of their support in vindicating himself and associate from the alumnies which have been so widely circulated. They trust that newspapers which have circulated the charge in Dominion and American cities, it may be inadvertently, will by the publication of the above aid in some small measure in repairing the injury done.

IN a comprehensive article, written in an admirable spirit, the *Belfast Witness* has the following among other references to the Canadian Church: But besides these Home Missions, so large and overwhelming in their dimensions, the Canadian Presbyterian Church sustains over twenty missionaries—male and female—besides native helpers, in five distinct foreign fields—in the New Hebrides, in Polynesia, among the coolies of Trinidad, among the Indians of the North-West Territory, in Formosa and Central India. Nor are the young overlooked as fellow-helpers in the great harvest field, for the children of the Canadian Church, besides assisting in various other ways, support four or five Zenana schools, and provide for forty orphans. And such is the missionary spirit living in the Church that in last March 143 students volunteered for evangelistic work in the summer months, while the givings of the people for all church purposes amount to the large sum of £2 15s. per member annually. Now for a Church about the size of our Presbyterian Church in Ireland, or a very little larger, to maintain in strength her settled congregations, support six colleges and 640 mission stations, follow after and supply with ordinances the crowds of emigrants coming to occupy her virgin soil, take her full share in permeating with Christian influences five millions of people covering a territory as large as Europe, besides stretching out her hands of help and hope—east to China and Central India, west to Trinidad, north to the Northern Indians on the shores of the Arctic, and south to the Polynesians in the Antarctic—surely shows a Church alike earnest and zealous, and therefore pre-eminently worthy of our sympathy and aid. If our Presbyterian Church in Ireland were called upon to sustain mission stations in France and Germany, around Rome and Jerusalem, and had the task of sending missionaries to an ever-increasing population over such an area, it would be nothing more than the burden willingly borne by the Canadian Church.