

ers, who formed, at the very least, two-thirds of the attendance. Indeed, the speakers have been less respectfully treated by some calling themselves Protestants. Their meetings in Arthur lasted ten days. They were open air ones. I need not say that they did not introduce controversy, but simply proclaimed doctrines which Roman Catholics profess to hold most firmly in common with evangelical Protestants. Some time before the Salvation Army was stoned out of the place. Very probably, the reason was that the priest had said nothing about it, and it was new to his people. No doubt, what he said about the young men connected with the 'Gospel Carriago,' had a good effect on his hearers. For the foregoing facts, I am indebted to two of the young men—Messrs. Rodger and Jeffery. I may here state that a priest in another part of Ontario sometimes spoke from the pulpit as follows about Mr. B——, a Presbyterian minister, who has 'crossed the tide.' "If on account of unfavourable weather, you cannot come to your own church, go and hear Mr. B——." Did this spirit more extensively prevail many of the difficulties with which the churches in Canada are face to face, would have no existence.

### Can It Be True?

**A** STORM of just indignation has been aroused by the report that an import tax was levied by the customs officers at Vancouver, B.C., on Mrs. MacKay, wife of Dr. MacKay, of Formosa, the celebrated Canadian missionary, whose phenomenal success is in the mouth of all the churches. Mrs. McKay is a Chinese by birth and if the report which has found its way into the press be true, the tax was imposed upon her on account of the race to which she belongs. She visited Canada with her husband some years ago and has many friends in this country on account of her personal character, and on account of the great assistance she has been able to render to her husband in his arduous work of evangelization and translation. But there must be some mistake in the matter which has not yet come to the surface. The law is quite clear; and if the tax was really imposed, there can be no doubt the officer responsible therefor has grossly exceeded his duty. The statute is in the following terms: "No duty shall be payable under the Chinese Act in respect to any woman of Chinese origin who is the wife of a person who is not of Chinese origin, but for the purposes of the said Act such woman shall be deemed to be of the same nationality as her husband." Now, if a wrong has been committed, it can easily be set right, but the report has raised the whole question of a tax on Chinese because of their nationality, and it does seem that the sentiment which the incident referred to is stirring into strength, may have the effect of modifying the obnoxious restrictions if not of abolishing them altogether. We will have occasion shortly to refer to Dr. MacKay's visit to Canada, and to draw attention to the great work he has accomplished. Meantime, the experience it seems he has had to undergo on landing will apprise the country of his arrival as few incidents could.

**A Pioneer Minister Gone** By the death of Rev. John Fraser, the Church in Canada has lost one of her best-known and most respected fathers. He was in many respects a remarkable man. Originally a teacher in St. Thomas, Ont., he sought for the exercise of his great natural gifts in the Church, and his services to her were manifold and greatly blessed. He was a student of Dr. Chalmers, and from him inherited an intense love for

astronomy and chemistry. His pulpit gifts were of a high order, and in the various congregations to which he ministered he left a deep impression of his intellectual genius and spiritual character. He laboured in Thamesford, Kincardine, Indian Lands etc., and when age necessitated his withdrawal from active service he retired to Montreal, where he spent the last years of his life. He will be mourned in many homes in Ontario where his memory will be long kept green.

**A Righteous Protest.** THE experience of the United States with the notorious Geary Law, should not be lost on Canada. We may awaken any day to find a serious Chinese question on our hands, a contingency to which the reported case of Mr. Mackay gives point at the present moment. Our contemporary, the Mid-Continent, places before its readers a fact which illustrates how difficult it is to retrace the first wrong step. It says:—Mr. Geary, the author of the Chinese Bill which has met such condemnation from the country, and which so sorely plagues and embarrasses the Government at Washington, excites a feeling of righteous indignation against himself, and shows how unfit he is to be a framer of the laws, by now proclaiming that American missionaries in China should be recalled by law of Congress to their own land. That he would favour such a bill just as he would vote to expel anarchists from the country. That the cases of the missionaries in China, and of the anarchists in the United States are exactly parallel. Is it only pitiful ignorance of the missionaries' work, or is the man actuated by an animosity to them and their cause, as violent as that which he cherishes against the Chinese in our borders.

**Mohammedan Testimony.** AMONG the papers of note read at the "World's Parliament of Religions," was one by Dr. Imad-ud-Din, a lineal descendant of the famous Mohammedan saint, Qutub Jamal, remarkable for the testimony it bears to the power of Christianity. He says that many learned Mohammedans are accepting the Christian faith, and that the present situation is big with blessings. There was a time when the conversion of a Mohammedan to Christianity was looked on as a marvel. But now they have come and are coming in their thousands. He ascribes the results to the grace of God, the liberty brought in by British rule, and the self-denying labours of the missionaries.

**Sabbath Rest.** Perhaps the most remarkable feature of the International Congress on Sunday Rest, held last week in Chicago, was the fact that the more important papers were almost all contributed by laymen, medical men, lawyers, manufacturers, railwaymen, miners, and men engaged in such pursuits of life. The earnest convictions of these men, expressed as they were, in decisive terms, cannot fail to keep the growing feeling on this continent that the Sabbath should be restored to its proper tranquility and devotional observance.

**Spreading the Good News.** SINCE the founding in 1701 in England of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, the society's expenditure in the mission field up to now has been £5,790,340. In 1801 there were 81 clergy; there are now 8,442. In its colleges are 2,600 students, with 38,000 pupils.