

fifty-one per cent. of the taxes was raised upon alcoholic liquors, and forty-nine from all the rest. In 1881-2 the amount from liquor was only 46½ per cent., while from other sources it was 53½. Nor could this, as Mr. Gladstone was careful to note, be set down to hard times; for now, when prosperity had returned, the diminution still continued, while the increase in the deposits in the savings banks was steady and continuous.

We are glad to think that a commencement in the work of establishing coffee-houses has been made in Toronto, and, so far as the experiment has gone, with very encouraging success. We are convinced that if more of such places were established their success would be even more marked. Vast numbers who are not total abstainers would greatly prefer such coffee-houses, if properly conducted, to all places chiefly supported by the sale of intoxicating liquors. And we don't see why they should not pay, and pay well, merely as matters of private business enterprise. Every one that succeeds will lead others to make the experiment. We wish them all success. In those days of travel and continued activity there is no use in trying to put down the whiskey-selling taverns unless by encouraging the establishment of more comfortable, more attractive, and much safer places of public entertainment in their stead.

#### LABOUR AND RACE PREJUDICE.

IN spite of all that is said about the advancement of the times, the large-hearted charity that prevails, and the "brotherhood of man," etc., incidents are continually turning up which show that the old leaven of race and colour prejudice is by no means wrought out of those nations that claim to be in the very forefront of civilization and culture. It is encouraging, however, to notice that this prejudice is now found chiefly among the lowest and least civilized communities, and that there is not any attempt made to defend it with anything having even the appearance of argument, but it rests simply on the time-honoured ground—

"I do not like thee, Dr. Fell,  
The reason why I cannot tell;  
But this I know, and that right well,  
I do not like thee, Dr. Fell."

We have been somewhat astonished at the latest exhibition of this tendency here in Toronto. A decent man, with more or less negro blood in his veins, was recently appointed as letter-carrier in connection with the city post-office. But, lo and behold! the immaculate blue blood of the other dealers in mail matter took fire at the very thought of such an insult, and they accordingly resolutely refused to have anything to do with their new confrere. Nothing could be said against the poor man's character. Morally, intellectually and socially, he was as good as any of them, perhaps a great deal better than some; but the indelible, unforgivable stain of negro blood was upon him, and therefore he must not be allowed to come between the wind and the gentility of those high-souled white gentlemen. Now, all this is simply intolerable; and we are astonished that the post-office authorities should have paltered with the matter for a single moment. We are quite sure that had it been said to those most magnificent personages, "Your places can be easily supplied, and if you don't choose to do your duty you can go," the whole force of all that is best in public opinion would have backed up the decision and endorsed what had been done. Is it really come to this, that any and every respectable citizen who has more or less of negro blood in his veins is to be treated as a pariah and outcast, and have his way barred to the very possibility of being employed in the public service, however well qualified he may be, and however willing those who have the appointing power may be to use his services? That would indeed be a strange state of things; and if it is so settled, we are quite sure that multitudes of the best people in Ontario will insist upon "knowing the reason why."

The Chinese question, we notice, is also coming to the front, and some of the most blatant and obstreperous advocates of freedom and the rights of man are calling for legislative enactments in order to stop the ingress into Canada of any of the natives of the Flowery Land. The hoodlum element in the United States has so far succeeded as to secure an enactment of the kind, to be in force in that country for the next ten years. And the corresponding class in Canada is

moving in the same direction. The pretence is that these immigrants bring their degrading heathen superstitions and customs into the country, and will be in danger of corrupting the Anglo-Saxons with whom they may come into contact. This pretence is altogether too flimsy, for the interests of morality and religion are not at all precious in either the theories or practices of those who are the chief agitators in this matter. When they allege that they are afraid the Chinese will work for lower wages, and thereby interfere with the rights and privileges of the Anglo-Saxon "working man," they are perhaps nearer the truth. But carry out such a principle, and where will it end? In the exclusion of all foreigners, of whatever name, language or character. There is not an English, Scotch or Irish workman who enters Canada who does not help to increase competition, and so far to lower wages. The fewer servant girls there are, the more they can demand for their work, and the less service render in return. But who on this account would insist upon absolute exclusion of all such foreigners?

Every country has, no doubt, a right to protect itself against the introduction of criminals, paupers, and those who are suffering under contagious diseases. But, in a free country like this, to forbid the entrance of any one of a certain race, let his character and skill be what they may, is simply monstrous—an outrage upon all justice, decency and sense. The same arguments have again and again been employed against the admission of Irish labourers into England and Scotland, and with quite as much reason. The Know Nothings in the States took exactly the same ground. There must, in short, be something wrong if British labourers cannot successfully compete with those of any other nationality in the world, in a fair field and with no undue favour shown to any one. Besides, why should the employers of labour be forced to submit to the dictation of the idle, the intemperate and the improvident, by the absolute exclusion of those who also live by their labour, and only ask to have an opportunity of showing what they can do? We can see no reason why. But indeed reason has nothing to do with the matter, for unreasoning prejudice and insolent selfishness lie at the root of it all. If all heathenish and morally unwholesome people are to be kept out of Canada by a rigid *cordon sanitaire*, and all of a similar character put out, there is a tolerably formidable job in prospect, which, if carried out with any amount of energy and success will tell very disastrously upon the exhibit to be made by the next decennial census, and we are free to prophesy that the Mongolian race will not be the only or even the chief sufferer by the operation. Some who hold their heads high, and claim to be pure Caucasians, will, it is feared, have in that case to go, and even the old "Civis Romanus" plea in its modern shape will fail, we gravely suspect, to act as an adequate protection against the inevitable proscription sure to follow upon any test, either of morality, decency or religion, being applied with any measure of impartiality to the owners of white skins, quite as much as to those whose cuticle is rather of a darker hue.

