

# THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

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## Notes of the Week.

### A HAND-BOOK OF SABBATH SCHOOL MANAGEMENT AND WORK

This valuable Hand-Book, by Mr. David Fotheringham, is designed to aid teachers in their important duties. There is also appended a form of constitution and regulations for a Presbyterian Sabbath School, as well as a partial list of books helpful for reference or study to Sabbath School teachers. Neatly printed and strongly bound in cloth, cut flush. Price 25 cents postage paid. Quantities of not less than 12 to a school at the rate of \$1.25 per dozen. Address all orders to  
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### THE PRESBYTERIAN YEAR BOOK FOR 1891

Will be published about the 25th of December. It will contain a portrait of the Rev. Dr. Laing, Moderator of the General Assembly, illustrations and historical sketches of St. Andrew's Church, New Westminster, B.C., of the Presbyterian Church, Yarmouth, N.S., of the Central Presbyterian Church, Galt, Ont., and of St. Andrew's Church, St. John, N.B. A number of papers on timely topics, in addition to the usual mass of information given in such a publication, will appear. This issue of the Year Book will be unusually full of interesting matter. Price, 25 cents.

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For the use of Sabbath School Teachers.

### IMPROVED SCHOOL REGISTER

For the use of Superintendents and Secretaries.

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OF the three hundred and thirty-five instructors in the University of Berlin, no less than fifty-two are of Jewish extraction. These include two ordinary and one honorary professor in the philosophical faculty, and eighteen extraordinary professors in the faculties of law, medicine and philosophy. Twenty-four of the thirty-one privat-docenten are in the medical faculty.

THE London *Spectator* reports that in the city of Liverpool not less than twenty-five gentlemen and five ladies have become followers of Islam. It appears also that there is a regular Liverpool Moslem Society whose secretary asks for funds to carry on its work. The intercourse of England with the East thus seems to be developing a reflex influence over European thought.

CHRISTMAS numbers seem to be as popular in the old country as on this side the Atlantic. The Glasgow *Christian Leader* has issued an attractive number to which several accomplished and well-known writers contribute. Among them is Rev. D. D. McLeod, of Barrie, who writes a genial and appreciative sketch of Professor Marcus Dods. Mr. McLeod, who was present in Renfield Church when Dr. Dods preached as a candidate, gives some interesting reminiscences of the impressions produced on the occasion. We would like to say a good word of the illustrations that appear in this Christmas number were it possible.

THE Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society has just attained its jubilee. Last year's income, \$24,225, is the largest on record; but the expenditure still exceeds the ordinary income. At the dispensary in the Cowgate, which continues to be a centre of Christian activity and philanthropic effort, 8,305 patients have been treated; at the commencement of last session there were twenty-eight medical students in connection with the institution; nine have recently finished their studies, and some of these have already gone to the mission field. Work is carried on at Nazareth, Damascus, Agra, and other places; and upwards of twenty other medical missions have been assisted by grants in aid.

IN Chicago the Woman's Christian Temperance Union has a Foundlings' Home that owns \$125,000 worth of property, day nurseries and kindergartens that have cared for 15,929 children during the past year, an Anchorage Mission for homeless women that sheltered 4,000 girls last year, a Bethesda Inn, a cheap lodging-house for men that accommodated 52,540 men last year, free medical dispensaries, free reading-rooms, a pay restaurant that feeds a thousand persons a day, and a publishing house that has

\$125,000 capital stock. Besides all this, it is now about to erect a magnificent building to cost a million dollars. The good women of this organization seem to be eminently practical and business-like.

THE *Christian Leader* says: The circular letter addressed by Mr. Robert Paton to his fellow-members in Highbury Church in reference to Prof. Skinner has led to the writing of a great deal of nonsense in certain London papers. There is not the slightest likelihood of a heresy case being started against Dr. Elmslie's successor. The report of his inaugural lecture at the college was grossly inaccurate, and was published without his sanction. A proof of it was sent to Mr. Skinner, but it was so full of errors that he declined to have anything to do with it. The manuscript of the lecture was handed at its close to the representative of a Presbyterian magazine in which it has not yet been published.

THE Assembly overture prescribing regulations for the guidance of Church of Scotland Presbyteries in respect to the preaching of students has been disapproved in Edinburgh Presbytery by twenty-one to nine. Dr. Scott, who led the majority, argued that till a Chair of Pastoral Theology was established the proposed regulation would do more harm than good. Dr. Gray, of Liberton, contended, on the other hand, that students were at the hall to become not only theologians but preachers, and that their pastoral training should be as much regarded as their theological. It was as absurd to license a student as preacher until they had given him some opportunity of preaching, as to license a man as a swimmer whose power of swimming had never been tested. Dr. Mitchell, who seconded Dr. Gray's unsuccessful motion, pointed out that the Assembly's overture did not intend to give students a new right, but sought to restrict a liberty which at present is liable to abuse. Other speakers pointed out that the Church's law was distinctly opposed to preaching by students.

