

The Canadian Independent.

"ONE IS YOUR MASTER, EVEN CHRIST, AND ALL YE ARE BRETHREN."

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TRUSTING GOD.

Whoever plants a leaf beneath the sod,
And waits to see it push away the clod,
He trusts in God.

Whoever says, when clouds are in the sky,
"Be patient, heart, light breaketh by and by,"
He trusts in God.

Whoever sees, through winter's field of snow,
The silent harvest of the future grow,
God's power must know.

Whoever lies down on his couch to sleep,
Content to lock each sense in slumber deep,
Knows God will keep.

Whoever says, "to-morrow," "the unknown,"
"The future," trusts unto that power alone
He dares to disown.

The heart that looks on when the eyelids close,
And dares to live when life has only woes,
God's comfort knows.

Topics of the Week.

—A Pan-Lutheran Council at Old Wittenberg is now suggested.

—The Hilberian Bible Society has circulated 4,500,000 copies of the Bible in Ireland.

—Miss Annie L. Shaw was lately ordained in Tarrytown by the New York Methodist Conference, after considerable discussion.

—The Presbyterians of Melbourne offered Dr. Dykes, of London, \$6,000 a year to become Principal of Ormond College, but he declined.

—Rev. Dr. H. W. Thomas preached his farewell sermon in Chicago, and is called to succeed Dr. Edward Eggleston Brooklyn, New York.

—The Baptists in Jamaica have lost forty churches and school buildings, with more than \$80,000, by the late disaster in that island.

—Dr. Thomas, of Chicago, has accepted a call from the board of directors of "The people's Church of Chicago," and Dr. A. C. George has commenced his ministry at the Central Church.

—The Salvation Army, represented by three English emigrants in Oct., 1879, has grown to twelve corps in twelve districts, holding 172 weekly services, and has recorded 1,500 conversions.

—The company appointed to revise the authorized version of the Old Testament had finished their first version of Job and carried that of Proverbs as far as the twelfth chapter, when they met early this month.

—A Paris dispatch says the agitation against the enforcement of the religious decrees is increasing. Protests are being signed in Paris and the departments. Several more magistrates have resigned in consequence of the decrees.

—The American Bible Revision Committee have completed their work on the New Testament, and sent their revision to the British Committee, who meet this month for final action. It is expected that the revised Testament will be published in February next.

—Rev. J. W. Carhart, D.D., presiding elder of the Appleton District, Wisconsin Conference, was expelled from the ministry and membership of the M. E. Church at the recent session of the Conference, for "dishonesty and perjury, lying and immoral and unchristian conduct

Humane efforts are being made in New South Wales to protect and provide for the dribbling remnants of the aboriginal population. We believe that in Tasmania the aborigines are wholly extinct. In all Australia the sad process which is going on with so many feeble races through the contact of superior civilized races, is very marked.—*Foreign Missionary.*

Sabbath, the 31st October, was the 363d anniversary of the nailing of the *Ninety-five Theses* on the door of the castle church at Wittenberg, designated as the decisive act of Luther from which the great Reformation sprang. As the Reformation and the Evangelical Protestant Church were simultaneous in their origin, the 31st of October, 1517, has also been regarded as the birthday of the Lutheran Church.

Mr. James Russell Lowell, the American Minister to Great Britain, in an address at the opening of the Winter session of the Workingmen's College, London, recommended students to take such books as Dante's "Divina Commedia," and master them if they desire to get a liberal education. Teachers like Goethe and Dante, he said, never bored one, and he would defy any one who knew Dante thoroughly to do a shabby thing.

The census returns of New Zealand in relation to the religious character of the population disclose some curious points of sectarianism. All told, not less than 133 different sects are represented in that colony. The Episcopalians come first with 173,734 adherents, Presbyterians 95,000, Romanists 58,408, and so on, down to those with less than 100, of whom there are ten at least. The Malua Seminary in the South Seas has been in operation thirty-five years, and now has 150 students.

There was a very interesting celebration Jan. 1, 1880, of the Sabbath schools of North Hawaii. They assembled at Waimea for a review of the International Lessons which they had been studying seven years. The lessons had all been prepared in the native tongue by Rev. Lorenzo Lyons, a missionary there for nearly fifty years. He also prepared questions for a review at this meeting, and the occasion was one of great interest. Mr. Lyons has been presented with a testimonial of about \$1,200 for his work, gathered from the various Hawaiian Sabbath schools.

—A. P. Segrin, for fourteen years a Roman Catholic priest, has renounced his faith in the Church of Rome, and written a letter to Bishop Fabre giving an account of his conversion to Protestantism, in which he says: "Auricular Confession appeared to me more and more what it is in reality: a snare and a school of perdition to the priests and their fair penitents. I was more and more, every day, the witness of an unspeakable moral degradation and corruption in the lower ranks of the clergy, and of an unbearable impudence, avarice, insolence, gluttony, villainy and heartless tyranny in the bishops. . . . Every day it was more and more evident to me, that a Church where infamies that would have made the people of Sodom blush, and where acts of tyranny which would have puzzled a Caligula were of daily and unchecked occurrence, could not be the spotless Bride of the Lamb of God."

