THE

Canadian Independent.

NOTES OF A WORKING HOLIDAY.

The Editor of this magazine, having found that an account of his recent travelling experiences has been *heard* with interest, supposes that it may be *read* with interest also. He therefore tells his story to this larger circle of friends, but with the greater familiarity of the first person singular.

TWO KINDS OF HOLIDAY.

By an understanding with the church at my settlement, such as I would recommend every pastor and every church to enter into, I have a vacation of one month every year, during which the church provides supply for the pulpit. This vacation has sometimes been spent in work, and sometimes in rest; and the result of my experience is, most decidedly, that I would recommend the active to the idle form of recreation. Change of scene, associates, surroundings, and employment, are essential; but in the new place, work, I would say. Preach, speak, do good in every way. I am sure it is more restful than "loafing" on the mountains or the shore, or mere amusement all the day and every day. Those who live in the comparative quiet of a colony, do well to go into a place where life is more intense, where the friction of mind against mind is more close, and the plans of men have wider scope. Dwellers in the world's great centres, on the other hand, do well to reverse the process, and take a taste of "still life." I am happy to say, that having preached and spoken freely during this vacation, I have returned in health and vigour such as no previous excursion has given me. I would strongly advise every church to give their pastor a yearly holiday, and to "help on his journey after a godly sort," if needful. Send him to England now and then, if you can afford it. Depend upon it, you will have it all back sevenfold.

THE ERRAND.

My own immediate errand was to supply for five Sabbaths the pulpit of an Old School Presbyterian Church (West 23rd Street) in New York. The invitation having come through old friends in that city, unsought and unex-