

the "church of their forefathers," who, professedly, when the fit is on them, would rather go to the stake than see "a papist" in Parliament, who would not pollute themselves by association with, or support of any one who would consort with one of them, have been known to pay over at once to aid a Roman Catholic Bazar, more probably than they have given during their whole life for French evangelization. Behold Protestant and Presbyterian liberality! What a beautiful sight! Sons worthy of their sires! We can fancy how his lordship, the bishop, suave and polished as a bishop should be, and his whole body guard of priests, lay brothers and sisters, would laugh in their sleeve, and enjoy as a huge joke the sight of befooled or religiously addleheaded Methodist class leaders and Presbyterian elders praying, and paying their little dribblets, the one day for the conversion of blinded Roman Catholics, and the next giving their presence and their dollars for the encouragement, the upbuilding and spread of the only true Church, and for the honour and glory of his Holiness, the Pope!

THE ONTARIO LORD'S DAY ALLIANCE.

ON Friday of last week an important meeting was held in the Bible House of this city for the purpose of completing the formation and organization of a Lord's Day Alliance for the province of Ontario. We have already narrated some of the preliminary steps which had been taken previous to the above mentioned meeting. This gathering, though not large in numbers, was yet fairly representative of the different religious bodies in the city, and delegates were present from Hamilton, Kingston, St. Thomas, St. Catharines, Guelph, Niagara Falls, Oshawa; and communications were read from several other places both east and west, expressing sympathy with the movement and promising co-operation. We were glad to see that Presbyterians were well represented. The chair at the afternoon meeting and for a part of the evening was occupied by Mr. John A. Patterson, barrister, and Mr. A. E. O'Meara, who has been very active in advancing the movement, acted as secretary.

The name to be given to the organization was soon settled upon, and the meeting in the afternoon was chiefly occupied in discussing and settling the constitution and fixing the objects of the Alliance. This required no little discussion, which was very generally taken part in, conducted in an admirable spirit and with evident earnestness on the part of all present. The constitution in printed form will in a few days at most be obtainable from Mr. A. E. O'Meara, No. 77 Confederation Life Building of this city. In the meantime, and generally, we may mention that the objects of the alliance are, by the action of a powerful and widespread organization, to aid local branches in their endeavors to procure the enforcement of the Lord's Day Act as it now stands, to test its efficiency, and if, when put to the test, it shall be found insufficient, to obtain fuller legislation; to watch legislation which may be sought for, especially by certain kinds of corporations, and see that none is permitted unfavorable to Sabbath Observance, and to seek by the use of all legitimate means to influence public opinion, and by proper instruction of the young particularly, to promote the growth of such a sentiment with regard to the Lord's Day, as shall both safeguard it as a day of rest and worship, and shall do away with such forms of Sabbath-breaking as have already arisen in the country. In the constitution provision is made for the formation of local branches over the whole country, and it is hoped, and it is very important that this hope shall be realized, that these will be speedily formed not only in the cities, but in all towns, and in every important village. What is needed is a strong, and widely diffused public opinion upon this subject, the whole force of which can be brought to bear upon the enforcement in every part of the Province of laws now existing for the protection of the Sabbath, and in obtaining such further legislation as may be found necessary for effectually guarding the day of rest. As funds will be needed, and quite probably to a considerable amount, the membership fee was fixed at one dollar, and a yearly payment of not less than fifty cents.

The constitution settled, the permanent office-bearers for the year were nominated through a nominating committee, and resulted in the election of Mr. J. K. Macdonald as the first president, and

Mr. A. E. O'Meara as secretary, Mr. Elias Rogers treasurer, with four vice-presidents and a large committee representing the different parts of the province. Mr. Macdonald in the chair, called for reports from the delegates from beyond the city as to the state of matters in their respective localities as regards the observance or desecration of the Sabbath. All the delegates reported more or less fully, and from their statements the following would appear to be about the state of matters in the country as regards this most important matter.

First, that Sabbath desecration in the shape of running street cars, and, in the season, of pleasure excursions by water, and by railways, funerals and driving for pleasure, prevails already to a very considerable extent, the city of Hamilton apparently having obtained an unenviable pre-eminence in this respect.

