

# THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

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## Notes of the Week.

The contributions last month to the American Mission to the Jews, that of Hermann Warszawiak, amounted to \$1,120.00, of which \$373.50 was for the Christ's Synagogue, and \$746.50 for the General Fund. Most of those contributing the small sums making up these totals have done so at personal sacrifice in order to help the cause of Israel, and for "their self-denial," says the treasurer, "we are truly thankful."

One of the most important days of the Christian Endeavor Convention was Thursday the 11th, when the denominational rallies were to be held. The Presbyterian, as suggested by the program in the last *Interior*, was to be the largest, as this denomination leads in number in the United States. In Canada and some of the colonies of Australia, the Methodists are first, while in England the Baptists are largely in the majority.

The new Committee of the American Mission to the Jews, that of Hermann Warszawiak, consists of Rev. Dr. John Hall, chairman; and Revs. David J. Burrell, D.D., Henry A. Stinson, D.D., Samuel H. Virgin, D.D., John R. Davies, D.D., F. F. Ellinwood, D.D., W. H. P. Faunce, W. H. Walker, secretary; A. B. King, D. M. Stearns and Messrs. Constant, A. Andrews, Samuel B. Schieffelin, Wm. Campbell, A. W. Dennett and Mr. Miller.

A recent traveler in Persia exhibited a phonograph, giving an entertainment with it in the house of one of the princes, for which he charged \$25. Another man of high station wished him to repeat it at his house, for \$10, but he refused to take any less than his own price, yet gave the exhibition without charge to the boys' school and other guests invited by the missionaries. He will bring home in it a song of which the like can not be heard in America, having caught in his marvellous instrument, to perfection, the trills of a Persian singer.

The *Standard*, the leading Baptist paper of the United States, has bidden good-bye to the blanket form and comes out in a new dress, in size something near the New York *Independent*. In its new dress, as in its old, it will continue to be what it has always been, a religious newspaper of sterling character and value, but with new features making it distinctively the handsomest and ablest Baptist journal printed in America. We have always prized the *Standard*, and shall prize it all the more in its new and more convenient form. We wish it a long and useful career.

The local Christian Endeavor societies of Boston are greatly gratified that their plans have so commended themselves to the citizens that a response from officials, merchants, and private individuals has established the fact that no other convention of the society has ever received so many local courtesies, as has the one just closed. For no small share of their success in this respect credit is due to mayor Hon. Edwin N. Curtis, a gentleman in complete sympathy with the work of the Christian Church, and to Hon. Samuel B. Capon, a most consecrated Christian merchant.

Belfast, having been lately constituted a city, a proposal is now made to build therein a pro-cathedral for Episcopal worship. The best site in the city was asked for, but the corporation refused it. The fact is, the Roman Catholics asked for it too, and undertook to put up a cathedral in memory of their late bishop which would be a credit to the city. The "city fathers" had to let both denominations go elsewhere. It is to be hoped that this

cathedral building will rouse the Presbyterians to erect an Assembly Hall and church offices worthy of their numbers and influence in the Northern Athens.

In consequence of the lamented death of the late Dr. John H. Orr, the General Assembly of the Irish Presbyterian Church had to address itself at once to the election of his successor. Four candidates went to the poll, and on the first call of the roll, their supporters proved almost equal. There was a similar amount of support, when the roll was called the second time, between the three remaining candidates. And when the third roll was called between the two, the Rev. D. J. Lowe of Londonderry was elected by a majority of only two in a house of about 500 members. But he has amply vindicated his selection by his excellent work during the remaining sederunts.

An interesting feature of the proceedings of the General Assembly of the Irish Presbyterian Church was the volunteering of five young men for the foreign mission field at whatever salary the church can afford. The church seems to have wakened up to some enthusiasm in the matter. Already £750 a year for five years have been promised by friends of the mission; and this is only the beginning. It was accordingly resolved to accept of the young men's services, to send them forth for five years at £200 a year with allowances, in the hope that at that time they may be received at the usual £350 rate. It is evident that the Lord is leading that church to enlarged missionary enterprise.

The trouble which has broken out between Turkey and Macedonia may become serious enough before all is over. The Sultan is resolved to suppress the rebellion without delay and without scruple. It is not simply a wrestle between the Turk and his Macedonian subjects. As it is, all Bulgaria is in a ferment over the rising in the neighboring State. There is strong sympathy with the Macedonians on the part of the people of Bulgaria. There are many on both sides of the boundary line who would not scruple to compromise the Government of Prince Ferdinand with the Turkish power. If these two come to open rupture then the signatures of the Berlin treaty would claim to be heard in the quarrel.