THE second annual convention of the Montreal Christian Endeavour Union was held lately in Montreal. That city now has twenty-four societies of Christian Endeavour, with an aggregate of 1,000 members. The societies are for the spiritual upbuilding of the young, and for training them in Church work of all kinds. Each society has its Lookout Committee whose province it is to look up new members, keep an eye on the attendance of the active members, and induce those who are associate members to become active. The Prayer Meeting Committee attends to the conducting of meetings, securing leaders and choosing topics. Other committees are the missionary, relief, social, flower and temperance. The growth of Christian Endeavour in Montreal has been largely within the past two years. In January, 1884, the first society in the city was formed in Calvary Congregational Church. At the first convention of the union, then just formed, on December 5, 1889, there were only eight societies with something like 600 members. Among the speakers was the Rev. W. Patterson, of Cooke's Church, Toronto.

THE *British Weekly* concludes a forcible article on the Parnell crisis as follows: Now that public opinion has overwhelmingly declared itself, we are told that we have been too shrill, that if we had said less Mr. Parnell would silently have retired. Probably those critics are ashamed of themselves by this time. The facts are that, with a few honourable exceptions, the leading Liberal newspapers imagined that Mr. Parnell would be able to go on after a nine days' clamour. To say the very least a large number of Liberal members were of the same opinion. The Irish view of the matter—before and after—is well known. The bright and shining example of Mr. Gladstone and the moral health of a Christian nation have saved us from the peril, but to mere political partisans we owe less than nothing. As for the wretches calling themselves Liberals who have defended Parnell's conduct, they are infinitely further from us than the multitude of honest Conservatives. They are the enemies of God and their kind, for that which attacks Christian marriage is

the most poisonous ingredient in the cup of national death.

MUSIC culture is steadily extending in Toronto. There are several musical organizations, well supported in the city. One of the latest aspirants is the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. It has made a good beginning and gives excellent promise of being one of the most popular musical associations in the city. It is composed of a number of leading instrumentalists under the management of Signor D'Auria. The second concert of the season was held in the Pavilion last week and was well attended. In excellence and finish it was an advance on the first concert. There was sufficient variety to test the capacity of the various performers and all acquitted themselves in a manner most creditable. The programme included selections from the masterpieces of Wagner, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Verdi, Gounod and others. Signor D'Auria, the conductor, is himself a brilliant composer, his "Fantasie de Concert" (Rigoletto) was given with splendid effect. Mr. J. D. A. Tripp won golden opinions for his brilliant performance of the first concerto (op. 25) by Mendelssohn on the piano. Mr. E. W. Schuch was the vocalist on the occasion. The next concert is announced for February 5, 1891.

FACTS increase to show that the leaven of evangelical Christianity is working in Italy. The mission of the Waldensians in the district Rome-Naples is growing, Naples now having 166 communicants and Rome 149, the majority in both cases being converts from Roman Catholicism. The Bishop of Calabria tried to break the influence of the Protestant workers by sending five of his best preachers. The project failed because these could not secure any hearers. Within the space of a few weeks a Roman Catholic Church was changed into a Protestant. The project of publishing a daily Protestant paper in Rome finds many friends and may yet materialize. A Protestant chapel has recently been dedicated in the Protestant cemetery. It is interesting in this connection to note that this was erected at the expense of the city officials. In the year 1888 no less than 139,679 copies of the Bible were disposed of in Italy, and in the year 1889 the number was 132,760. This slight decrease is only seemingly a step backward, as quite a number of organizations and private persons buy Bibles at wholesale prices and make no report of the distribution. The Bible colporteurs often do pioneer work in finding new paths and openings for evangelists and pastors.

WE have much reason to be grateful for the kindly and generous treatment extended to us by our contemporaries. The following from the *Berlin Telegraph* is one of many specimens. Speaking of THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN last week it says: The publisher of this excellent religious weekly has issued a supplement in which it is announced that it will enter on its twentieth volume in January next. It makes the promise, which no doubt will be fulfilled, that arrangements have been made with some of the most able and celebrated theological writers of the day, as well as eminent laymen, to contribute to its columns during the coming year, which cannot fail to render THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN still more interesting to its readers than in the past, and that is saying a good deal, for it has been for many years one of the best conducted religious journals in the Dominion, both as regards original articles as well as selected matter. While THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN loyally upholds Presbyterianism, it is free from sectarian bigotry, and has exhibited towards all denominations a generous Catholic spirit—advocating equal rights for Protestant and Catholic alike. Rev. Mr. Simpson, its able editor, has few equals as a condenser and selector of excellent matter, and by his superior faculty in this respect the readers of THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN get the substance of British and American religious news in a small but comprehensive space, in terse and pleasing language. THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN should be in every Presbyterian home, and from the rich literary good things promised for 1891, we doubt not the circulation will be greatly increased.