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GENERAL AGENT FOR THE BRITISH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN, REV. A. MILLER, P.L.A. P.O. Address: 45 Box 660, TORONTO, Ont. Can. NOTES TO CORRESPONDENTS. R. C. Montreal.—The Jan. 8. Guthrie, next week shall be glad to receive the other papers alluded to. R. A. Orono.—Your letter has been mislaid; but will try and find it before next issue. J. B. O. Strathburn.—Letter received. Several letters and papers are held over for perusal.

British American Presbyterian FRIDAY, AUGUST 8, 1878.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

Still "the Scandal," to the exclusion of everything else.

Every prospect of an abundant Canadian harvest.

Cholera is threatening to pay Canada a visit. Let every one do his utmost in the way of cleanliness and temperance, and the danger will be materially lessened.

The Nonconformists are becoming more and more alienated from Mr. Gladstone and his government. It would not be at all surprising if Disraeli were raised to power at the next election, and in the name of conservatism carry measures that the so-called Reformers will regard as revolutionary and preposterous.

The difficulties between England and Russia are expected to be mitigated if not removed by the Royal marriage now on the tapis. Royal marriages are now not so important political events as they once were. There is a good deal of grumbling about the allowance voted to the Duke of Edinburgh on his marriage, and no wonder.

With the exception of the 'Scandal' matters are peculiarly quiet. All that possibly can be away holiday making. Country quarters are in demand. Steamers and Railway cars are crowded with passengers, intent upon an entire change for a few weeks and therefore determined to leave business and politics entirely alone for the time being.

Spain is in all the agonies of a civil war, and has before it the prospect of years of suffering and confusion, before rest under a stable government will come. It would seem as if this were the necessary curse with all nations, especially of the Latin race, who have been crushed for ages under the heel of civil and ecclesiastical despots. The air of liberty makes such as have long dwelt in dungeons light headed when they first come under its power.

We are glad to notice that an increasing number of ministers can take a week or two of relaxation. Every one of them ought to be able to do so. A minister that fags on from year to year, without rest and without change will, very soon do neither himself nor his congregation justice. Surely there are in every congregation some few sensible people who can understand all that, and who have liberality and public spirit sufficiently combined with a sense of personal advantage to make them try and send their minister away to play himself for a week or two every year. If this were done more there would be fewer complaints of dailiness, and fewer disheartened and disappointed men among our pastors.

THE REV. DR. WILLIS.

We are pleased to hear that the Venerable ex-Principal of Knox College, is devoting a portion of his time to the preparation of a volume of "Miscellanies" for the press. It will consist of "Pulpit Discourses, College Addresses, &c." We trust that some of his speeches may find a place in the volume, particularly those delivered on the "Scott Case" which gained a noted celebrity at the time.

The work will be published by Nisbet, London, and we doubt not, will find a good circulation in the West as well as in the Old World.

NATIONAL INTEGRITY.

We don't seem to say much more in the meantime about the "great scandal" that is present upon every one's lips. Every true Canadian must feel mortified and ashamed that such charges could be made, and still more, if they can be proved, as at present they seem in a fair way of being. It is in the last degree discreditable to us as a nation that the wholesale bribery of the electors of our country should be taken by so many as a matter of course, and be looked on in the light of a legitimate commercial transaction, involving necessarily a certain amount of legitimate outlay. But alarming as the revelations are in themselves, they are still more so when one thinks of them as symptomatic of a malignant and wide-spread disease. It is bad, no doubt, that there should be so many prominent and influential men among us ready to bribe; but equally bad that there should be so many so willing to be bribed, and at prices so insignificant and unworthy. No doubt single votes in the contest last year went as high as fifty or a hundred dollars; and in some instances at even higher figures; but large numbers could be got for five, while a dollar or two with not a few made all the difference. Openly and ostentatiously has it been argued that a man would be a fool to give his vote for nothing when he might dispose of it advantageously at a handsome price; and not a doubt of it great numbers held off on polling days for a rise, counting on the necessities of the closing hours putting up free and independent electors for a premium. What can be done with creatures like these? Necessity had nothing to do with it. In hundreds, if not thousands, of cases men were bought who had plenty, some with good farms and others with good trades. Apparently they believed they were doing no wrong, and certainly they felt no shame. Nay, the very outcry at present made against corruption only renders them indignant. It is only a week or two since half a congregation left a church—not a hundred miles from South Ontario—because the minister denounced the wretched immorality of giving and receiving bribes at elections. No doubt they professed indignation at his bringing politics into the pulpit, when all the mischief was that he touched their tender parts, and the "galled jades winced" accordingly. They were like the young woman in Scotland with an illegitimate child in her arms, who protested against the minister preaching on the seventh commandment as legal. "Let him up w' his cauld morality! Let him gang and preach the gospel."

