THRIVING RIDGETOWN.

A PROSPEROUS TOWN IN THE LAKE ERIE DISTRICT.

What the Canada Southern Railway Has Done for Ridgetown--An Uninterrupted Career of Prosperity--One of the Most Healthy Towns on the Continent--Its Trade and Works--Institutions and Officials.

RIDGETOWN IS ONE OF THE best known towns in the Lake Erie district. Its history is brief and only dates back to 1872, when railway communication was established by the building of the Canada Southern Railway. The railway gave the town its first impetus, and ever since it has had an uninterrupted career of prosperity. Its site is well elevated above the lake, from which it is distant five miles, and its pure air and abundance of pure water render it one of the most healthy towns on the continent. Being near the most southern point in Canada, sheltered from the north winds and convenient to the lake, the temperature is modified both in summer and winter, and the extremes of heat and cold, so dreaded further north and east, are not known. The rich alluvial lands of this section, for fertility and productiveness, are not surpassed, and as a fruit growing district it has scarcely any superior. Here peaches, pears, apples, plums, grapes and small fruit generally grow to great perfection and in the utmost profusion. The landscape is diversified and picturesque, and the well kept fields and comfortable homes of the farmers give a restful and satisfying appearance. The town itself is substantially built and the main business street is one that any city need not be ashamed of. The business blocks are mostly three stories high, built of brick, all, with very few exceptions, having plate glass fronts. In this respect the citizens have as much enterprise and taste as can be found in any of the cities. One characteristic of the people is very apparent to the stranger. They pull harmoniously together, are justly proud of their town, loyal to its interests and strive in every legitimate way to add to its prosperity. If the principal business street is worthy of admiration, Erie-street, with its rows of elegant residences and charming sites for countless numbers more, should claim a portion of our regard. This street is extended in a straight line to the lake, 5 miles, and has sidewalks for a mile or more out. It may also be remarked that the town is well supplied with sidewalks throughout. To show that the growth of the town is not the result of spasmodic effort or adventitious circumstances it may be stated that when the railway now called the Michigan Central came through the population was a mere handful. The place grew, an occasional industry saw an opening and came in until in 1878 the population was sufficient for a village and entitled them to take steps to control their own affairs. That year it was incorporated as a village, and two years later, or in 1880, it had all the requirements necessary to be raised to the dignity of a town. The proclamation raising it to a town was issued, and at the first election H. D. Cunningham was elected mayor. The present mayor has held the position for 4 years past, and since the extension of the Franchise Act, allowing the ladies with the necessary property qualification to vote, other aspirants to the office have stepped aside discouraged. The following is the *personnel* of the council for 1889: R. W. Wilson, Mayor; J. A. Dart, Reeve; J. W. Brown, Deputy; Councillors, Jas. Drake, R. R. Lowthian, J. A. Cochrane, J. W. Kenny T. P. Watson, Jas. A. Grant, Thos. Brown, Chas. Shaw; Clerk, Duncan Cochrane. The total assessment as shown by the Roll of 1888 is $658,456 and the population 3300. The debenture debt is $30,000.

The town is built about the centre of a ridge, which extends nearly 10 miles, and as the ground recedes on both sides the town is a prominent feature in the landscape. At the lake there is a good dock, on which the Government spent $17,000. Ridgetown is also a port of entry.

The Reliance system of electric lighting is being introduced and in a short time will be in operation. The poles are now on the ground and the electric light building is almost completed.

This is headquarters for the Howard Agricultural Show and here the society has splendid brick buildings, a 21 acre park and a half mile track. This is one of the most flourishing township societies in the Province.

Throughout the Province this section has obtained some celebrity as being Geo. E. Casey's hive, just as another part of the country is celebrated as being the abiding place of "Jim" Stevens, who for a session and a portion of another was represented by J. J. Hawkins.

The manufacturing interests of the town are somewhat handicapped without a competing line of railway, but this want is expected to be supplied shortly by the extension of the Walkerville and Lake Erie Railway through Leamington and Blenheim to Ridgetown. When this is accomplished a new impetus will be given to manufactures. Even now there is no valid reason why such industries as canning factories, pork packing houses and kindred industries should not flourish here. The supply of fruit and vegetables is practically unlimited, while immense quantities of pork go to Aylmer and other places to be packed when it might as well be done here.

The manufactures are now represented by two roller process flouring mills, the casket factory, the foundry and boiler works, the planing factory and saw mill, but there is no reason why many more could not be established and run successfully. The stores are so numerous, city like, and present so many attractions in large and varied stocks that probably they can do all the business in their lines very comfortably without further additions to their number at present.

The social element is displayed in the many flourishing societies, among which are the Masons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Foresters, Caledonian Society, Workmen, Royal Templars and others.

EDUCATIONAL, &c.

