

Europe and America extend a helping hand to Armenia, over 300,000 people, as a result of pillage, are on the verge of starvation, thousands are dying from hunger and cold. Remember that the winter in Armenia is as severe as it is in Canada."

A state of destitution, suffering and death prevails at the present moment in that country which it baffles the imagination to picture, but whose call for help everyone can hear and understand, and to which, on the ground of common humanity, not to speak of common Christianity, helpful response should at once be made.

Since THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN, which was the first in the Dominion to take up their cause in a practical way, offered to receive and send contributions, others have made appeals and are now sending help. The Montreal Witness, the Toronto Globe, and now the Toronto Branch of the Evangelical Alliance has issued an appeal to the Christian Churches and public of Ontario to come forward and help in this good work. This appeal is signed by S. H. Blake, Q.C., as president, and the other names attached to it are Rev. W. Caven, D.D., J. J. MacLaren, Q.C., LL.D., Prof. Theodore H. Rand, LL.D., of MacMaster Hall, N. W. Hoyles, Q.C., Principal of the Law School of Ontario, and Walter B. Geikie, M.D.C.M., Sec.-Treas., 52 Maitland St.

It is to be regretted that no organized and general effort has yet been made over the whole Province or Dominion for these perishing thousands, upon whom, even when summer comes, it may well be feared pestilence will fall, and who have nothing left with which to till and sow their lands and rebuild their homes. Ten cents weekly, it is said, can be so used as to save one person from starvation. Money can be sent promptly by cable order and economically, and used at once to help the suffering. Surely there will be as there ought to be a glad and immediate response to the suggestion of the committee of the Alliance:—"We trust the many friends who may be able to contribute to the relief of these most cruelly treated people will do so without delay, as speedy action may relieve much suffering and save many lives. It is also suggested that pastors shall ask their congregations for a special collection in aid of this relief fund at an early date, or otherwise to assist this effort as they may see fit, as by private subscriptions; also that special prayer be offered in all our churches."

THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN will continue, we may add, to receive and forward at once, as it has hitherto done, all sums sent to it for this object. If the churches will at once act upon the suggestion of the Alliance instead of only a few thousand dollars, which is all that has yet been sent from Canada, money might within one month be sent by tens of thousands of dollars to the scene of suffering, and many be preserved alive who, if this is not done, must die.

THE LORD'S DAY.

THERE are two circumstances which make it especially timely and important to call attention to the subject of upholding the right observance of the Lord's Day, and of coming promptly and with all the force possible, to the assistance of those who are engaged in promoting this all-important work. The two circumstances referred to are the reintroduction in the House of Commons at Ottawa by Mr. Charlton, of his bill, "To secure the better Observance of the Lord's Day," and the issuing of an address by the Ontario Lord's Day Alliance setting forth the gravity of the present position of this great question as affected by the recent decision of Mr. Justice Rose in the Hamilton Sunday Street Car Case. We propose to call the attention of our readers both to Mr. Charlton's Bill and his speech in introducing it, and also to the action of the Lord's Day Alliance, and to aid both with all the force, energy, argument and appeal which we can command. The observance of the Sabbath as a day of rest from secular work, and of securing that rest for all classes of the community, is so important for every interest of society, and its advocacy is so clearly the duty of a religious journal, that, both for its own intrinsic importance, and because we shall have occasion again and again to refer to it, we publish the address of the Ontario Lord's Day Alliance in full, and ask for it from all our readers, more especially our ministers, the most earnest thought and attention, and wise and vigorous action. The address is as follows and is signed by

Mr. J. K. Macdonald, president of the Alliance:—

TO FRIENDS OF THE CAUSE: The Ontario Lord's Day Alliance has been formed for the purpose of defending the Lord's Day against the attacks which are now being made upon it in so many parts of the Province.

The present position of the question is such as to call for the earnest consideration of all who value the Lord's Day, both for themselves and for others.

The recent judgment of Mr. Justice Rose in the Hamilton Sunday Street Car case has a most important bearing upon the situation throughout the Province. If the law is what it is there declared to be, not only are Sunday street cars lawful in every city, but railways, both steam and electric, in all parts of the Province, with the single exception of those new radial electric railways which come within the Lord's Day Clause of the Ontario Electric Railway Act, may carry passengers any distance for any purpose on the Lord's Day upon the ground of their being "travellers."

