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## Editorial Gleanings.

USE A BINDER!—We find it very convenient for our office-file of the INDEPENDENT. 75 cents; post paid. This office.

REV. R. Y. THOMSON, B.D., has been inducted as a Professor in Knox College, Toronto, in the department of Biblical Literature.

SPECIAL SERVICES.—What are the churches doing in this particular? They are a great means of grace; if it were only for the spiritual warming-up they give the members.

It is not by change of circumstance, but by fitting our spirits to the circumstances in which God has placed us, that we can be reconciled to life and duty.—*F. W. Robertson.*

THE director of the Lombardy Observatory, Schiaparelli, has discovered, by patient long-continued observations, that the planet Mercury does not turn on its axis while it revolves round the sun.

THE *Year Book* WRONG.—In the list of members of Quebec Association, page 27, read, "Henry E. Barnes, D.D., Sherbrooke, Secretary," and omit Messrs. Robertson and Dixon, removed from the Province.

COMPLETELY EXPOSED.—We print among the "News of the Churches," the finding of the council concerning the late pastor at Melbourne, Que. Pity it is, that there should be such wolves in sheep's clothing.

THE proposition, in the Methodist Con-

ference, to extend the pastoral term from three to four years, and in certain special cases to five years, was lost, 131 to 104. The friends of the extension, however, are quite sanguine as to the future, and think their cause is gaining.

METHODIST STATISTICS.—At the recent General Conference in Montreal, the statistics presented, show the following:

Ministers and probationers, 1,748; members, 233,868; Sunday schools, 3,173; officers and teachers, 28,411; scholars, 226,050; average attendance, 129,811; churches, 3,092; parsonages, 967; total amount raised for all purposes during the four years, \$8,063,067; or \$862 per annum, per member.

THE great public excitement of the autumn has been the trial and condemnation of Birchall at Woodstock, for the murder of young Benwell. A bad boy makes a bad man; and in Birchall's case the detection and punishment followed quickly on his last and great crime. Everyone is sorry for his wife; who even now, it is said, refuses to believe him guilty of murder. Friday, 14th November, is the murderer's fatal day.

DR. CHEEVER is dead. Although a voluminous writer, he will be best remembered as the author of "Deacon Giles' Distillery," and as the fearless opponent of rum and slavery. Rev. George B. Cheever, D.D., was born at Hallowell, Maine, in 1807. First a pastor at Salem, Mass., from whence he was virtually driven out on account of his famous "dream"; then for a long time in New York. He was one of the men, who, had he lived 300 years ago, would never have been allowed to die