General Secretary Baer of the Christian Endeavor Society of the great convention says: "We planned at first to receive near 40,000 delegates, but we are finding that we must take care of nearer 60,000" To the secular press of the country is largely due this increased representation, since it has so widely circulated the plans for the convention, and aroused the nation's desire to be in closer relation with the largest Christian gathering ever assembled. Every representative paper in the land has one or more of its ablest workers present to send its printed messages world-wide, a wonderful commentary on the people's interest in their Christian youth—since "the voice of the people is the voice of God."

A striking illustration of the facile and chameleon like character of Rome is given in the fact that while the Pope allows Roman Catholics in France to vote in the political elections he forbids them to do so in Italy. But the electors obey or not, as they please. Some find no evil in voting and would not know what name to call it when confessing their sins. Others, and by far the greater number, avail themselves of the privilege, which no one but the Pope denies them, for personal ends. Priests of all ranks are accused of mixing in the elections and the urns that should be deserted if the Pope were obeyed are surrounded by rough, disorderly crowds. In the same way, while Mgr. Satolli in the United States professes acquiescence

with the common school system, and allows Roman Catholics to send their children to them, the hierarchy in Canada, would rather endanger Confederation than allow their children in Manitoba to attend schools of the same kind.

Boston, which has been considered and called by so many "cold," "reserved" and "unsympathetic," has been enthusiastic in the Christian Endeavor cause and convention. Harriette Knight Smith writing of it to the *Interior* says:—"From the roofs of our largest business blocks to the flowers blooming in our Public Garden and parks the Harvard crimson and white, the Boston color, will show forth our welcome. All of the beds of flowers are in the society's emblems, while arches and other decorative figures bespeak our city's interest in the religious life of our country. Washington and Tremont street stores are a continuous gorgeous outburst of color, interblended with the Christian Endeavor emblems, while the churches are as elaborately decorated. Never before in the history of the world has so much loving enthusiasm been publicly expressed for our meek and lowly Savior as is now to be seen on the outside as well as the inside of Boston's buildings. Christ and his church are surely marching on to a superb victory over the world, the flesh and the devil."

At an American banquet given in Paris on the fourth of July, M. Hanotaux said some very pleasant things which naturally have greatly pleased our cousin's across the line. "To-day," he said, "after a century of laborious existence, your nation walks full of vigor and light-heartedness in the front rank of civilized nations, employing its admirable and practical sense as legitimate authority among the nations in works of peace and progress. This old France is glorified in having guessed the future of your fatherland while bending over your cradle." Fortunately the kind words and sentiments of the French Minister of Foreign Affairs can be heartily reciprocated on this side of the Atlantic. The marvellous reuniting and welding together again of North and South, and the wonderful progress in the arts and sciences made since by the United States, as well as its preference for international to sword arbitration, are sufficient justification for even M. Hanotaux's eloquent and enthusiastic tribute to the greatness of America, a greatness in which M. Hanotaux and the country he represented on that occasion justly participate.

A little more than a year ago the Methodist ministers of Chicago adopted a resolution offered by the Rev. John Lee, that the See of Rome be asked to interest itself in obtaining religious liberty for those of another faith living in Catholic countries, especially in Ecuador, Bolivia and Peru. This just and reasonable request waited a long time for reply, and but for determined perseverance on the part of Mr. Lee would not have received any reply at all. Twice he wrote to Archbishop Ireland and got no reply; twice to Monsignor Satolli, and to his last letter he got only a brief and evasive answer. But Mr. Lee was not to be put off or shaken off. He next wrote twice to the Pope himself, but was taken no notice of. In April he wrote to Cardinal Gibbons in Baltimore, but got no answer. In May he again wrote to him, this time in Rome, in care of the Pope. In June Mr. Lee received an answer from Cardinal Gibbons to say that the authorities at Rome had written to the apostolic delegate in the countries named for information on the subject of the liberties of Protestants in these countries. It is a poor rule that does not work both ways. Hitherto this one of religious toleration has worked chiefly one way, so far as Rome is concerned. Now, however, through the persistency of our Methodist brethren the Catholic hierarchy has been brought to time, and for achieving this notable victory for Protestantism the Methodist ministers of Chicago are entitled to the credit.