The reputation of Ridgetown Collegiate Institute extend far and wide, and its success has been almost phenomenal. The attendance is now so large that seven teachers are employed. The equipment otherwise is also very satisfactory. It is doubtful whether another town of its size can present the same showing as to its high school or collegiate institute. It must be remembered too that Chatham, the county town, with a first class institute, is only some 18 miles off. Geo. H. Chase is the principal.

The public school building is a large brick structure with eight rooms, and seven teachers are employed in this. It is also noted for its efficient work. J. S. Pringle is principal.

There is a mechanics' institute and reading room, of which the citizens largely avail themselves, and it is an important factor in moral and intellectual improvement.

Two excellent newspapers are published here—The Standard, owned and edited by Philip Bowyer, and The Plaindealer, owned and edited by E. McKay. Both editors are courteous gentlemen, to whom The World is under obligations for many useful hints about their town.

CHURCHES.

If the churches are a criterion Ridgetown must be a highly moral and generous hearted community, there being no less than five commodious and substantial brick churches with spires. Nearly all of them are of splendid architectural design. Rev. A. Burt is pastor of the English Church, Rev. Mr. McRobbie of the Presbyterian, Dr. Graham of the Methodist, Rev. Mr. Prosser of the Baptist, and Rev. Father Cumms is parish priest.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

No more efficient fire department can be found in any place of its size. There is a Ronald steamer, plenty of hose and abundance of water supplied by tanks, an organized fire company and a hook and ladder department. The water in the boiler is kept hot all the time, and the engine is ready for service at a few minutes' notice.

BUSINESS HOUSES AND INDUSTRIES.

Ontario Casket Co.

Nearly every place has its peculiar industries, and to the outside world is best known by its products. The works of this company are extensive and steadily employ 50 hands. Every kind of supply required by an undertaker is manufactured, and for convenience in shipping north and east a large stock of manufactured goods is kept at their warerooms, No. 48, 50 Wellington-street east. Since it was established in 1880 its reputation has steadily expanded until it is perhaps better known than any of the four industries in that town which the Dominion supports. The works are supplied with all the best machinery made, and have every other facility for carrying on a large business. Everything goes on systematically from stage to stage, and the process of manufacturing is an interesting one, from the cutting up of the lumber until it reaches the polishing room, where the finer grades are finished in the same way as piano cases.

Ridgetown Iron Works.

C. Middleditch is proprietor of these works, which combine a foundry, machine, boiler and blacksmith shop. They were established only three years ago, but under the present able management their success is assured. In them are manufactured stationary and portable engines, boilers, sawmill and general mill machinery, iron columns, cresting, castings in iron and brass, land roller, bean harvesters, bean planters, cider mills, school desks, corn shellers, large kettles, wrought, cast iron and pipe fencing. Special attention is given to repairing engines and boilers and all other machinery. The corn sheller is a machine of great merit, and has no equal for the work. It shells a bushel of corn in the ear a minute, and, once tried, every farmer having corn to shell would find it indispensable.

Grand Central Hotel.

Wm. Baby, proprietor, is an elegant building, fitted up in the most artistic style, and has gas, electric bells and is heated with hot air. It contains 50 rooms, giving ample accommodation for a large run of patronage.

R. Livingstone

is one of the best known builders in this section, having built many of the best structures in town, and is proprietor of the Ontario Planing Mill, and manufactures doors, sash, blinds and builders' material of all kinds. In his yard he carries about half a million feet of lumber, and handles about three times that quantity during the season. Supplies are mostly got from the Georgian Bay section. The factory is driven by a 30 horse power engine, and is fitted up with the latest machinery. In the summer season from 30 to 40 hands are employed. Mr. A. has been a resident 10 years and in more senses than one has done much "to build up the town."

J. E. Vair

keeps a general store, and has a large stock of dry goods, groceries, crockery, glassware and gents' furnishings. Since commencing 5 years ago the business has steadily increased at a very gratifying rate. Good articles are kept, sold reasonably and the usual result follows.

Jas. Grant

has done business in Ridgetown during the past 16 years and lays claim to being one of the first to commence. At present he is a licensed vendor under the Scott Act.

W. J. Cummings

moved here some time ago from the town of Galt, and, with characteristic push and energy, is now making a stir in the business circles of Ridgetown. He frequently visits the markets looking up bargains, and his customers get the benefit. He carries dry goods, boots and shoes, ready-made clothing, &c. He sells for cash only and at close prices, and is consequently kept busy. Mr. C. is an acquisition to the town and will prove one of its most useful citizens.

Cochrane & Wilson.

This firm commenced its business career in 1870, and are grain, produce and commission merchants and seedsmen, making hand-picked beans a specialty. Mr. Wilson is mayor and Mr. Cochrane is town clerk, both capable business men, and do a large business.

G. E. Love & Co.

confine their attention principally to dry goods, dress goods and gents' furnishings. They keep a large and well assorted stock, and doing business on the cash principle are satisfied with very moderate profits.

