

# THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

VOL. 20.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, MAY 6th, 1891.

No. 18.

## IMPROVED CLASS ROLL

For the use of Sabbath School Teachers.

## IMPROVED SCHOOL REGISTER

For the use of Superintendents and Secretaries.

Both the above have been carefully prepared, in response to request demands for something more complete than could heretofore be obtained, by the Rev. T. F. Fotheringham, M.A., Convener of the General Assembly's Sabbath School Committee. These books will be found to make easy the work of reprinting all necessary statistics of our Sabbath Schools, as well as preparing the returns asked for by the General Assembly. Price of Class Roll, 60 cents per doz. Price of School Registers 20 cents each. Address—

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## Notes of the Week.

NINETY-FIVE young people in the English Presbyterian Church have just been awarded Oxford Bibles for repeating the Shorter Catechism with not more than five mistakes. Not fewer than thirty-three made no errors in repetition, whilst fourteen made only one mistake. The Bibles are the gift of the Synod, which thus shows its zeal for doctrinal knowledge.

A DELEGATION recently left Belfast to visit the various stations of the Irish Presbyterian Mission in Spain. It consists of Rev. D. A. Taylor, Comber, Convener of the Continental Mission, Dr. Barkley, joint Convener of the Foreign Mission, and Mr. Crawford, of Mount Randal. Their visit will greatly cheer the hearts of the agents of the mission, and will, doubtless, result in good.

THE representative meeting of the Society of Friends has addressed a memorial to Lord Salisbury, asking the Government to advise the Queen to invite a congress of the European powers, seriously to consider the whole question of the early simultaneous reduction of their military and naval establishments. The International Arbitration and Peace Society have sent a similar petition.

MR. ROBERTSON, of Portobello, at the annual social meeting of his congregation, said that he for one bade General Booth Godspeed in his efforts to reach and raise the submerged tenth. But was not the Church of Knox, Chalmers and Guthrie a great Salvation Army? Their country was small enough to enable them to solve the problem of raising the masses and clearing out the slums. It was a satire on the religion they professed to permit colonies of drunkards and savages to be harboured in their cities, towns and villages.

SEVEN years ago the Jews in Jerusalem were estimated at 19,000. The British consul thinks they have now increased to 40,000, while some local authorities believe that they reach 60,000. The trade of the city is passing rapidly into their hands, so that little business is done in Jerusalem on Saturday, and when Mr. Wells, of Glasgow, recently visited the city he was told that about two thousand new houses are to be built soon for the Jews. The population includes about 20,000 or 25,000 Mohammedans and about as many Christians.

THE directors of the Protestant Institute of Scotland have determined that the lectureship, instead of being a life appointment, as in the exceptional case of Dr. Wylie, shall be henceforth for a brief term of years. Rev. C. A. Salmond, M.A., who conducted the classes during the past session, was requested to undertake the lectureship for another winter, but in view of his pastoral duties he does not see his way to comply. Another selection will therefore have to be made. The emolument is to be \$750 per annum for two years, and the lecturer may be either a minister or a layman of any Protestant denomination.

THE *Indian Witness*, referring to the fact that every week missionaries are going home, some permanently and others for a longer or shorter furlough, expresses the conviction that missionaries of the present day do not hold their service so loyally and so sacredly as those of the last generation. "The number of veterans in the field," it says, "is becoming very small," and it adds the expression

of a fear that the mental equipment and training of the present generation of missionaries is a little below that of their predecessors, more particularly in the matter of linguistic attainments. Comparatively few at the present time thoroughly master the vernaculars in which they preach.

DR. TAYLOR, of Thurso, in the Free Church Synod of Sutherland and Caithness, proposed an overture asking the Assembly to formally declare that the views of Professors Dods and Bruce respecting Inspiration are at variance with the teaching of the Confession. It was adopted by a majority of one against the previous question, moved by Mr. Renny, of Wick. An overture by Mr. Ross, of Dunbeath, asking the Assembly to reaffirm the doctrine of the Confession with regard to Inspiration was unanimously adopted.

AT the annual congregational soiree of St. Columba Parish Church, Glasgow, Rev. John MacLean, D.D., pastor, said that the Church in the past had neglected its work, and did not attempt to bring the religious and temporal life into unison and seek to make them go hand in hand, and they had now to pay the penalty. It was wonderful the progress that had been made during the last twenty years, especially in the musical service of the Church and in Sunday observance. He also stated that when he came to the Church two years ago there was a membership of 1,486, while now it had increased to 1,500. Dr. Donald MacLeod, in addressing the meeting, declared that he felt that the Church of Scotland had not done its duty to the Highlanders in Glasgow, for while the Free Church had four or five Gaelic Churches in that city, the Established Church had only one.

