

# THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

VOL 16.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26th, 1897.

No. 5.

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## Notes of the Week.

A DOCUMENT, called the "World's Petition," has been printed for the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union, remonstrating against the liquor and opium traffic, which is to be circulated in all civilized lands, and when 2,000,000 signatures are obtained it will be presented by women to the several governments of the world, beginning with the United States Congress, for legislative action.

THE Evangelical Alliance of St. John, N. B., devotes attention to matters of practical interest. At a recent meeting the members resolved to establish a home for fallen women. They next resolved to have a bill for securing the better observance of the Sabbath prepared for presentation to the Provincial Legislature. The measure proposed is substantially the same as that now in force in the Province of Ontario.

MR. D. WYLIE is gifted with strong staying powers. For years he was known as one of the Canadian journalistic fathers. The Brockville Recorder informs its readers that he has been re-elected chairman of the Public School Board for 1887. He has served thirty-eight years on the board, and has sat continuously upon it all that time with the exception of one year. He has not been an idle member of the board, having always taken a warm interest in the schools, and devoted much of his time to looking after their interests.

FOR a number of years past the Pennsylvania Railroad has been making experiments to ascertain how far it would pay to give up travel on the Sabbath. Numerous excursion trains and a number of passenger trains have been taken off, and from eight o'clock on Saturday night till midnight on Sunday, all freight trains, except live stock trains, have been ordered off. All repairing at the shops has also been stopped on Sunday. The result has proved so exceedingly satisfactory that the directors very wisely intend permanently to introduce and extend these changes.

BY favour of Mr. J. G. Hodgins, Deputy Minister of Education, we have received Parts II. and III. of the Special Report by the Washington Bureau of Education, giving a full and authentic account of the proceedings of the Educational Convention held at New Orleans when the Industrial and Cotton Centennial Exposition was held. The volume also contains all the principal papers read at the Convention. It is gratifying to note that Ontario was ably represented. Mr. Hodgins, who was appointed honorary secretary of the Convention, and other noted Canadian educationists read papers of great value and interest.

THE London census reveals the fact that some of the strongest men are serving the weakest churches. As the *British Weekly* truly says, there are places where it is almost beyond the power of man to keep a church empty; there are others where life-long faithfulness to duty only assembles a handful. We echo its expression of the necessity that often exists for some standard-bearers to be "ready to make a shroud of their colours." Pathetic is the pacing of the almost solitary sentinel, but he is on duty, and his responsibility is great. It is often needful that a pastor and a few followers should stand in their lot, and while they work wait for better days. Their courage is often below the pitch, but the mere thought of surrender and its consequences to the cause is enough to screw it up, and make them keep time and tune with the marching host.

THE attitude of the Rev. Dr. McGlynn, of New York, in relation to his ecclesiastical superiors, is attracting considerable interest. It probably involves consequences of great importance. He has no quarrel with the Roman Catholic Church on doctrinal matters. As yet it is simply a case of discipline. His warm espousal of Henry George's candidature for the New York mayoralty was displeasing in the extreme to Archbishop Corrigan. As a consequence Dr. McGlynn has been summoned to Rome to explain his conduct. In his new paper Henry George has spoken out, with the logical force and clearness of which he is master, in a style that must be anything but pleasing to the authorities of the Catholic Church either in Rome or New York. The leading dailies of the last named city side with the Church against the inhibited rector of St. Stephen's. Had it been a Protestant pastor who proved recalcitrant, how he would have been praised for his independence! As it is, even the most vigorous New York dailies are very subservient to the Roman Catholic Church, while the religious papers, fearful of seeming to approve of Henry George's doctrines, speak falteringly of the significance of Dr. McGlynn's action.

A MOVEMENT is on foot among the native professors of the University of Japan, at Tokio, and others, to found at Tokio an institute and college for women, to receive about twelve house boarders and 100 day pupils. Many of these gentlemen have been in England, some have studied there, and have carefully observed English life and habits of thought. Their observations have led them to propose that their ladies' college in the "England of the East" should be under the control of four English ladies. They also desire that these ladies should be of the Church of England; that they should be perfectly free and, indeed, welcome to convert their pupils to the Christian faith. They openly say that Buddhism is powerless to raise a nation. The scheme has been laid before the committee of the Ladies' Association for Promoting Female Education in Heathen Countries, in connection with the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. So remarkable did it appear to them that, though all the funds of the association were already pledged to maintain existing work, they undertook to raise a special fund to pay for the passages and outfits of the ladies, and a supplementary salary to that promised by the college. Two ladies have volunteered to go out at their own charge.

