

THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

Vol. 25.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21st, 1896.

No. 43.

Notes of the Week.

A Radical morning paper for Edinburgh is again promised for this winter. The *Scottish Times* is said to be the title fixed upon, and negotiations are afoot for procuring the necessary capital. One iron manufacturer in the west country (so the story goes) has set down his name for a handsome sum, and other wealthy men are being approached. The question of editorship is reported to be all but settled.

The last New South Wales census showed that of the total population of 1,132,234 of the colony in that year, 818,446 were Australasian born, mostly in New South Wales; 266,101 came from the United Kingdom and Ireland, and 4,639 from the remainder of the British Empire, forming a total of 1,089,186 born under the British flag. Of the remaining 43,048, 9,565 were German, 2,270 French or French colonists, 3,379 American, 13,157 Chinese, 11,426 from other foreign countries and 4,639 (mostly British) born at sea or unspecified.

In order to counteract certain rumors as to the expensiveness of education at Princeton University, New Jersey, a pamphlet has been published entitled, "The Cost of an Education at Princeton." In a little introductory note, Dr. Patton says that the facts detailed in the book have been collected during the last academic year, and that the information comes, in every instance, from students of character and standing, and may be relied upon. It declares that the student of moderate means is the prevailing type at Princeton, and that he can live comfortably at an annual expense of \$500.

At the unveiling lately at Paisley, Scotland, of the Burns statue, Lord Rosebery said that "the greatest debt Scotchmen owed to Burns was that he kept their enthusiasm alive." Whereupon the *Presbyterian*, of London, remarks: "It was well to remember this when a wave of moral passion was now sweeping over the country," referring to the feeling on behalf of the Armenians. "The Scotch character was proud and reserved, and they wanted a hero that could keep them warm. Burns never failed them; his lute awakened their romance, and his was the influence that maintained an abiding glow in their dour character." That there are dour Scotchmen and plenty of them, we willingly admit, just as there are plenty of stolid Englishmen, and Germans, but that the Scotch as a people are dour, that is sullen, obstinate, unreasonable and sour-tempered, we think shows ignorance of what the Scottish character really is.

The Presbyterian Church in England, not only for itself but for many other churches as well, is undoubtedly correct when it says that its great need is that of a "Revived Spiritual Life." Its example might also very well be followed in appointing a set time for its people to wait alone and together upon God for a more abundant effusion of the Holy Spirit, who is given but has ever anew to be sought. A pastoral has been issued calling upon all connected with the Church to join during the first week of October in imploring this supreme need of the Church to be bestowed upon it by God. Some of the evidences of this need mentioned in the pastoral are: "Conversions to God are not common and constant, an inadequate sense of the sinfulness of sin, lack on the part of believers of their rightful assurance of pardon, fellowship with Christ and joy in the Holy Ghost, the absence of

a contagious missionary enthusiasm, holding back of young people from full communion with the Church, a dearth in many congregations of male workers." We fear that many of these very symptoms may be found at home. If so, our Church might well follow the example of our sister Church in England.

In connection with the millennial year of Hungarian national life, there have been held somewhat in advance the opening ceremonies of a great engineering work—the clearing of a passage through the Iron Gates on the Danube. About 500,000 cubic metres of rock have been blasted in the current of the river. The work consisted mainly of constructing a canal about five miles long, by the side of the cataracts, at a depth of about nine feet beneath the lowest water-level. It is estimated to cost between thirty and forty million dollars, and will not be completed until 1899. For this great outlay Hungary will recoup herself by levying duties on the traffic. The opening was celebrated by a procession of vessels containing the Emperor of Austria and the Kings of Roumania and Servia to the Iron Gates.

The agitation in Europe over the frightful state of the Armenians in the Sultan's dominions continues, but the focus and centre of moral passion and indignation are in Britain. Though the situation has not yet greatly improved, still it is improved somewhat, and the prospect of relief ere long, though not yet without clouds, grows brighter gradually and more hopeful. The influence brought to bear upon the Czar by Lord Salisbury and the Queen, backed by the unanimous moral energies of the whole country and the colonies, especially Canada, New Zealand and Australia, it is believed, have had their weight. The great speech of Mr. Gladstone has also had a most marked effect in rousing the national conscience and indicating the path of duty. A better feeling, English papers say, and a nearer approach to a mutual good understanding between Russia, France and Britain is expressed in the press of the two former countries. *Le Temps* waxes enthusiastic over Gladstone. It says, "For him the winter of life has no ice. He is the minister of public pity. His warmth of heart compels the coldest politician. He speaks with sacerdotal authority; sets all who hear him examining their consciences." The *Christian World* says: "His speech has done more than all the red tape of the Foreign Office, and all the notes and protests of ambassadors to change the situation."