PROFESSOR LUTHARDT, of Leipzig, in a recent article, confesses that he does not share the anxiety some feel on account of the changes in Biblical, more particularly in Old Testament, criticism. "We have had too many experiences in this respect, have seen too many hypotheses come and go. Who knows what gravediggers already stand at the door? We older ones had experience in Baur's criticism of the New Testament, and some of us took an active part in opposing it. Where is that school now? What a stir D. F. Strauss made in his day! All who understand the matter now have abandoned the theory that the life of Jesus consists of myths. How many in Germany, even in scientific circles, compromised themselves by their attitude towards Renan's 'Life of Jesus!' Who ever speaks seriously of this French romance now?"

THE *Christian World* says: A beautifully-printed little booklet, oblong in shape, and bearing the inscription, "Are they not safe with Him?" by Henry Drummond, has been issued by a New York publisher. The booklet contains about a dozen pages, half of which are blank. On the remaining pages four verses, each of four lines, are printed, and the price asked for this remarkably brief poem is the modest one of 25 cents! Doubtless the many readers of Professor Henry Drummond's books would not object to giving a shilling even for a four-verse poem of his, and it is in their interests we want to make the fact known that he is not the author of the lines in question. As American admirers of Mr. Drummond are most in danger of buying this pamphlet under the mistaken notion that it is from his pen, we may with some reason add the familiar words: "American papers please copy."

THE baccalaureate sermon at Queen's University by the Rev. James Barclay, Montreal, was able and impressive. It was upon Christian unity. He said, after pointing out the suggestions of various sects, what the Church needs and what the world asks is a genuine kindred sympathy, oneness of heart, binding Christians together, leading others to see they are members of one brotherhood, that they are bound as men whose hearts God has touched. The harmony they sought is the maintaining and blending of the various sympathies and the mingling of thoughts. This would make the Church a practical

power for good. Their aim should be to reach the hearts and souls of men about them, and they should work and pray to save those who were living without God in the world. In order to bring about Christian unity all Christians must seek to live nearer to Christ. Think more of Him and His work and glory, and the spirit of sect will vanish away, divisions will disappear, and creed and dogma will be of little consequence.

THE *Belfast Witness* says: The Irish Sunday Closing Bill passed the second reading, and as Mr. Balfour, on the part of the Government, gave a promise in the event of its leaving the Grand Committee in a satisfactory state, that he would help its passage through the House we may take it for granted that it will be carried. The consensus of opinion in favour of the measure was so strong that the opposition to the Bill was heartless and hopeless. Mr. Parnell threw in his lot with the publicans, and opposed the Bill, and so did some of his followers, but the Nationalists did not divide on the question on Parnellite lines. The measure proposes to make permanent the Sunday-closing of public-houses in Ireland, where it is now in operation in a temporary form, and also to include the exempted cities and towns—including Dublin, Belfast and Londonderry. It also proposes to extend the walk of the *bona fide* traveller from three miles to six, and to include in its scope the closing on Saturday night at nine o'clock instead of eleven. The Bill in all its parts has our entire sympathy.

THE death of Rev. Dr. Symington, of Birkenhead, which occurred in his fifty-ninth year, after a prolonged illness following an attack of typhoid fever, was recently announced. Rev. A. M. Symington, D.D., was well known in Liverpool, and though he seldom preached in London he was a familiar figure at the meetings of Synod and committees. He was a son of the manse, being a native of Stranraer. He commenced his ministerial life as pastor of a Reformed Presbyterian Church in Dumfries, and in 1867 accepted a call to Conway Street Church, Birkenhead, where he succeeded Dr. Lundie, who had removed to Fairfield. Here Dr. Symington ministered to an attached people to the close of his life. In addition to preaching he was a prolific writer, contributions from his pen frequently appearing in the magazines. He was the author of several books, including "The Apostles of our Lord," "The Story of Esther the Queen," "The Last First," "The Life of John the Baptist," "The Story of Joseph." Dr. Symington leaves a widow, three sons and six daughters, one of the latter being connected with the Mildmay Mission, and another went out as a missionary to India, where she subsequently married a Baptist missionary.

AT the opening of the annual session of the Toronto Woman's Medical College last week at the building in Sumach Street, Dr. R. B. Nevitt, the dean, delivered his annual address. He referred to the satisfactory progress that had been made since it was established upwards of ten years ago, and said it had now secured a good foothold. The prejudice against women entering the profession was disappearing even in Edinburgh, where it was most strongly marked. The dean presented diplomas to the following lady graduates: Dr. Meade, Nassagaweya, Ont., Dr. Graham, Toronto, and Dr. Gifford, Meaford. Dr. Graham also received a special prize for general proficiency in the fourth year. A special prize in therapeutics for the third year was presented to Miss Jennie Grey by Dr. Temple. Miss Brander received a special prize in the second year in anatomy. Miss Shirra was awarded a prize for anatomy in the first year. The following ladies passed the examination in the first year, in accordance with the Council of the Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons: Miss Pringle, Miss Shirra, Miss Macklem and Miss Murray. Short addresses were given by Sir Daniel Wilson and the Rev. Dr. Parsons. James Beaty, Q.C., gave the financial statement, which showed the revenue for the past year to have been \$3,475.32. There was a balance on hand of \$27. Since 1887 the amount subscribed was \$3,008.50.