

THE DISCIPLE OF CHRIST

AND CANADIAN EVANGELIST.

"If ye abide in my word, then are ye truly my disciples."—JESUS the Christ.

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The Disciple of Christ

Is devoted to the furtherance of the Gospel of Christ, and pleads for the union of all believers in the Lord Jesus in harmony with His own prayer recorded in the seventeenth chapter of John, and on the basis set forth by the Apostle Paul in the following terms. "I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beseech you to walk worthily of the calling wherewith ye were called, with all lowliness and meekness, with long suffering, forbearing one another in love; giving diligence to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, even as also ye were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all, and through all, and in all."—Eph. iv. 1-6.

This paper, while not claiming to be what is styled an "organ," may be taken as fairly representing the people known as Disciples of Christ in this country.

Editorial Notes.

We notice a rumor that Mr. Gladstone may return to active political life, if indeed he does not again become Premier. What a lesson Mr. Gladstone's career furnishes to young men! With a loud voice it says to young men, take care of your body! Do not destroy your body by any evil habit; keep yourself pure! And what a responsibility rests upon parents to see, so far as they can, that their boys while they are yet in their teens are not having their constitutions undermined by practices which we are all apt to think our boys will not fall a prey to. Keep an eye—nay, keep two eyes on your boys. Train them to hate the deadly cigarette, and to dread the more deadly secret practices which all boys are in great danger of being innocently led into.

The cleavage between the High and Low Church parties in Canada is apparently widening. A recent statement by Archbishop Lewis, of Kingston, with regard to Wycliffe College brings prominently forward the fact that there is an irreconcilable difference between the two schools of thought and practice. The one is headed towards Rome, and is traveling as fast as is prudent; the other is trying hard to keep on Reformation ground without breaking with the old church. Our sympathies are with the latter, but the former seems to

be gaining ground in this country. This is a time for old fashioned gospel preaching. The Reformed Episcopal Church is making an earnest effort to stem the tide of Ritualism, but it will, we predict, not accomplish very much, it does not go back far enough. Reformers should go right back to the Apostles, and stop not on this side of them.

Things are getting interesting at Ottawa. Sir C. H. Tupper's resignation is an indication of a breaking up of old parties, which is encouraging to the country, or ought to be. It is no good for a country like ours to be forever divided into two or more political camps, which never vary in membership. A little independence now and then is wholesome. Why should a man be a Tory or a Grit all his life just because his father was a Tory or a Grit? This is a good time for young Canada to do a little thinking on its own account. What claim has the Tory party or the Grit party on the unquestioned loyalty of a young Canadian? What is at the bottom of this unvarying fealty to an old party that is preached so much? The professional politician knows; he wants an office. The people generally are fooled; they are but tools in the hands of the politicians. Let the people open their eyes a little and the days of the professional politician will be numbered.

In the *Catholic Record* of March 23rd there is an article on "Union in England"—the great movement which Pope Leo XIII. and the English Catholic Hierarchy will set on foot. It is very evident an invitation to the Ritualists in the Church of England to cast in their lot once and for all with the Church of Rome. The article closes with these words: "If he (the Pope) succeeds the Established Church in England will soon be numbered with the things that were; if he fail, he will at least open the door to many who have already been tending to Catholicism and hasten their steps." If there are Ritualists who are not consciously tending to Rome, this candid declaration should open their eyes. No doubt but that the Pope looks with exceeding favor upon the High Church move-

ment in the Church of England. He knows well what it means. It is instructive to consider that in Protestant England it should seem opportune to the Pope to make such an overture in the last decade of the nineteenth century. People often wonder how there could have been such dreadful lapses from New Testament faith and practice so soon after the days of the Apostles. An attentive observation of what is going on before our own eyes will aid us in coming to the conclusion that very great changes may be, and indeed will be, effected in a few years unless those who profess to believe in Christ are careful to honor His revealed word. Whenever anybody claiming Jesus as Lord ventures to ignore His law, either by adding to His plain requirements or by taking from them, that body is heading towards Rome, no matter what pretence of loyalty to the Word of God it may make. Let so-called Protestants beware.



DR. JAMES BUTCHART,
MISSIONARY IN CHINA.

We notice in some of our religious exchanges a clinging to the idea that there must be some sort of a ritual in connection with the opening or the closing of the Public Schools, or the religious future of young Canada is doomed. We have no such fears. From our standpoint the true religious interests of the rising generation would be served by removing from the common schools all pretence of religious

exercises. We should like to know how many of those who clamor for religious services in the Public Schools have family worship in their own homes. How many of them even attempt to give their own children any instruction at home? Is it not, to say the least, very probable that most of those people have turned their duty in that respect to the Sunday School teacher and the preacher? That is one of the evils of our day, as of other days. The Public School teachers have their hands full without imposing upon them the duties of indolent parents. We need national schools in this country, and in order to get them we must make our common schools non-sectarian, and keep them so. We do not despair of getting our Roman Catholic fellow citizens to see eye to eye with us on this subject after a while. We must be patient, of course, and charitable too. We Protestants must get the idea out of our heads that a Roman Catholic is always on the look-out for an opportunity to stab us. It is most likely not true that every priest is a lewd fellow and that every nun is a prostitute. It is more than possible that we Protestants have got an exaggerated notion of the villainy in the R. C. Church. Let us cultivate our Roman Catholic neighbors a little more; we may find some remnant of humanity in them. And by and by, perhaps even in Ontario, they may join with us in establishing a system of national schools, which will be for their good and for our good—for the good of our common country.

Jew, refers to the religion which the Jews profess. Hebrew refers to a language which they no longer speak, and has consequently no meaning at the present time. Israelite refers to a nation which they at one time formed, and it has at present no signification except when reference is made to the ancient nation. The Jews are a religious community, and that is all that separates them, or rather distinguishes them, from their fellow citizens. The Jews do not call themselves Hebrews. A few who do not know any better may call themselves so, but they are wrong. Those who know what is right call themselves Jews, and that is the only correct name.—*Jewish Tidings*.