THE *Presbyterian Banner* touches on a matter of practical Christianity in the following fashion: The poor we have always with us. They were special subjects of commiseration and help by the Master when He was personally present on the earth, and they are as dear to Him now as they were then. The Church the pastor, or the private Christian neglecting them now is so far from following the example of the King and the Head of the Church. The *Religious Herald* has the following paragraph on this matter: While the pastor and his family should not be forced to consort with vulgar persons merely because they are poor, or avoid the society of the cultivated because they are rich, they should be care-

ful not to convey the impression that they are separated in feeling and fact from the common people such as followed and gladly listened to the words of the Master. These common people He loved, irrespective of any worldly position. They felt that they had in Him a sympathizing friend, and were drawn to Him. The duty of the pastor and his family, as thus pertinently set forth, is equally obligatory upon all Christians and their families, and rich and well-to-do members of the Church cannot begin too soon to make inquiry whether they have met the full measure required of them in their treatment of the poor.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Christian Advocate*, who inquired at the Methodist book-room the other day for a life of Dr. Morley Punshon, was told that it was "in hands," and further inquiry elicited the statement "that some one" had been engaged on the work ever since the doctor's death! The prospect, therefore, is that the generation which knew Dr. Punshon will have passed away before the biography appears, if it ever does appear, which may be regarded as doubtful. This is only one case of many of the same character, says the *Christian Leader*, with which we are acquainted. It then instances the case of James Hannay, the brilliant Conservative journalist, a ripe scholar and a genuine humourist, who was one of the most brilliant contributors to the *Pall Mall Gazette* in its palmiest days. We may add that we have often been shocked at the difficulty of getting even the most intimate associates of departed worthies to prepare a brief memorial of them at the time of their decease—these survivors are too busy, or too careless, to trouble themselves; and the misery has been that in not a few cases of the kind the departed was one of the most estimable of men, so that it was simply insensibility and indolence that hindered the paying of the tribute. In some instances the crime of deep ingratitude was also involved into the failure to pay the tribute; while the crime was aggravated by affected homage to the memory of the dead and unctuous professions of piety. This is a matter we have had it on our minds to say for a good many years, and we feel obliged to the righteously indignant Methodist who has furnished us with a peg by naming the case of the unfaithful biographer of Dr. Morley Punshon, whoever he may be, and as to that we know nothing.

THE *New York Independent* says: Sir J. W. Dawson recently delivered a lecture in Brooklyn on the origin of the human race. After saying that the race was of comparatively recent origin, he proceeded to say: If man came into being suddenly, if it cannot with any show of reason be demonstrated that man was the child of evolution, the final development of creation, then we are necessitated either to accept the statement in Genesis that God made man in His own image, or else speculate and surmise for ever, for it is not probable that the problem could be solved in any other way than as we find it in God's verbal revelation to man. "In the Bible will be found the truest explanation of man's origin, and of the origin of all creatures, even of the earth itself. They are the outcome of the divine will, of the power, the wisdom and goodness of God." The Bible theory is not that man is by evolution the descendant of a monkey, or of any other inferior form of organized life, but the product of divine power by a special act in the creation of Adam and Eve. Such is clearly the meaning of the record as given in the Book of Genesis. The truth of this record is distinctly recognized in the New Testament. The Church of God, resting its faith on what the Bible so clearly teaches, has in all ages adopted this view, and is not likely to abandon it for any other view. The view abundantly accounts for the existence of the race of men on this globe, and is far simpler in its character, as well as much surer in the evidence supporting it, than the speculation of evolution from a lower order of animals. We say speculation, for no one will pretend that evolution as applied to the origin of man is actually a demonstrated truth. It is almost wholly a mere guess in the name of science; and being opposed to the Word of God it ought to be rejected.