No comment is necessary in order to show the gravity of the issue thus raised. Not only is the threatened railway traffic a very serious danger, but the excepting of one class after another from the Lord's Day Act opens the door to many other forms of desecration of the Lord's Day, and tends largely to destroy the usefulness of the Act. The Alliance contends for the application of the Act to all classes without distinction.

An appeal from Judge Rose's judgment is now being taken to the Court of Appeal, and there is strong reason to hope that a favorable decision will be obtained in that Court. If, however, the Courts should ultimately decide against the contention of the Alliance, it is confidently hoped that the Legislature will so amend the law as to make it what it was intended to be, a thoroughly effective safeguard of the Lord's Day. The Alliance, however, cannot expect to obtain additional legislation until the existing law has been sufficiently tested.

The next year or two will without doubt prove to be a very critical and decisive period with regard to maintaining the Lord's Day in our Province. The issue will largely depend upon the extent to which the Alliance can enlist the hearty sympathy and support of Christian citizens. It should not be difficult to secure this, when the rights, the home life and happiness of thousands, and especially of railroad employees are directly affected, when, too, the question is to be settled whether the children of our Province are to be educated under the influences of a Lord's Day publicly acknowledged and observed, or of one set at naught and desecrated, and when the very existence of the Lord's Day which confers so great blessings upon the whole community is threatened.

In order that the work of the Alliance may be carried on vigorously and with success, every friend of the Day must exert himself to the utmost to secure large additions to the membership and funds. All will do well to give earnest heed to the signs of the times and not allow the Day which has been such a blessing to the world to be secularized, thereby depriving coming generations of a priceless possession and entailing upon them the blighting consequences which have followed disregard of the Lord's Day in other lands. Let the blessings of the Sabbath once be surrendered, it will be immeasurably more difficult to regain than it is now to retain them, as is abundantly proved by the recent experience of New York City. Everyone, therefore, who realizes the importance of the issues involved is earnestly invited to become a member and co-worker.

The Executive Committee of the Alliance most urgently appeals to the Christian public, asking that by prompt, strenuous and united effort they will maintain our Province in the proud position of being as it is to-day, the best Sabbath-keeping country in the world.

Nothing more is needed than the statements of this address to show how critical the present position of this question is, and the danger to which our Sabbath is exposed should the ruling of Mr. Justice Rose, in the case referred to in the address, be sustained. Should it be, more effective legislation is evidently most urgently needed, and to secure it speedily and certainly, and make it effective, the whole weight of influence, and the active efforts of the religious public, and of all who, on simply humanitarian grounds desire to secure and preserve Sabbath rest for all classes, must be put forth without delay. We do no more at present, but ask the sober attention and serious consideration of all to whom this address of the Alliance comes, to the statements which it makes. The dangers pointed out are not the groundless fears of alarmists, but are very real indeed, and are close at hand. If this sacred cause in which the Alliance, and all who are in sympathy with it are engaged is to be won, the Christian public must come to their assistance, much more generally, much more earnestly and heartily, and also much more generously than has yet been done. Meanwhile we ask all interested in this great work to ponder well over this appeal of the Alliance, and seek to know and do their duty in the present juncture.

ARMENIAN SUFFERERS' FUND.

Table with 2 columns: Donor Name and Amount. Includes entries like 'Previously Acknowledged... \$785 75', 'St. John's Presbyterian Church, Medicine Hat (per J. A. Jaffary)... 5 65', etc.

Books and Magazines.

DAVID: SHEPHERD, PSALMIST, KING. By Rev. F. B. Meyer, B.A., author of "Abraham or the Obedience of Faith;" "Moses, the Servant of God," etc. p.p. 213. Price 90 cents. Fleming H. Revell Company, Toronto.