But the evil goes farther even than this. We have referred before to the bribes given to Reeves and Deputy-Reeves in order to get bonuses voted for railways; and the miserable log-rolling that is so common in almost every township council, when one member votes for the pet project of his neighbor not because it is the public interest, but because it will secure the vote of that obliged public servant for some personal convenience that the ready voter wishes to secure. Every one knows that such cases are abundantly common and thought little or nothing of but as mere matters of course. And then is there not a great deal of the same false morality and more than questionable practices in the whole system of presents from tradesmen to servants who bring a certain amount of their employer's custom to their establishment, or who have the receiving and examining the supplies which may be made under contract? Perhaps it is all right, but "a gift blindeth the eye," and what reason that can stand examination can be given for such doings on the part of those who protest that they never bribe, and would not for the world be guilty of fraud? Then have we no reason to look at those cases where honorable men formally make a business of disposing of their influence in securing orders on condition of sharing the profits. What shall we say of doctors getting the prescriptions they give to patients made up by certain druggists on condition that they get a handsome per centage. They pocket their fees for their advice and prescriptions. That slip of paper containing directions is the absolute property of the patient when it has passed into his hands. Yet are there not all imaginable ways taken for getting it into the hands of certain parties, not because they make up the drugs better, or charge a less price, but because the doctor shares in the spoil. If the druggist can afford this, then he charges too much from the drug buyer. If he cannot, then he allows himself to be blackmailed by that practitioner, in order to secure his continued favor and recommendations in the future. Is all this right? Is it not all of the same character with what has culminated in the miserable scandals of the past weeks?

We say all this not to extenuate in the least the gross iniquity of the "Pacific" proceedings, but only to show that we must go a great way farther in the work of reformation and practical uprightness, than many of us, perhaps, have any notion is necessary.

Will anyone say that all this trickery, corruption, sharp practice, and black-mailing is confined to the "world," and that none in the Presbyterian or any other denomination could be guilty of anything like such dishonorable proceedings? It so, he only shows his ignorance of the world in which he lives, and of some of the men with whom possibly he comes into daily contact. And such we say that all such doings are confined to one side of politics? That would be too absurd and too far from the point. This scandal is a matter for the church as much as the world to lay to heart, if not more so, and if it awakens in individuals a greater sensation of conscience than they have hitherto thought necessary to cultivate about their own little practices it will in the end be rather to be looked upon as a blessing than the finger of scorn has been pointed at one public man and that Canadian statesmen have become a hissing and a byword to other nations. Such things could not be, had the tone of general and commercial morality been high, and had practices in business not been hinted at which differ only in degree, not in the kind from those which have recently attracted so much attention to our country, and given so many of our public men a most unenviable notoriety.

Book Notices.

THE CANADIAN MONTHLY FOR AUGUST

Has no article that calls for special notice except "Current Events." We have an eight page notice by Dr. Wilson, of Dr. Scadding's book on Toronto, containing the minimum of idea and information with the maximum of words; in the usually mildly grandiloquent style for which the learned Professor is even increasingly remarkable; the usual allowance of verse; an instalment of Undine; a very readable account of "Papal Conclaves" with a good many interesting extracts and notices of some of the publications of the month. The paper on "Current Events" is really the one to float the number; and it will do this very well. At least it ought. It is rigorous, outspoken and honest. The writer frankly acknowledges that he has been mistaken in the estimate he formed of Canadian Ministers,—their morality, their honour, and their prudence. He had fondly persuaded himself that they could not be "such fools" as act in the way they were represented to have done. He has now no choice but to confess that he had not adequately comprehended the probabilities of Canadian baseness when he formed so charitable an opinion of what could be done, and what could not. It is exceedingly likely that the paper will please neither party. Nor is this surprising. In his diseased hostility to "party" the writer is practically trying to form a third the evident effect of whose open abuse if successful, would be confusion worse confounded, rivalling all that even took place in England in "Days gone by, when members of the same Government were not only personal enemies, but influenced by personal opinions and feelings wide as the poles asunder. The "Current events" reviewer writes well and vigorously, but his judgment is not equal to his style, while his honesty is much superior to his political sagacity and practical wisdom.

Sir Hugh Allan is sketched in the following terms:—"With regard to the case of Sir Hugh Allan there can be neither doubt as to the material facts, nor difference of opinion among any in whose breast honor and patriotism have not ceased to reside; and therefore it is as needless, as it would be painful, to accumulate censure upon the head of a man of whom but yesterday we were most proud. He who, if Canada owes him much, owes her everything—princely wealth, high social position, royal friendship a title of Imperial honor—stands convicted by his own explicit confession, or having attempted to add another heap to his vast store by corrupting her constituencies, her public men, her press, in concert with a ring of foreign speculators into whose hands he was ready to throw the great Canadian enterprise and with it the very destinies of his country. "Accursed hunger of gold!" Will no millions gorge that devouring appetite or bribe the millionaire to keep the path of virtue?"