J. E. Bedard,

family butcher, deals in meats, fresh and cured sausages, canned goods, etc. He has the advantage of a varied experience in his business, and knows what to buy. This necessity of daily life will in consequence always be found of superior quality here.

Lozar House,

Campbell & Leitch, proprietors, is a first-class commercial house, three stories high, contains 60 rooms and is heated with hot air. The electric light will be introduced as soon as ready. There are telephone and electric bells, commodious sample rooms and every convenience. This house does the leading business and well deserves its extensive patronage.

J. C. Locke,

dealer in furniture and undertaker, has been nine years in the business. His warerooms are commodious, and in it will be found a large stock of furniture to suit all tastes and pockets. The upholstering is done on the premises. A first-class hearse is kept, and undertaking in all its branches is promptly attended to.

D. Logan

has an excellent store in the Porter Block and deals in dry goods, boots and shoes and gents' furnishings. Ladies' goods, dress and mantles, are specialties. This business has been established 7 years, and its marked success is the result of square dealing, reasonable prices and selling goods as represented.

Dr. Marr

is a popular physician who has been practising 15 years. He is both skilful and successful and is widely sought after.

Gayfer & Thomson.

Under the management of W. B. Graham this firm does an excellent business. They are dispensing chemists and keep a good stock of drugs and chemicals, toilet soaps, spectacles, brushes and everything usually found in a first-class drug store.

J. W. McMaster

is one of the go-ahead men of the town and is now putting up a building for the electric light. He has procured a 40-horse power engine, a Reliance system dynamo of 30-light capacity, and will brighten things up shortly. 25 cents per light is to be the charge.

H. Grass

deals in dry goods, hats, caps, boots and shoes and groceries. He is a practical man of good experience, and does a very satisfactory business. The boot and shoe department is well looked after, full stock constantly kept up and goods sold on the closest margin.

May & Young.

Among the industrial pursuits that of bookselling is perhaps the most interesting. This firm are full of enterprise and keep up the best bookstore west of St. Thomas. They have a large stock, comprising books and stationery, fancy goods, albums, etc. They commenced 12 years ago when there was only one brick building and 900 of a population. They are agents for The World.

T. & W. Craig

have a large double store, and deal in dry goods, dress goods, groceries, provisions, boots and shoes. In ordered clothing they do a very extensive business and maintain their reputation for turning out fashionable and well fitting garments, substantially made. They have been 11 years in business, and through their industry and good business abilities have achieved success.

E. H. Ridley

is a barrister, solicitor, conveyancer, &c., who has recently thrown in his lot with the fortunes of the town. Commerce and law are more closely allied than appears at first sight, and one is necessary to the other. In Mr. Ridley this busy town secures a good citizen professionally and otherwise.

Dr. Stalker, M.D.,

is a graduate of Toronto University and of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh, Scotland. He has been practising in Ridgetown 12 years, and is well known and highly esteemed.

C. Gamble,

photographer, has an excellently fitted up gallery with large skylights and supplied with the best instruments. He has a great variety of backgrounds, and foregrounds as well, by which parties can be made to appear as sleigh riding, boating, &c. Special attention is given to bromide work and enlarging generally.

D. J. Hummel,

watchmaker, is in Green's building, and while keeping a nicely assorted stock devotes his particular attention to repairing, at which he is an adept. Being a practical man, in every way worthy of confidence, parties who would rather rely on his judgment than their own naturally go to him for their timekeepers.

R. Davidson,

merchant tailor and dealer in cloths and gents' furnishings. He has a fine store and keeps a large assortment, embracing among other things cloth of the latest styles for gentlemen's suits. In the tailoring department two experienced cutters are kept, 20 competent workmen, and fashionable styles and perfect fits are guaranteed.

Latar & Watson

are dealers in hardware, stoves and tinware. They are the oldest hardware firm in Ridgetown and grow more vigorous with age. Paints, oils, glass, cutlery and general house furnishings are kept in great variety, and special attention is given to putting up hot air furnaces.

Brien & Elliott

have a general dry goods store, boots and shoes, and gents' furnishings and ready-made clothing. They also do a large tailoring trade and have a good reputation for the style and character of their work. They make a specialty of buying bankrupt stocks and selling cheap.

J. Drake

has a tasteful shaving and hair cutting parlor in the front part of the Lozar House. Being a thorough workman and a good fellow, he is extensively patronized. He interests himself in municipal matters and for three years past has been in the town council. When any hair splitting business comes up he ought to be able for the best of them.

A. J. Gregg,

watchmaker and jeweler, keeps a well selected stock of watches, clocks, jewelry, silverware, spectacles and other goods. He makes fine watch repairing a specialty, and being a practical and mechanical man deals successfully with the most delicate or complicated movement.

Edward Hilton,

is a baker and confectioner, noted for the superior quality of his bread. His store is well supplied with goods, and in the rear there is a comfortable ice cream and oyster parlor. Mr. M. is well patronized and is doing a successful business.

Rushton & Cochrane.