Second, that the principal enemies to the Sabbath, and the principal source of danger to it arises from wealthy and powerful railway and steamboat corporations, which carry on Sabbath desecration under unscrupulous pretenses and dishonest evasions in every possible way, as it is believed both of the letter and spirit of the present Sabbath laws, and in defiance of the local authorities.

Third, that the chief immediate cause of Sabbath desecration on the part of these corporations is simply rapacity and greed, a desire and determination to make money at all hazards, and in every way possible, so far as they can do it, and yet escape, or evade the law, and often by bold defiance of it, trusting to their wealth and strength, the unwillingness of individuals to take the aggressive, and the difficulty for one reason or another of securing convictions when they do. One great advantage, and an important object hoped to be secured by the formation of the Ontario Lord's Day Alliance, is the ability that may in this way be obtained to cope with, and fight out the battle with these corporations. For this purpose it was suggested by the president, and able lawyers present at the meeting quite agreed with the suggestion, that it would be indispensably necessary for the Alliance to appoint and employ a solicitor to watch legislation carefully and act on its behalf, and Mr. A. E. O'Meara was accordingly appointed to that office.

Fourth, all reports agree in the likelihood of an increase of Sabbath desecration, and the expectation, endeavour and determination of those now doing it, is to do so on a larger scale during the coming Summer and excursion season than in the past. All were agreed upon this. It came out, and working men everywhere should take heed to it, that very soon the good and gratification of working men are forgotten by the corporations which at first plead this reason for Sabbath-breaking, and they become instruments and means of heartless oppression of the working man. Instances of this were given by delegates who spoke from personal knowledge. Representatives of labour present at the meeting pointed out the important and helpful bearing upon Sabbath observance as a day of rest, of the general enjoyment by statutory provision of the Saturday half-holiday. Encouragement was given to this movement by the meeting, and further help was promised to it by a resolution which was passed, instructing the Executive Committee to take such steps as it may consider necessary to secure the passing of legislation for obtaining this boon for all.

Lastly, the necessity of prompt action was emphasized so that such steps might be taken during the present session of the local Legislature as might be necessary, if any, to increase the efficiency of the present Lord's Day Act, and by watchfulness prevent any legislation which may be sought, as it is expected it will be, to enable corporations now desecrating the Lord's Day to do so on a still larger scale and with greater impunity in the future than in the past.

It is hoped that this movement will be very heartily and generally entered into, so that not only will the strong arm of the law be brought down promptly and effectively against law breakers, but also that a powerful and sound public sentiment may be created throughout the country to guard, defend and perpetuate this great gift of God to man, upon which depends not alone the existence and power of religion, but even the preservation of those material benefits and blessings indispensable to the well-being of civil society. All information how to proceed in the formation of local branches will be promptly supplied upon application to Mr. A. E. O'Meara, Room 77, Confederation Life Building, Toronto.

Books and Magazines.

Besides the stories which have been running for some time the *Methodist Magazine* for March contains several articles of more than usual interest and merit. We may mention the following which are beautifully illustrated:—"Our Own Country," "Prince Edward Island," "Everyday Life in Bible Lands," "General Booth," "Hospitals, their History and Mission," "The Structure of the Stellar Universe," and "Medical Missions." Wm. Briggs, Toronto.

The Treasury of Religious Thought for March contains as sermons, "The Unction of the Holy Spirit upon Jesus Christ, the Source of His Power and the Type of our Atoning by the Spirit," by Rev. Oliver C. Miller of Roanoke Va., and "An Earnest Life," by Rev. Gerrard B. F. Hallock, Rochester, N. Y. "Sermonic Thoughts and Leading Sermonic Outlines," are suggestive and helpful to the preacher. "A Lenten Lecture," by the late Philips Brooks, and "An Easter Sermon," by Rev. David Gregg, D.D., of Brooklyn, are suitable for the present season. An interesting article is "Two Decades of Baptist Progress." This excellent magazine contains several special departments all of which will be found helpful. E. B. Treat, 5 Cooper Union, New York, V. S.

