

The Canadian Independent.

"ONE IS YOUR MASTER, EVEN CHRIST, AND ALL YE ARE BRETHERN."

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TORONTO gave Lorne and Louise a most enthusiastic welcome.

THE Roman Catholic authorities have sanctioned the publication of the New Testament in Spanish.

THE Sunday closing Act in Ireland has diminished the number of arrests for drunkenness two-thirds.

THE English Wesleyans have appointed a Committee to arrange for an Ecumenical Methodist Conference.

THE Anti-Tobacco Society has petitioned the French Chambers to prohibit smoking in the streets and cafes by youths under sixteen.

PRINCIPAL TULLOCH is likely to be invited to London as the successor of Dr. Cumming. The scheme is to build a church which will specially represent the Scotch establishment in the metropolis.

THE organ of the Irish High Church party has suspended publication. High-churchism has never been very popular among the Episcopalians of the Green Isle. There is so much of Romanism there that any imitation of it is not needed.

THE Annual Convention of the Sunday School Association of Ontario will be held in this city from October 7th to 9th. We see that the Rev. F. H. Marling, formerly pastor of Bond street Congregational Church, is to be present and take part in the exercises. The Convention promises to be a success.

REV. G. S. GALLAGHER, of Ogden, Utah, says the half can never be told of the terrible degradation of the women of Utah; that Mormonism is not dying out; it was never stronger than now. It not only fills Utah, but overflows into the adjoining Territories. The National Government can and ought to check its growth; but nothing short of Christian education can effect any radical cure of the social ulcer, the political cancer.

THE new Sunday school in connection with the First Congregational Church, Winnipeg, was organized in the City Hall on Sunday afternoon, 31st ult., with the most gratifying success. The total attendance was forty-seven, which was divided into four

classes, and a Bible class, the latter numbering nineteen adults. The latter surprised even the most sanguine of those instrumental in organizing it. Rev. Mr. Ewing teaches the Bible class, and John Villiers is superintendent.—*Times.*

SOME months ago, some young men of the working class at Walkden, England, becoming dissatisfied with the ritualistic practices in the English Church, formed themselves into a committee, hired a room, and engaged a missionary. Out of this beginning, a congregation has grown which fills the room, a Congregational church has been formed, and a minister regularly called.

THE famous old Dr. John Brown, who was of old the minister at Haddington, Scotland, was in the habit of talking to his divinity students in a way which might wisely be followed by some of the professors of the present time. He would say to them, "Young gentlemen, ye need 'lee things to make ye good ministers. Ye need learning, and grace, and common sense. As for the learning, I'll try to set ye in the way of it; as for grace, ye must always pray for it; but if ye have na brought the common sense with ye, ye may go about your business."

IT is a noble tribute the fidelity with which the Jews have observed the command of God to Moses, "Thou shalt open thy hand wide even to thy brother, to thy poor, and to thy needy in thy land," and there is believed to be not a pauper Jew in the United States. A prominent Jew of Philadelphia, who for four years has been compiling the statistics of Judaism in this country makes this statement: "Every Hebrew of the 250,000 in this country able to work, finds something to do, and the sick and infirm are provided for by benevolent societies." Of what other nationality or faith can this be said?

CHRISTIAN missionaries have made their mark in Japan to such an extent that some of the Buddhists of that country are preparing young men to go out as preachers to counteract the teachings of the missionaries. A number of these young men have been sent to China and India for thorough instruction in the mysteries of Buddhism. But these strongholds of error will crumble before the artillery of the Gospel, and the day is not far distant when this land shall be called Christian. A very encouraging result of woman's work there is the awakening upon the subject of female education. The Empress has become so much interested that she has inaugurated a female normal college, and gives to it five thousand dollars.

A MINISTER in Cleveland said in his anniversary sermon to his flock:—"In respect of labour I might have done more for you, perhaps, and those outside certainly, if I had been content to burn the candle at both ends. But I never considered suicide a Christian grace, and, the Lord helping me, I never mean to kill myself before my time by work beyond my conscious strength." "This is far better," says a newspaper in comment, "both for himself and for his church, than if he had ruinously worked himself to the edge of the grave, and then asked the congregation to send him to Europe for a year to recover his health." Nevertheless it is these earnest men who work night and day, burning the candle at both ends, who build up the churches of Christ in our land. Epaphroditus was a preacher of this kind. And we are told to "hold such in reputation because for the work of Christ he was nigh unto death not regarding his life."

VERY HELPFUL.

Let John Ruskin speak. His venerable father has passed away at the ripe old age of seventy-nine. He rests in the quiet God's acre of Shirley. No hopeless heathen symbol pollutes that marble slab. But there we read the tribute of the cultured son to his father's Christian worth. It is strikingly suggestive, "His memory is very dear and helpful."

That his memory should be very dear, is surely natural; but that it should be very helpful, is a rich theme for earnest thought. His life very helpful to such a son then he was no common man.

That John Ruskin should cause it to be engraven there, shows how very much he felt he was indebted to his father's training and his father's life.

Life helpful, very helpful, lies within the reach of every true Christian. The world from the yearning hearts of the discouraged, the adrift, the erring, is ever crying out: "Help! Oh, for Jesus' sake help me!" One warm grip from thy hand, one decided word from thy lips, and some undecided one decides for God and the eternal right. You read with thrilling interest the story of Isandula and of Rorke's Drift, and you see there in those sad groups of the unburied dead, that wherever some brave man made his last stand, there others gathered shoulder to shoulder and fell side by side. No decided Christian life is ever lived in vain. Nothing done for Christ is ever lost. The flower may not bloom for a generation, but burst it will. The seed may not ripen into harvest until sown in some far away land, but ripen it will.

Very helpful fathers are sorely needed from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Without them the street corner will turn out its shoals of godless graduates. Does the father despise the worship and the work of Christ, then we may be almost sure the sons will be the leaders in everything unmanly and vile. But with very helpful fathers, the home becomes a power vital with Godwardness and Godlikeness. How suggestive the boyish sarcasm, "Is your father a Christian? Well, I don't know, but if he is, he is not working much at it just now." It was a very foolish question to put to a child, yet that child gives most undesignedly a fearfully vivid picture of sad, sad home life, by far too common. How very different when the boy heard his godly father charged with atrocious sin, with one indignant glance he looks the slanderer in the face and calmly says, "You great daft thing you," scornfully turned on his heel and walked away. Very foolish fathers may urge their minister to guide their wayward sons, "a good talking to." No, the better way is, let the father be a very helpful one to his sons in all true manhood and all true piety, and the day will come when those same sons will say, "Thank God I had such a noble father." If a father's piety is worth a straw, the flower will be family religion, the eternal harvest, family salvation.

Very helpful mothers are also sorely needed everywhere. Frivolous mothers, over-wrought mothers, are children to be loathed, to be thought a burden and a curse? Queenly motherhood joyously welcomes the God-sent, and lovingly helps the dearest to start aright from a mother's knee to the throne of God. Dress, society, accomplishments, all have their use and their place, but the true glory of the house-mother is, when her memory is very dear and helpful. The daughters may toil through life in unlettered obscurity, or they may rise to cultured fame and fortune, but there is ever before them the sainted mother. Did she bend the knee in darkest hours of life, they do it; had she hallowed songs for cradle and sanctuary, so have they, is her memory very dear and helpful, so assuredly will be theirs.

Ministers, very dear and helpful are urgently needed.