Grain and pork are necessarily two important products of the farmer, and more particularly in a place remarkable for its fertility. Among the grain and pork buyers the above firm take a leading place and are known as liberal, reliable men.

Watson Bros.,

wholesale and retail dealers in furniture and manufacturers of staves, heading and lumber. This firm has been in existence 5 years and is composed of four brothers, all active, enterprising men. Their output is about $20,000 annually and the principal part of their manufactures is shipped to the east. In their retail warerooms they display an attractive stock.

Dr. E. A. Clark

has just moved to a fine new store on the corner of Erie and Main-street, which for fittings, attractiveness and convenience has no equal west of London. The stock of drugs, chemicals and other goods is all that is to be found in a high-class drug store. Dispensing promptly attended to.

The Benton House.

Mrs. A. Benton is proprietress of this old-established house and endeavors to keep it both first-class and home-like. It has all been refitted lately and supplied with electric bells and will be lighted with the electric light.

E. Moore

succeeded H. McDonald, and deals in hardware, tinware, stoves, silverware, paints and oils, lamp goods, etc. Mr. M. is a practical, energetic business man and keeps things moving. He is doing a satisfactory business.

H. M. Green

is in the hardware business on a large scale. He deals in shelf and heavy hardware, stoves, tinware, galvanized iron, paints and oils. A complete stock is also kept of builders' and wagon makers' supplies. He enjoys a large and constantly increasing business.

Bagaman & Juli

have been in business 10 years and have one of the best stores in the place. It is divided into two departments, one comprising dry goods, fancy dress goods, millinery and ordered clothing; the other groceries, gents' furnishings and ready-made clothing. They make tailoring a specialty, and in this they have a high reputation for good fits and moderate prices, and have consequently captured a large share of the trade.

Cattle & Porter

are dealers in harness, trunks, valises and turf goods. They display a large stock of single and double harness, robes, blankets, brushes, etc., and, keeping competent workmen and using the best kind of material, their make of harness is a guarantee of its good quality. They take first prizes wherever they exhibit.

W. Mills,

barrister and solicitor, has been practising since 1878. He has a good practice and has the confidence of the public as a safe counsellor and reliable business man.

H. Robinson,

baker and confectioner, has an old established business, and caters to the wants of all requiring plain or fancy baking of any kind. Fruit and other cakes of the best quality constantly on hand and made to order.

Dr. Young

is a graduate of McGill and the Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons. He has been practising for 15 years, is coroner for the county, and is a useful citizen professionally and otherwise. He has taken considerable interest in municipal matters and has been mayor.

Shippey & Cloane

have a livery and keep on an average 15 horses, with rigs of all kinds for summer and winter. They are courteous, obliging gentlemen, and do the biggest part of this business.

W. R. Howe, V. S.,

graduate of Toronto Veterinary College, has been practising for 5 years with excellent success. His office is on the corner of Erie and David-street. He is owner of the celebrated pacing stallion Captain Jack, whose time is 2.24¾.

A. Tolmie

is a well-known contractor and builder. A practical carpenter of 30 years' experience, he knows as much about building as most men. He is an industrious, square-dealing, reliable man and a good workman.

W. H. Waters,

proprietor of the Victoria Carriage Works, manufactures carriages of all kinds, buggies, cutters, etc., and does a snug business, employing 8 to 10 men.

J. H. Mitton.

In a county like Kent, where so much wheat is raised, the milling interest is naturally an important one. For enterprise the millers here are not behind those of any other place and when the roller process was found to be the correct thing they fitted up their mills with them. Mr. Mitton does a big business in his mill and ships largely to the east.

The Deadly Smoked Sausage.

LACROSSE, Wis., Jan. 27.—Yesterday morning Robert Schen, a shoemaker, bought some smoked sausage and the whole family, consisting of himself, wife and five children, ate heartily of it. They soon became deathly sick. Physicians were called and by hard work the older members of the family were got out of danger. It is doubtful if the younger ones will recover. Schen had been in jail for abusing his wife and the family were half-starved. The matter will be investigated.

Much distress and sickness in children is caused by worms. Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator gives relief by removing the cause. Give it a trial and be convinced.

New York's New Market Place.

NEW YORK, Jan. 27.—The new West Washington Market at Gansevoot-square was formally opened yesterday. The structure is the most costly and possesses more facilities for the business to which it is devoted than any other market of its kind in the world. A procession of 1600 marketmen, a squad of policemen and long lines of market wagons and vans and other conveyances formed at the old market and proceeded to the more substantial quarters, displaying flags and banners.

Holloway's Corn Cure destroys all kinds of corns and warts, root and branch. Who then would endure them with such a cheap and effectual remedy within reach?

The Maritime Conference.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—The Secretary of State has received from the United States minister to Great Britain a telegram stating that the British Government has notified him of its acceptance of the invitation to the International Maritime Conference to be held in Washington this autumn, subject to certain reservations as to the nature of the particular questions to be submitted and to the necessity of ratification by the powers represented.