The March number of *Godey's Magazine* shows that this famous old publication is rapidly approaching the front, and that the public is appreciating it is shown by the phenomenal increase in circulation during the last few months. This number contains as leading articles: "Ben Bolt," illustrated by Newman; "Types of English Beauty"; "Masterpieces of Greek Sculpture"; "Jeanne d'Arc"; "How a Spectacular is Produced"; "Artists and Their Studios," giving sketches of William M. Chase, J. Wells Champney, and C. Ayer Whipple. Besides these, there are short stories, sketches, poems, book reviews, and fashions, the whole set off with nearly one hundred superb illustrations. Altogether, it is one of the most attractive magazines of the month. [The Godey Company, 32 Lafayette Place, New York.]

Harper's Magazine for March, along with much other varied and interesting matter, contains as special features fully and beautifully illustrated: "Fox-Hunting in the United States"; "The Trial Trip of a Cruiser"; "The Literary Landmarks of Jerusalem"; by Laurence Hutton, "The Industrial Region of Northern Alabama, Tennessee, and Georgia," by Julian Ralph. "An American Academy at Rome"; "Hereditry"; by St. George Mivart; "New York's Common Schools"; by Stephen H. Olin; last chapters of "The Princess Aline"; by Richard Harding Davis; fourth instalment of "Hearts Insurgent"; by Thomas Hardy. Four complete short stories, "A Californian," by Geraldine Bonner; "The Second Missouri Compromise," by Owen Wister, illustrated by Frederic Remington; "Fame's Little Day," by Sarah Orne Jewett, illustrated by W. T. Smedley; and "An Everyday Affair," by Olga Flinch. Harper Brothers, New York, U.S.

With its usual wealth of illustration, accompanied by reading matter of customary merit, *The Peterson Magazine* for March is indeed an attractive issue. "The University Founded by Franklin," gives a comprehensive sketch of the growth of the University of Pennsylvania. Marshall Cushing writes brightly of "Washington Literary People." A series of articles on prominent divines in the various denominations is proving a valuable feature, the instalment in this issue being devoted to "Some Living Bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church." Henry L. Stoddard, in his department, "Said in Passing," touches upon a variety of topics. "A Visit to the Vatican," a paper accompanied by eight illustrations, will interest all. A number of good stories, several additional articles on various subjects of interest, and a number of excellent poems complete a well balanced issue of this periodical. Penfield Publishing Company, 109 and 111 Fifth Avenue, New York.

McClure's Magazine for March comes to hand freighted with an unusually attractive series of articles. "An Ocean Flyer," being notes of a first voyage on an Atlantic liner, will be read with interest both by those who are looking forward to their first voyage, and by those who have already enjoyed that pleasurable experience. The Rt. Hon. Wm. E. Gladstone writes on "The Lord's Day," a contribution which is followed by a number of photographs of the Grand Old Man representing him as he has appeared at various stages in his wonderful career. "The Lord of Chateau Noir" is a story by A. Conan Doyle. A conversation with F. Marion Crawford, recorded by Robert Bridges, as also two articles on the treatment of diphtheria by members of the New York Health Department, will appeal to a not inconsiderable number. The fifth paper depicting various phases in the life of Napoleon is as engrossing as its predecessors. [S. S. McClure, Limited, 30 Lafayette Place, New York City.]

The *Homiletic Review* for March opens with the second paper from the diary of the late Prof. Phillip Schaff. Prof. Schodde, of Capital University, follows with a discriminating article on "Modern Criticism and the Scriptures." Dr. Arthur T. Pierson writes on "Christ as a Divine Teacher," especially emphasizing His authority, sublimity, spirituality, and originality. Other contributors are Prof. T. W. Hunt, of Princeton, Dr. William Hayes Ward, Kerr B. Tupper, D.D., of Denver, Colo., on "The Right side of 1844." Prof. T. D. Witherspoon, D.D., LL.D., "The Homiletic Value of the Book of Leviticus." The discussions of "The Social Problem" constitute one of the striking features of the *Review* conducted by Dr. Stuckenbruck. Prof. W. C. Wilkinson contributes an appreciative paper on the late ex-President of Brown University, Ezekiel Gilman Robinson. James M. King, D.D., writes on "The Division of Public Funds on Sectarian Lines" as a living issue for pulpit treatment. The number is one of unusual merit and interest. Funk & Wagnalls Co., 30 Lafayette Place, New York City.