"One excuse, one palliation at least, may be pleaded on behalf of Sir Hugh Allan. We have spoken of him as having a country, but in fact he has none. The feeling of patriotism which restrains the excited cupidity and props the tottering virtue of a member of the pettiest or meanest nationality, of the Dane, the Portuguese, the Mexican, has in his heart no place. His character and aims, to use his own expression are 'cosmopolitan.' He is a citizen of the money market, a patriot of the world of wealth and pleasure. The land in which he lives is only a place for steam boat and railway enterprise, for getting up companies and manipulating stocks. The title of honor which he wears through he is indebted for it to Canada comes from another country to which also his royal friendship and great social connections belong. When his fortune has been made in Canada he and his heirs will spend it in Belgravia amidst the aristocracy of England, careless of the fate of the dependency and anxious only to forget, and make the fastidious society around him forget that their origin was colonial."

"There is little need however of pleading excuses. It is not to be feared that a man of Sir Hugh Allan's wealth and position will

hour the crown of nobility, or suffer any of the consequences which might attend a similar stroke of pecuniary enterprise on the part of a clerk in the Merchant's Bank. Sir Hugh Allan is at present only a Knight, he may live to be a Baronet. We would wish, however, honorable wealth if we may, but at all events wealth. It is reported that since the disclosures Sir Hugh Allan has had a member of the Government for his guest, and, though indignation has been expressed at the report, for our own part, we see no moral incongruity."

This is well and forcibly put, and it is substantially true, we are afraid, quite as much in reference to society as to Sir Hugh Allan. These are the days when money, far more than charity, hales a multitude of sins, when the great thing to be ashamed of is, not that vile courses have been followed, but that these have been found out and exposed.

We have not much room, but we must spare as much as will allow us to give a sentence or two on Sir John and the position he occupies:—"A system of Government by corruption, carried on more or less in darkness, and with consequent impunity for many years, has at last exposed itself to the light of day. In this there is nothing preternatural or even startling. But we must confess that we have been at fault, and that we owe an apology to those whom we have criticised with regard to the character of Sir John A. Macdonald. Not that even in this case we have received any moral shock from the present revelations. On the one hand, there is nothing, even now, to show that Sir John A. Macdonald has ever taken a cent for himself; and on the other hand we have always believed and avowed our belief that he was unscrupulous in the pursuit and retention of power. But we gave him credit for too much sense to be putting his character into the hands of railway speculators and telegraphing to them for money to be spent in bribing at elections. It is the NEXUS of his system. His long experience has not yet taught him how little honor there is among thieves. He has not measured the danger of being first the accomplice and then the enemy of unprincipled men. Though he telegraphs in his own name for the means of electoral corruption, he did not reckon on the callousness which led Sir Hugh Allan to talk and write of wholesale bribery to his commercial partners as a common matter of business, and in the language of the ledger. Probably he did not know the exact relations existing between Sir Hugh Allan and the Americans, or the perilous consequences involved in forcing Sir Hugh to fing them overboard. With the exceptions of the Lord Chancellor Macclesfield, the South Sea Bubble offenders, and Lord Melville, Sir John A. Macdonald is the first, we believe, since 1688, who has brought the stain of corruption on the name of the British Privy Council. In his case, considering what the connections of Sir Hugh Allan were known to be, the dark hue of corruption is deepened by a shade of treason."

LIFE OF REV. WM. ANDERSON, L. L. D., GLASGOW, BY REV. GEORGE GILFELLAN, LONDON, HODDER AND STOUGHTON, 1878.

It is not yet a year since Dr. William Anderson died, so there has been no time lost in letting the world have the benefit of the story of his life. That story has evidently been written hurriedly as if every one were so impatient for its appearance that time could not be taken to do it well. Of course there is in it more or less of nothing rant as must be in all George Giffellan's writings, but really there is less of it than could have been expected. The story of his friend's life is told in a long reverential manner, and our risos from its perusal with a tolerably fair and distinct idea of the man Wm. Anderson. There are even two or three hints at what might be looked upon as blemishes as if it had been determined to give us the worst and all the ravages of the small-pox of the actual fact, rather than the clear, unexceptionable, though somewhat insipid features which generally meet us in works of modern biography. It is exceedingly likely that Mr Giffellan over-estimates the weight and significance of Dr. Anderson's life and is inclined to give him a place among Scottish worthies which general opinion will not eventually endorse. No one can doubt, however, that the late pastor of John street U. P. Church was no ordinary man, and that he served his day and generation vigorously and well. Many will no doubt turn with eager interest to this record, and as a whole they will not be disappointed.