Few devotional writers of the present day are more read than F. B. Meyer, and few, if any biblical characters are more suggestive or profitable for careful study, and helpful for Christian life than that of David, the sweet singer and shepherd, King of Israel. The subject is one to which the writer is especially qualified to do justice. The style is attractive and the matter of the book is calculated to be helpful, especially to the Christian reader. It sketches the whole life of David from the time he was "Taken from the Sheep-Cotes" down to "Sunset and Evening Star," but the author concentrates his attention on those passages which trace the steps by which the shepherd became the king, because it was "his encountering these manifold experiences which enabled him to interpret and utter the universal heart of man." It is an admirable book either as exposition or for devotional reading.

THE UP-TO-DATE PRIMER. A First Book of Lessons for Little Political Economists. By J. W. Bengough. 12 mo, limp cloth, 75 pp. Illustrated, 25 cents. New York, London, and Toronto: Funk & Wagnalls Company.

The Up-to-Date Primer consists of 70 separate "lessons" in words of one syllable, each illustrated with very cleverly executed cartoons. Each lesson is preceded by nine words, after the fashion of the child's primer, these words combining in themselves caption to the cartoon and introduction to the lesson. The author, J. W. Bengough, former editor of Grip, is well known for his bright, witty caricatures on political and economic subjects, and in this book he has fairly outdone himself. Each lesson is complete in itself. They are veritable serio-comic bombs which clear the way completely to an adequate understanding of the Single Tax theory. The book is a good exposition of Henry George's works, and even those who are not Single Taxers can appreciate the clear-cut presentation of the theory, and the witty thrusts at social injustice.

"THE ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT," being an Examination of the Active Mission and Ministry of the Spirit of God, the divine Paraclete, as set forth in the Acts of the Apostles, by Rev. Arthur T. Pierson, D.D., pp. 142, price 75 cents. Fleming H. Revell Company, Toronto.

This little work is dedicated by Dr. Pierson to the memory of his beloved friend the late Rev. Dr. Gordon, of Boston. It treats of a subject on which the writer is well entitled to speak; he has long made it a study and in all his teachings for years past it has received great prominence. Those who know Dr. Pierson know that he is both an able man and most vigorous speaker and writer. Scripture students, who have not thought of the Acts of the Apostles as being the acts of the Holy Spirit, will receive much fresh light and suggestion from the reading of this book. It is especially timely and helpful for this age of fresh missionary awakening.

SOME CURRENT QUESTIONS. By Rev. Dr. Jackson, Galt. The Reporter, Galt, pp. 212.

This is a collection of articles, addresses and sermons by one well-known in our Church as the pastor of one of its largest congregations. The subjects are, "Kindergarten in Public Schools," "Christ and the Reforms of To-day," "Music in Church," "The Place of Woman in the Church," "The Gospel and its Preaching," "The Trifolium Gospel," "The Fifth Form in the Public Schools," and "Infant Salvation." All of the addresses have at one time or another been published by request, and have been welcomed by kind and appreciative words on both sides of "the line" and of "the sea," a sufficient warrant for their publication now in a collected form, in which they cannot but be useful and welcomed by the many friends of the author.

ANTIPAS, SON OF CHUZA, AND OTHERS WHOM JESUS LOVED. By Louise Seymour Houghton. Anson D. F. Randolph & Co., 182 Fifth Avenue, New York. Upper Canada Tract Society, Toronto.

This is one of a class of books, happily now quite common, which aim to give present day reality and vividness to the time of Christ and the Scripture story of his life and work from his childhood and youth until his death. The narrative is natural and attractively written and will be helpful for the object it has in view. The interest of the book is materially increased by fifteen beautiful illustrations and for its general make up, it is only necessary to know the house from which it issues to be assured that it is tasteful and attractive.

The different American magazines are at present giving considerable space to historical subjects. Among the most interesting contributions in this line is the series of papers dealing with the character and career of Abraham Lincoln now appearing in McClure's Magazine. These articles have deservedly awakened wide-spread comment. Mr. William H. Lambert, of Philadelphia, for instance, one of the most intelligent and indefatigable collectors of Lincolniana in the United States, has accorded them unstinted praise. The instalment in the March number—giving as it does, among other facts of moment, a hitherto unrecorded speech of the Martyred President, containing passages still of the highest interest—is no less noteworthy than its predecessors. The additional features—numerous and varied—are well sustained.