There is something quite refreshing in the thorough-going frankness, the apparent relish with which Cardinal Vaughan refers to the recent deliverance of the Pope, and the way in which he rabs it into those who were flattering themselves with the hope of a favorable answer to the appeal to His Holiness for the recognition of the validity of Anglican orders. Referring in a speech the other day to the apostolic bull on this subject, he says, "The Holy Father as supreme and final judge in matters of faith and controversy had solemnly declared that Anglican orders were 'null and void.'" The cardinal offers his sympathy to Anglicans, which must be like gall and wormwood to them, "in the pain and consternation which some of them felt in consequence of the final condemnation of their orders by the Catholic Church." "Nothing but 'overwhelming evidence' could have induced Leo XIII to have pronounced this final judgment." "The validity of Anglican orders could never form even a

single plank in the platform for either their corporate or individual reunion with the Roman Catholic Church. The Jansenist, Russian, Greek and Eastern sects who possessed valid orders," he tells Anglicans, "had never been able or willing to recognize the validity of Anglican orders. These stood alone shivering in their insular isolation." Was ever such a snub administered to High Church Anglicans? Since that which they regard as a sister Church, and whose recognition they have gone down on their knees to ask for, treats their "historic episcopate" with so little respect, if not utter contempt, Protestant non-episcopal Churches may well be pardoned if respectfully they decline in the slightest degree to acknowledge it.

The resignation of the leadership of the Liberal party in England by Lord Rosebery, and the apparent want of unanimity respecting Sir William Harcourt as leader, is creating a very unusual and somewhat difficult position for that party. It is bringing out again also in a striking manner the commanding personality, and despite his retirement, the wonderful influence of Mr. Gladstone. This is something he cannot divest himself of so long as he has the remarkable physical and mental vitality which, notwithstanding his great age, he still shows. Whoever may be the leader of the Liberal party in the House of Commons, his Liverpool speech, and the present state of things among Liberals of which it has been the occasion, if not the cause, shows that he is still unquestionably the leading Liberal of England, and real leader to whom in an emergency all eyes turn. His entering again the political arena is out of the question, and yet his whole past history shows that there is nothing which at the call of what he believes to be his duty he will not do. Whatever may be the result, the vast influence which in spite of himself Mr. Gladstone still wields, shows the kind of man who is needed to lead—perhaps we might say, the only kind of man who can lead—English Liberals, and it is honorable to them and hopeful for the nation and the whole empire that this is the case.

We frankly confess to a feeling of great satisfaction, and to regard as in every way a most beautiful and hopeful thing, that on the Sabbath which the Czar and Czarina spent at Balmoral with the Queen during their late visit to Her Majesty, despite rain, which would have kept many at home, there was a large attendance of royalties and distinguished persons at Crathie Church. Along with the Queen were the Emperor and Empress of Russia, Princess Henry of Battenberg, the Prince of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, Prince Alexander of Battenberg, the Duchess of York, Princess Margaret and Princess Patricia of Connaught, Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, the Marquis of Salisbury, Sir Arthur Bigge, Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander (Scots Greys), General Sir John McNeill, Lord Pelham Clinton, and Sir James Reid. The service was conducted by the Rev. Dr. Colin Campbell, of Dundee. There was nothing in the sermon which could be construed as having special reference to the illustrious personages in the congregation, but there was in the prayer these passages—"and we also commend unto Thee our Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Russia, beseeching Thee to abundantly bestow upon them a happy life and prosperous reign. As Thou hast happily united them in tender ties of kindred to our Queen, so may their peoples be ever joined in peace and loving concord." The service lasted an hour and five minutes.

PULPIT, PRESS AND PLATFORM.

Henry Van Dyke, D.D.: The preacher who does not know what his people are reading does not know his people.

W. Robertson Nicoll: What are truly numberless are God's mercies. What is truly infinite is God's love.

Ram's Horn: Find a man who loves God with all his heart, and he will be found working for Him with all his might.

Sunday School Times: Many lives are harsh and dry and unvarying simply because they have never had any humor to relieve them.

Ian Maclaren: "I am in the midst of you as one that serveth." What is that? You serve. You know someone who lives in his great suburban house, he drives his carriage, he has so many servants to wait upon him. I say nothing against that; but do you know, brother, that your place and my place in God's aristocracy depends not upon the number who serve us, but upon the number whom we serve.

Miss Frances Willard: The enemy are certainly more than the W.C.T.U., the horses and chariots are not a few, the hosts of evil seem mightier than ever before, and yet we, although a little army, are not afraid, since the Lord God who called us into being is with us to-day, leading on to greater and still greater victories. In His name and in His strength may we come up to our twenty-third annual convention at St. Louis.

Principal Barbour, D.D.: When most profuse in his benefactions the sun is most loudly praised. The earth is most welcome in her gift of greenness, most beautiful in her flowering exuberance, most wealthy in her autumnal abundance. She is least attractive when taking in the rain, or wrapping herself in snow, or crusting herself with frost that she may keep. She is more blessed in giving than receiving.

N. Y. Observer: Tact, which is but the kindly doing of the right thing in the right way, is a very useful adjunct of any character. Many people may be influenced by gentle and persistent persuasions in this or that direction who can never be suddenly and violently forced out of their prejudices. We cannot wrench a screw from its place with the claw of a hammer, but we may turn it around and around with a screw-driver and so dislodge it.

Li Hung Chang: I have now seen nearly all Europe, and everywhere I beheld immense armies and navies. Yet I leave Europe with the conviction that she will be preserved for a long time to come from the horrors of war. For I have noticed that the desire for peace is uppermost in all minds. Neither the nations nor their rulers intend to use the armaments at their disposal for anything but self-defence. It seems to me that the time for conquest is nearly past. The alliances which exist to-day among the European powers have no purpose but to prevent the love of conquest from finding fuel anywhere. Europe has lived at peace for twenty-six years, and knows the value of peace. I do not believe that war enters into the programme of any of her nations.