HAEPER'S MAGAZINE FOR AUGUST

Is a more than usually interesting number. "The Little Laborers of New York City" gives an account of the child workers of large cities which pains while it interests. "The Telegraph" supplies a popular account of what has now become the most common and yet not the less wonderful of the appliances of science to the business and convenience of every day life. "Harval Isle" is the first of a promised series on the Sandwich Islands. "The Republican Movement in Spain." &c. &c.

Blackwood for July. Gives us another instalment of the Parisians and other six exceedingly readable articles. Of course, as might be expected, the one on Spain strongly sympathizes with the Carlist and passes a glowing eulogium on the venerable Carr, Santa Cruz, who has been already suspended, if not disgraced. All this is in Blackwood a way. We read and we don't believe, but somehow we like it, notwithstanding. In their day the writers in Blackwood's have advocated more earnestly all unpopular despotic courses, defended more frequently what was quite indefensible, and confessed with greater coolness that they have been quite mistaken, than any others we ever heard or knew of; yet we take kindly to Macg, all the same, as still about the best as well as the oldest of modern magazines.

THE QUIVER. Is not so widely circulated in this country as it deserves to be. It always contains a large amount of profitable reading, both for Sabbath and week days. The number for July, both in its prose and verse, is quite up to the usual mark.

Ministers and Churches.

St. Andrew's Church, Paisley, is to have an organ.

The Rev. C. Chiniquy addressed large audiences in Charlottetown on Sabbath last. The collection, we believe, amounted to \$60.

Mrs. Moore was recently presented with an address, together with a valuable oil painting of her husband, the Rev. Wm. Moore, the popular minister of Bank Street Presbyterian Church, Ottawa.

The Rev. Gustavus Amuro, B. A., who has been supplying the pulpit of the Canada Presbyterian Church, Beaverton, during the past three months, left on Monday last for Embro, where he will shortly be settled.

The Rev. J. A. McRae, of Drummondville, preached last Sabbath in the Canada Presbyterian Church, Beaverton, morning and evening, to large and attentive congregations.

The Rev. Mr. Herald, of St. Andrew's Church, Dundas, at the request of Rev. Mrs. Hoskin, preached in Knox Church on the morning of Sabbath, the 24th ult. Both congregations joining in the service. This is as should be in such circumstances.

At a meeting of the congregation of Columbus and Brooklin, in the Presbytery of Ontario, on Tuesday evening the 29th ult. it was unanimously agreed to add to the salary of the Pastor, the Rev. John B. Edmondson, the sum of two hundred dollars.

The Rev. Dr. Waters, of St. Mary's, is spending his holidays in New Brunswick. A keen observer of men and things, it is not impossible the rev. gentleman may furnish the readers of the PRESBYTERIAN with his impressions of the sister Province and its people.

The Chronicle says that Mr. Arch. Hunter has presented the Presbyterian Church of Durham with a handsome communion service. Rev. Mr. Park, the minister of the church, has been presented by the ladies of his congregation with a purse containing \$65.

A meeting was held a few days ago for the purpose of organizing a Presbyterian Congregation in Keith; and also to form committees to provide for the erection of a suitable place of worship for the congregation. Rev. Mr. Gray, of Windsor, preached an appropriate sermon which was attentively listened to by the whole congregation. After the sermon a committee of management, composed of Messrs. Geo. A. Scott, N. Carscallen and Jas. Duncan, also a building committee composed of Dr. McInnis, A. McVean and Allan McDonald was formed. It is, we believe, the intention to commence work at once.

We deeply regret to learn that the Rev. R. H. Hoskin, of Knox Church, Dundas, has been compelled to resign his charge. The Banner, writing in this connection, remarks:—"Mr. Hoskin, during his brief residence in town, has endeared himself not only to the members and adherents of his own church, but to all who have had the pleasure of his acquaintance, and we trust he will before long be fully restored to health, so as to enable him to engage actively in the work of the church, of which he has proved himself to be an able and eloquent minister."

A meeting of the members of Knox Church, Lindsay, was held Wednesday evening week at the instance of the Rev. Mr. Dawson, of Ashburn, and Rev. Mr. Murray, of Woodville, pointed by the Presbytery to enquire into the condition of the congregation; and it was unanimously resolved to take the action necessary to maintain the church with increased efficiency. A gratifying desire was evinced to support the church, and a considerable subscription was at once taken up. This has been largely increased. The services of the Rev. Mr. Hodson have been accepted. Mr. Hodson is spoken of as being an eloquent