Free and easy expectoration immediately relieves and frees the throat and lungs from viscid phlegm, and a medicine that promotes this is the best medicine to use for coughs, colds, inflammation of the lungs and all affections of the throat and chest. This is precisely what Bickle's Anti-Consumptive Syrup is a specific for, and wherever used it has given unbounded satisfaction. Children like it because it is pleasant, adults like it because it relieves and cures the disease.

Rob Ingersoll Blackballed.

NEW YORK, Jan. 27.—Col. R. G. Ingersoll has been blackballed by the newly established Players' Club founded by Edwin Booth. It is said that the reason of the Colonel's rejection was entirely on account of his anti-religious views. The Colonel says he was proposed for membership without his knowledge.

Mr. T. J. Humes, Columbus, Ohio, writes: "I have been afflicted for some time with Kidney and Liver Complaint, and find Parmelee's Pills the best medicine for these diseases. These Pills do not cause pain or griping, and should be used when a cathartic is required. They are Gelatine Coated, and rolled in the Flour of Licorice to preserve their purity, and give them a pleasant, agreeable taste.

Panic in a St. Louis Theatre.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 27.—A scene of wild excitement occurred at the Olympic Theatre yesterday afternoon. Near the end of the first act of Erminie a small fire was noticed and the great audience became panic stricken. Then someone shouted "Fire!" For a time it looked as though there must be loss of life, as the audience was composed principally of women and children. Some women fainted, others went into hysterics and it was with great difficulty that the few men present restored order. No casualties are reported.

Mr. C. E. Riggins, Beamsville, writes: "A customer who tried a bottle of Northrop & Lyman's Vegetable Discovery says it is the best thing he ever used; to quote his own words, 'It just seems to touch the spot affected.' About a year ago he had an attack of bilious fever, and was afraid he was in for another, when I recommended this valuable medicine with such happy results."

The U. S. Senate Tariff Bill.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—The tariff bill has been received by the House Ways and Means Committee and a meeting has been called for Tuesday to begin its consideration. It is the intention to discuss the Senate amendments thoroughly in committee, and estimates will be prepared showing the probable effect of them on the revenue, from the standpoint of the Ways and Means Committee. This will take some time and an early report upon the bill does not appear to be probable.

Here at last—the boys' Halifax tweed and blue serge suits at 99c. have arrived at the Army & Navy Stores from England—this time they are lined. Don't fail to secure one at once. Have you seen the nobby little overcoats—blue nap, with cape, for 98c., $1.25, $1.50, $2, and so on, at the Army & Navy Stores? They are selling like ripe cherries. Trade is very brisk at the Army & Navy. The low prices for fine goods seem to be what the people want, and the Army & Navy is the place to go to.

White Cap Outrages in Ohio.

MANSFIELD, O., Jan. 27.—The White Caps paid a visit to Jeromeville and the homes of John and Adam Chrown in the southern part of Ashland County last night. There were forty horsemen in the party and about thirty men on foot. They visited the homes of three people who sympathized with the Chrowns and tore down their houses. After doing this they visited John and Adam Chrown's residences, but the occupants had left. Five of the Chrowns were tried for the murder of Constables Kelly and Neilly a year ago.

An old bachelor says: I would have been married twenty years ago if we had had the Army & Navy Stores in Toronto. Why, I never could afford to keep myself in clothing, and was always in debt; but now I buy my suits and overcoats at the Army & Navy Stores, and I have enough left to support a wife in luxury. I am looking for one now, but I fear nobody will have me. I am grown so old. Why this fine nap overcoat I have on cost me only ten dollars. It is worth twenty.

Coal Operatives Out of Work.

SHENANDOAH, Pa., Jan. 27.—Nearly 3000 men were thrown out of work in this part of the coal regions by the suspension of all the Lehigh Coal Company and individual collieries. The "strippings" at this place and Mahanoy City also suspended, adding several hundred men for whom there is no work to the list. Crowds of idle men stand about the street corners discussing the situation. All the Philadelphia and Reading collieries are in operation.

A Wise Man and a Fool.—Before a wise man parts with his money he looks around to see where he can get the most for his dollars, and to such we would say don't part with your gold till you have seen the clothing at the Army & Navy Stores. The Army & Navy Stores keep the very best clothing that can be manufactured. They will not sell shoddy if they know it. Just now a great sale of overcoats for men and boys. Take a look through the Army & Navy before you buy—you will not be worried to buy if you only come to look.

VOICES OF THE CHURCHES.

SOME REMARKABLE UTTERANCES BY LOCAL DIVINES YESTERDAY.

Canon Knox Little's Mission and Opinions Criticized—Protestant Popery—The Confessional—Blackfoot and Blood Indians and Methodism—Those Lost Ten Tribes.

