

# THE CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.

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## Editorial Jottings.

"CHRISTMAS is coming!" So merrily sing the children, as their bright eyes gleam with thoughts of Santa Claus and his gifts. Light hearts, may the great Santa Claus fill your lives with His blessings, and gather you truly into His loving arms. "Christmas is coming," thinks the careful mother, as she ponders over those gaping stockings which will soon call for something to fill. Blessed motherhood! Not even Eden's fall has destroyed the heavenly self-forgetfulness and patient joy of a mother's devotion, a wife's daily sacrifice, without which home would be—as where such is not—a den and a desolation. A Christmas blessing on the mother and the wife. "Christmas is coming," thinks the bread-winner, as he thoughtfully balances his gains and his losses, with a view to meet with honesty the many claims the season demands. Be painfully anxious for nothing, but trust in God, and do the right.

"CHRISTMAS is coming," and the chair is vacant, for the grave is full. Ah, the lost one keeping Christmas in the many-mansioned home, where vacant chairs are waiting to be filled! Not empty, as here, for ever. Blessed hope, may it burn ever bright. "Christmas is coming," and the glad note sounds weirdly in the home—if such there be—of the poverty-stricken. Ah, the joy of doing good! May some bright angel shed some ray of loving light where the children cry for bread.

"CHRISTMAS is coming!" May every heart echo to the angel song, to God the glory, and on earth the peace. Let none be without some response to the heavenly strain.

"THE Christ is coming!" Glad news to the waiting heart, the weary life, the careworn and the

faithful. Coming to make all things new, and make all earth resound with the song which on the first Christmas night spread joy over Bethlehem plains. Even so come, the new Christmas. Come, Lord Jesus.

A SERMON has been preached, and widely published, virtually advocating "moderate drinking." The consideration which, above all others, will condemn the same is that it will be read with delight in every saloon and whiskey dive throughout the Province. When the devil shouts approval, the Christian had better cry a halt. Easy is the descent, but to rise, that is the endeavour, that the labour. We desire the ascent, and to aid therein.

A MEETING is called for in London, England, to confer on unity in foreign mission work. A deputation has visited Toronto to urge the sending of representatives. The denominations are responding. At a representative meeting of our own churches in Toronto it was suggested that the secretary of each district association should by correspondence obtain from their respective associations the name of one pastor and of one member to represent our interests there. The names are required before the end of the present year. Rev. A. F. McGregor, B.A., Toronto, is the member of the General Committee, representing the denominations, and to him the names are to be sent. The meeting is to be next June, and accommodation will be provided for the delegates during their stay in London. As the time is short for entering names, and it is important that our churches be represented, it is hoped that this suggestion will be acted upon by all our association secretaries and by the Union secretary of the Lower Provinces forthwith.

ATTENTION is directed to the change in the address in the management, etc., of this paper, on the last page.