

THE CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.

(NEW SERIES.)

VOL. VI.]

TORONTO, MARCH 1, 1887.

[No. 5.]

Editorial Jottings.

WE have not been teaching the lesson that our scholars have had to-day (February 20), but we have been studying it, and what a striking lesson it is—"Abraham pleading for Sodom!" The picture of the grand old patriarch, the father of the faithful and the friend of God, standing there and pleading for the doomed city with such wonderful earnestness and pathos, and at the same time with such deep humility, stands out unique on the pages of holy writ. We think of Moses pleading for idolatrous Israel, content, if the people are spared, that he himself should be blotted out of God's Book; but here it is the sublimity of unselfish faith. The prayer was not in vain; for when the Lord poured out His judgments upon the wicked cities he remembered Abraham, and saved Lot in the overthrow. We have the great Intercessor—greater than Abraham—and He is able to save to the uttermost. Not the intercessor for a few, nor for an hour, but for all men and all time; *yours*.

He ever lives above,
For me to intercede;
His all-redeeming love,
His precious blood, to plead.

TALKING about apostasy, and going back from Christ, is it not possible that there may be some of those whose apostasy we mourn who have never had anything from which to apostatize? We believe that Demas had, but not all who are supposed to have followed his example.

SODOM and prosperity, a good business, riches and position, or the rough mountain side, with peace, quiet, poverty it may be, but the worship and the blessing of God, communion with Him, assurance of His favour and exemption from the contaminating influences and constant perils of a

wicked neighbourhood. Which pays in the long run?

A PASTOR'S wife from the country—you know God makes the country, which man spoils by the town,—writes touching Mrs. Currie's death, and says: "Our mission band will have \$15 to expend, and they wish it to go to a memorial fund, to be expended in erecting a school room, church or mission house in memory of our first missionary's wife." An excellent suggestion, which our Foreign Missionary Society can use, and profit thereby.

THIS same earnest worker invites through our columns answers to the following inquiries. The autocrat in the editor's chair requires the same to be brief and pointed. *Such* answers will be more than cheerfully inserted. 1. Accounts of the missionary meetings held by our Church Missionary associations. Would they not prove useful in these columns? 2. How are public missionary meetings to be managed? Could not Sunday evenings be profitably spent, at intervals, in such meetings, several taking part? 3. How may mission bands be best worked, and the members best interested? An interchange of thought on these subjects, in modern tongue a *symposium*, will be very useful.

A LETTER from Mr. G. Hague, criticising our comments on the Andover case, together with our comments, and some intended jottings on our last visit to Montreal, are crowded out by matter already in type, the more urgent account of our Missionary's journey and church news.

ON Thursday, January 20, Dr. J. F. Stevenson was publicly recognized as the pastor of the Brixton Independent Chapel. The meeting was large, hearty and representative. Dr. A. Hannay presided, and spoke feelingly of the loss Canada has