The pulpit utterance in Toronto yesterday were notable for the advocacy of missions, especially to the Indians, and a pretty general denunciation of the High Church doctrines and teaching of Canon Knox Little. Rev. Le Roy Hooker, Rev. John Burton, Rev. A. F. Macgregor were specially severe on the Canon. Dr. Wild took Baron Hirsch to task for meddling with the Jewish question; Rev. G. H. Sandwell, an English Congregational minister, created a most favorable impression at Zion Congregational Church; Vicar-General Rooney with great ceremony blessed the Stations of the Cross at the Church of the Sacred Heart; and other greater and lesser lights in the church militant more or less edified their flocks.

PROTESTANT POPERY.

Rev. LeRoy Hooker Pronounces His Anathemas on Such Masquerading.

The pastor of the Metropolitan Methodist Church last night did not mince his words in reference to Canon Knox Little's recent mission in Toronto. His subject was the divine persistency and final triumph of the gospel. In treating of its persecutions he assailed the Church of Rome, her pretensions, assumptions and persecutions as vigorously as does Father Chiniquy or Dr. Wild. This apostate church had persecuted to the death 20,000,000 of Protestants. The beadship of the Pope is treason against Christ. Rome arrogates ghostly powers and priestly functions which were never committed to any son of man.

Baptismal regeneration, the sacrifice of the holy eucharist, priestly confession and absolution he strongly condemned as unscriptural, whether taught in the Church of Rome or out of it. Luther loosened the joints of the Roman Colossus and they have never set since. The divisions amongst Protestants are no argument against Protestantism. "Distinct as the waves but one as the sea" described the evangelical sects. Having thus quoted an American poet the preacher drew an analogy from Britain's Poet Laureate:

Saxon and Dane and Norman are we.
But all of us Danes in our welcome of thee!

So it was with England's welcome to the Princess of Wales; so it is as regards the branches of Protestantism and the open Bible.

There was a time when Protestant England was staunch against Rome. Now it was needful to remember the words of Dr. Punshon, whose name is so intimately connected with the Metropolitan Church. He saw Popery rising in his loved England, and exhorted his countrymen to put a barred door between themselves and Popery and to have no peace with Rome.

"When," said Mr. Hooker, "the Roman wolf comes in Protestant guise he is still the Roman wolf, when the vulture comes in the garb of the dove it is still the vulture; the breath of such a one is obscene with his heresies. If any man could borrow the tongue of angels and preach these old heresies it is the duty of every Protestant to protest against him. Protestant Popery is the meanest kind of Popery in the world. I can have some respect for a man who stands up for the Pope, but when a man wears the livery of Protestantism and in Protestant churches preaches the heresies of the Church of Rome he adds the crime of meanness to his other guilt. It is necessary for us to be awake. In the United States Protestants have had to rally to protect their common schools, and it will not be long before we shall have to do the same."

BLACKFOOT AND BLOOD INDIANS.

A Missionary Tells of His Experiences Among These Tribes.

Rev. J. McLean of Fort McLeod, N.W.T., is a good specimen of muscular Christianity. He is stout and robust, with abundant jet black hair, mustache and mutton-chop whiskers. He speaks with a pronounced Scotch accent and seems to have thriven during his eight years of missionary privations among the Blackfoot and Blood Indians. Yesterday, in lieu of preaching sermons, he made a new departure in Methodist pulpits. He entirely ignored a text or any goody-goody talk and gave lectures on his special work, in the morning at St. Paul's, Avenue-road, and in the evening at Spadina-avenue Methodist Tabernacle. He was voluble, anecdotal and his subject matter interesting.

Pastor A. M. Phillips made a brief financial statement of the Methodist Missionary Society, whose total income last year was $219,408, being an increase of $17,605; expenditure $195,469, increase $6183. St. Paul's Church contributed $459. From financial references he came to personal. Mr. Phillips introduced his old college chum, Mr. McLean, and gave some happy reminiscences.

Then the Indian missioner launched out on his subject, on which he spoke nearly an hour. He told how nine years ago he left Ontario for the Far West. "Westward Ho!" was then, as now, the cry. The influx of immigration, the wonderful land beyond Manitoba, its untold capabilities, vast extent, glorious scenery, unrivalled fertility and other factors in "our goodly heritage" were topics of Mr. McLean's discourse.

Men—the real article—are wanted to evangelize that district. Mere sentimentalists and murderers of the Queen's English are despised by the cowboys and ranchers, many of whom are graduates of Oxford, Cambridge, Victoria and Toronto. Then came particulars of the various Indian tribes, their approximate numbers and peculiarities. Details of their domestic life, their devotional spirit, worship of the Great Sun, sacrifices to stones where the gods rest and to trees were plentifully given. "So much money has been spent, how many souls have you saved?" is the utilitarian question. "Dollars and cents!" contemptuously the lecturer declaimed. "I didn't think the Methodist Church was so low-minded and sensual."