—The aged Emperor of Germany is described as looking very imposing, when, with his wife on his arm, he emerged from the venerable Cathedral at Cologne, followed by a long train of princes and generals. He took his place in a pavilion prepared on the Platz, and signed a record, which, after having been also signed by sixty-seven German princes and notabilities, was placed in a long silver tube and given to the workmen to be deposited in the principal stone cross at the top of the cathedral spire, 530 feet above.

The St. Petersburg *Golos* says of the failure of the crops in Russia, that the outlook is very gloomy, as the country, whose ordinary export is 40,000,000 quarters, will have to buy grain from abroad. How to feed the peasantry during the coming winter is a problem occupying the serious attention of the Government, and there is no ground for expecting a good harvest in the future. Thousands of insects which have defied the efforts to exterminate them and will be hidden under the deep snow till spring, will renew the work of destruction. The *Golos* gives the result of the last financial year, showing that the expenditure exceeds the estimates by 26,000,000 roubles.

—The eloquent and devoted French evangelist, M. Reveillaud, has made a number of addresses in New York, at the American Board in Lowell, and at the sessions of the American Missionary Association. He is obliged to speak through an interpreter, but all the fire and force of his moving enthusiasm are not quenched before the ear of the English hearer is reached. He affirms that not one-tenth of the French people are really Roman Catholic; that the peasantry are not in sympathy with the Romish Church; that France is now open to the Gospel and will welcome it everywhere. He said that in one town 300 heads of families, upheld by their wives, signed a declaration abjuring Romanism.

—It is not proper to call the Brahmo Somaj of India a heathen body, for, though a branch of Brahminism, they no longer worship idols. Nor can we call them Christian, though their sympathy is more with Christianity than with their old faith. This is evident from a paragraph in *The Indian Mirror*, which tells of religious movements among the women of their households, and concludes: "A plan has recently been adopted by some of the ladies to hold weekly prayer-meetings for the benefit of the poor female servants of the household. May the Lord's blessing descend upon this humble movement! How few there are among us who look after the spiritual wants of their servants! We wonder how many of our Christian women take care that their servants shall have full religious privileges?" *N. Y. Independent.*

—In issuing his proclamation appointing Monday, the 25th inst., as a day of National Thanksgiving, President Hayes says:—At no period in their history, since the United States became a nation, has this people had so abundant and so universal reason for joy and gratitude at the favor of Almighty God, or been subject to so profound an obligation to give thanks for His loving kindness, and to humbly implore His continued care and protection. Health, wealth, and pros-

perity throughout all our borders, peace, honor, and friendship with all the world, firm and faithful adherence by the body of our population to the principles of liberty and justice which have made our greatness as a nation, and to wise institutions and strong franchises of Government and society which will perpetuate it— for all these let the thanks of a happy and united people, as with one voice, ascend in devout homage to the Giver of all good.

—Rev. Joseph Cooke, of Boston, is meeting a hearty welcome in England. On the invitation of Mr. G. Williams, the treasurer of the Christian Young Men's Association, a large and representative gathering of the leading ministers and laymen of London connected with Christian work in the metropolis breakfasted at the rooms of the institution in Aldersgate-street, in order to give a hearty welcome to the Rev. Joseph Cook, of Boston, who has come from America to deliver a course of lectures, chiefly on behalf of Christianity in this country, and which lectures are to be commenced in Scotland almost immediately. Amongst the company present were Dr. Stanton, Bishop of North Queensland; Alderman W. M. Arthur, M. P.; the Revs. Dr. Nolan, Dr. Wainwright, Dr. Donald Fraser, Dr. Dykes, Dr. Hugh Sinclair Paterson, Dr. Rigg, Dr. Davidson, Dr. Aveling, Newman Hall, James Spurgeon, W. Statham, and many more. After breakfast Mr. Williams expressed his pleasure at seeing such a large company present, and apologized for the absence of the Earl of Shaftesbury and the Hon. Hugh Kincaid. Mr. Hodder read letters of regret at not being present from Dr. Angus and the Rev. Charles Spurgeon, the latter writing:—"I thank you for your kind invitation to breakfast with Mr. Cook. I think it an honour to have been invited and I should regard it as a great pleasure to accept the invitation to meet so distinguished and useful a teacher. But, alas! I am an invalid, and must be denied many of the joys of social life for a while. Permit me, however, to charge you with a message of grateful respect to Mr. Cook, for whose appearance at this juncture I have blessed God many times. Right heartily I hope that England may be favoured with some of those confirming words which have been so useful to the staggering and those confounding arguments which have scattered the designing, sceptical bands." Short congratulatory addresses were then delivered by the Bishop of North Queensland, Dr. Rigg, the Rev. W. People, the Rev. W. Statham, the Rev. John Clifford, Dr. Hauptman (South Africa), and Alderman W. M. Arthur, M. P.; and then Mr. Cook spoke as to the way in which the Church was to meet the scepticism of the age. It was a work to be done more by lectures than in the pulpit. In America the sceptics were losing ground, and now one in five was a Church member. The address was repeatedly cheered, and at the close the meeting was subsequently addressed by the Rev. Dr. Donald Fraser and Newman Hall.

—Rev. Henry Weight, Honorary Secretary of the Church Missionary Society, was crowned in Comiston Lake, Aug. 13, 1880. Honorary, in connection with the names of secretaries in Great Britain, indicates that the person serves without any compensation.