Next Mr. McLean eulorized the Indians' language, described his learning it in wigwams and lodges, told of the translation of the Scriptures in the native tongue, related his experiences of the "medicine men" and their influence. He had to become as much as possible an Indian to gain their confidence and attention. His successes in civilizing and evangelizing he recounted, especially in the Blood Reserve.

The conclusion of the whole matter was that Indian missions pay. Methodist hymns are sung around the log fires. "In the lodges you will hear as good testimonies as in any Methodist camp-meeting."

BARON HIRSCH AND THE JEWS.

The Bond-street Prophet Ridicules the Baron's Scheme.

Dr. Wild rode his favorite hobby last night. He was in his element—treating of the house of Judah and the house of Israel. Said he: Some rivers are known to disappear or to plunge into some great cavern and further on again reappear. So it has been with the house of Israel. They lost all knowledge of their own identity, and the surrounding nations knew not that they were the literal chosen Israel, the sons of God.

Of all people on earth the British people have most trouble in tracing their origin. No historian can find the source of our existence. They have been saying in England: "You are not the house of Israel." We are beginning now to say: "We are the sons of God."

The next step will be that Israel and Judah will recognize each other. But this will not likely happen for some time. It will be some time before Judah recognizes that we are of the same blood and family as they.

The next step will be that the two will have to blend together and become one people and one nation. After the next great European war the Jews will be put under the protectorate of Britain. They will have a governor of their own. That governor or his successor will turn traitor or make an alliance with Russia and Austria, proclaim himself Antechrist and bring on the battle of Armageddon.

Baron Hirsch, the millionaire of Paris, might as well try to bribe the moon to merge into the sun as to try to destroy the identity of the Jewish race as he is endeavoring with his millions to do. God has a great work for them to do yet. In every way the Jew has been persecuted. They were not allowed to deal in raw materials, they could not deal in anything that was new, and so were forced to deal in second-hand goods. That is how they got into the habit, and though we compelled them to sell second-hand goods they beat us every time and come out best. We wouldn't allow them to hold land but they held mortgages all the same.

The Jews are certain to return Palestine to re-build the temple as planned and surveyed in the last eight chapters of Ezekiel. We may send all our missionary societies in the world to them. We can't change them from this. Let us be at peace with them, for neither Baron Hirsch nor you nor I can turn aside the fixed purposes of God's providence.

SCEPTICISM OR ROME.

The Broadway Congregational Pastor's Strictures on Canon Knox Little.

The Rev. A. F. McGregor preached in the Western Congregational Church last night on "Extreme Ritualism: a choice between Popery and Scepticism." The reverend gentleman's remarks were principally confined to a criticism of the late sermons of Canon Knox Little. "His teachings," Mr. McGregor said, "help to defend and help to foster ecclesiastical exclusiveness." The body to which the Canon belonged was "the only true church." He did not say it was impossible for those to be saved who were not adherents of his church. He did not contend that there were not many outside of the Catholic Church calling themselves Christians who would be saved, the Wesleyans, the Presbyterians, for instance. But among the elect he had not included the Congregationalists, at least had said nothing about them. They did not belong to the true Catholic Church according to the interpretation of the Canon.

While personally Canon Knox Little was undoubtedly a great soul, a very superior man in many ways, yet we should distinguish between the man and his teachings.

Baptism, according to Knox Little's belief, was a ceremony of such efficacy as to change utterly the nature of the child baptized. He did not know how the Canon would defend the statement that the sins of the child rested upon the godfather and godmother until confirmation, but it was in such statements that men like Robert Ingersoll found a target for their shafts of sarcasm against Christianity.

Mr. McGregor also criticized the Canon's remarks with regard to the Real Presence. According to him, unless the elements were consecrated by a priest the sacrament was valueless. But Congregationalists believed the bread and wine merely to be a remembrance of Christ and His atonement.

Upon the Canon's efforts to introduce the confessional the reverend gentleman was particularly severe. Of course the Canon had not urged it as an essential, but had deemed it advisable. Against this Canadians should record their earnest protest, as the Confessional had ever been a power in the hands of Rome. The Canon's proper place, in the opinion of Mr. McGregor, was on the side of Cardinal Manning. "Scepticism or Rome" is the only choice for such as Canon Knox Little.

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART.

Blessing the Stations of the Cross—An Interesting Ceremony.

The little Church of the Sacred Heart at the corner of King and Sackville-streets was yesterday the scene of an interesting religious ceremony. This church, formerly the East End Presbyterian, was purchased by the Roman Catholics for $12,000, and was refitted and consecrated in October last. It has a beautiful altar and its ceiling is artistically frescoed. It is splendidly furnished and has a seating capacity for 700. The congregation consists of 300 French families, who have for their devoted pastor the popular and good-natured Father Lamarche.

The ceremony performed yesterday was the blessing of the Stations of the Cross. It was carried out in grand style. The fourteen stations were blessed and one by one hung in place on the walls of the church. As each picture was placed in position the Vicar-General read the station and prayer, to which the acolytes who accompanied him responded, and as they moved from one station to the other the choir chanted the "Stabat Mater." When the pictures had been placed, the Te Deum was sung. Then Vicar-General Rooney delivered a short sermon. The making of the Stations of the Cross, "he said," is one of the grandest devotions of the Roman Catholic Church. It has been practised since the foundation of the Christian religion. The mother of God after the crucifixion of her Divine Son on the Cross made a practice of going over the path our Saviour trod to Calvary. She did so in order to keep fresh in her mind the torments He suffered on that road. When she had continued this devotion for some time she was joined by the holy women of Jerusalem who day by day followed the steps of the Redeemer. When the Turks invaded Jerusalem the devotion was banished. It was confined, however, to the churches, where it has continued to the present day. The Vicar-General exhorted his hearers to follow their Jesus step by step to Calvary, and to bury their sins in the tomb in which He was buried.

After the sermon a grand benediction was given. Miss Brewster, Father Chalandard, Mr. Kirk and Mr. O'Connell of St. Basil's choir took part.

At Sherbourne-street Methodist Church.

The pulpit both morning and evening was occupied by the pastor, Rev. E. A. Stafford. His subject in the morning was the lesson of man's responsibility to man. The Doctor gave some incidents in his experience in the Northwest. He was frequently in contact with the Indians though not actually engaged in missionary work. He said, I want to give you reasons why the missions in the Northwest among the Indians should be helped. In the district west of the northern shores of Lake Superior, right to the Rocky Mountains, there are 56,000 Indians. Of these we have reached 10,000 and my reasons for help are:

1. We are their keepers, and Providence by the voice of opportunity tells us to do our duty.

2. They are part of our Dominion and are especially part of our charge. We have taken advantage of their ignorance. We are accustomed to boast of our treatment of the Indians, but there are some things in the treaties that won't bear close looking into. The Government give them $5 a head and $15 to $25 to the chief men or councillors. They look upon $5 as a competence. They are not used to the white man's money. They have surrendered all their territory and the Government gives them a reserve and allows them farm instructors, but still, in all the treaties made, their ignorance has been taken advantage of.

3. Their utter degradation appeals to us. They have gone into Winnipeg and Brandon and I have seen them, the thermometer being at zero and the poor creatures nearly frozen to death, go into the back premises and rake over the refuse for morsels of food, especially in the case of the barrels of refuse thrown from a butcher's store. And this in summer too, when it is even worse. The utter degradation and starvation is appalling. Women and men alike talk about the romance of the national nobility of the Indian! Why, here is the abomination of moral degradation, crime and filth.

4. Their amenability to moral influences is marvelous. Even the hearts of the worst of them can be reached.

5. The last reason is that no other agency can do the work. The Government offers a liberal salary to anyone who will go and teach a plain English education with as much religious instruction as they can, but who will go and leave a comfortable home to sit on the banks of the Saskatchewan teaching school and never see a white face except one's own wife, or husband, or child for $300 a year? But the church can do the work by appealing on the grounds of religious feeling.

In the afternoon the Rev. Thos. Crosby of the Port Simpson Mission and Rev. Dr. John McLean, missionary to the Blood Indians at Fort McLeod, gave some very interesting narratives of their work.

Dr. Stafford's sermon at night was an able exposition of the text, "The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof."

To-night the missionary services will be continued, and a platform meeting will be chairmaned by Mr. Wm. Gooderham and addressed by Revs. Mr. Crosby and Mr. McLean. A special musical service will be rendered by the choir. Last year Sherbourne-street was second in the Dominion in the way of contributions, totalling $3457.

Christians in Convention.

A three days' Christian conference concluded in Victoria Hall yesterday. This is the first time this body has held a convention in Toronto. They formerly met in Hamilton. The convention just closed has been attended by delegates from different parts of the country and the Old Country. The order of procedure has been: In the morning "breaking of bread," in the afternoon addresses by delegates and in the evening a gospel meeting. On Saturday evening the speakers were Mr. Haliburton of Ireland; Mr. John Smith of Aberdeen, Scotland, and Mr. John Carnie of Owen Sound. Mr. Haliburton spoke of Christ's redemption. Mr. Smith dealt with Peter's denial of his Lord and took up also the Parable of the Ten Virgins. Mr. Carnie gave a graphic description of the great cemetery of eternity. Amongst others who have spoken at the convention are Mr. Donald Ross of Chicago, Mr. Muir of Detroit and Mr. Oliver of Philadelphia. The convention closed last night with an evangelistic service, but a continuation of the meetings will be held in Gospel Hall, corner of Spadina and Farley-avenues, during the present week.

The Confessional in the Church of England.

Rev. John Burton in his sermon last night in the Northern Congregational Church spoke principally on "Confession," and alluded to Canon Knox-Little's late mission in the city. "The entire spirit of the Canon's addresses seemed to be to interpose a sacerdotal system between the sinner and the Saviour. "Confession is a great privilege, but it is