#### THE LATE REV. ANDREW KENNEDY, LONDON, ONT.

WE are sorry to notice the removal of this old and respected minister of Christ. He died on the 19th inst., after a few weeks' illness. Mr. Kennedy, we believe, was considerably upwards of ninety years of age. He was ordained to the work of the ministry so long ago as 1821, and after labouring in Keith, Scotland, for a number of years, came to this country more than forty years since. He was settled for some time in Lachute, in the Province of Quebec, but has for nearly thirty years last past resided in London, Ont., very much respected by all who knew him, and steadily seeking by all means within his power to advance the cause of truth and righteousness in the community.

#### STUDENTS' MISSIONARY SOCIETY, PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE, MONTREAL.

The Treasurer thankfully acknowledges the following receipts: Mr. D. McLean, \$5; Mille Isles, per D. G. Cameron, \$10; James Gill, \$2; Beauharnois congregation, per Rev. T. Bennett, \$7.45; Chateaugay congregation, per Rev. T. Bennett, \$6; Rev. J. R. McLeod, Kingsberry, and others, per Rev. J. R. Mc-

Leod, \$3; Willamstown, per Mrs. Dunn, \$3.75; East Lancaster, per Mrs. Dunn, \$3.85; W. H. Geddes, \$10; Manotick and South Gloucester, per Rev. J. Munro, \$9; North Gower and Wellington, per D. Mackay, \$4.32; Mrs. Ross and Mrs. Dunn's Sabbath school, \$3.50; Rev. G. T. Bayne, Eganville, \$5; Nazareth street Mission school, Montreal, \$10; Kemptville, per Rev. W. M. McIntyre, \$2.35; A Member, \$5; A. Lee, \$5; Crescent street Presbyterian Church, Montreal, \$60; East and West Lancaster, Rev. J. Calder's congregation, per Miss C. Curry, \$18; Stanley street Presbyterian Church, Montreal, \$15; Erskine Presbyterian Church, Montreal, \$25; Students, \$20.50; Rev. Mr. Amaron, Three Rivers, \$3; St. Paul's Church Sabbath school, Montreal, \$15; Whitechurch, per Rev. J. A. Anderson, \$6.40; Fordyce, per Rev. J. A. Anderson, \$6.60; D. Lyons, \$1; Gabriel street Presbyterian Church, Montreal, \$10; Rev. J. F. McLaren, \$1; Chalmers Church Sabbath School Juvenile Missionary Society, \$10; Legacy late Joseph Mackay, Esq., \$500; Mr. Roxburgh, per J. A. Townsend, \$1; Mrs. J. Campbell, Montreal, \$5.

ARCHIBALD LEE, Treasurer.

#### OBITUARY.

On the 12th of April Mr. Duncan McFarlane of Dundas, Ont., was removed by death. He was a valued member of society, an exemplary Christian and useful elder of the Church. He was called away at an early age (only forty-eight years old), but his end was peace, and when most unexpectedly confronted with the last enemy he calmly said, "It did not shock me, but surprised me." He then set his house in order, and without a murmur fell asleep in Jesus. His family and many friends, while they mourn his loss, are comforted with the assurance that for him to die was gain.

PRESBYTERY OF BARRIE. — This Presbytery met on Tuesday, 16th inst., at 11 a.m. There was a large attendance of ministers and elders. A call from the congregation of Orillia in favour of Rev. R. N. Grant, of Ingersoll, was sustained, and ordered to be transmitted to the Presbytery of Paris. Stipend \$1,200 and a manse. Mr. James, ordained missionary at Midland, &c., declined the call from the congregation of Norwood, not as in any way undervaluing the call, but desiring to continue his present work till he can see it more fully matured. The Presbytery were much gratified by Mr. James' decision, and warmly appreciated its motive. Messrs. H. C. Cook and John Jamieson were taken on trials for license, and after these were sustained the candidates were duly licensed to preach the Gospel. In considering the remits of Assembly, the Presbytery approved of the Sustentation Scheme, and of the proposed regulations of the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund with modification. The overture anent standing orders was not approved. Mr. D. James, minister, and Messrs. Neil Matheson, H. Trueman, and J. J. Brown, elders, were appointed Commissioners to the General Assembly instead of Mr. Cochrane and others, who resigned. An overture to the General Assembly was adopted, praying that the precedence allowed to the Manitoba Presbytery, in procuring missionaries under appointment of the Home Mission Committee, be ended. A committee was appointed to confer at the General Assembly with the Lumbermen's Mission Committee as to large numbers of men in the camps in the Maganetawan River who are wholly unprovided during winter with religious services. On intimation of the recent death of the late Rev. Walter Wright in England, the Presbytery adopted a resolution of condolence with the widow and family of the deceased. The chief interest of this meeting of Presbytery lay in an investigation into rumours seriously affecting the ministerial character of one of its members. The investigation was begun on Tuesday evening at 7.30, and lasted for several hours that night. It was continued throughout Wednesday and Thursday with the usual intermissions. The charges alleged on oath proved to be trifling in comparison with the rumours diligently circulated, and were shown to be substantially without foundation. The finding to this effect was unanimously come to as soon as the hearing of parties was concluded. The Presbytery expressed sympathy with the brother affected in the trying circumstances in which he has been placed; also the hope that he may be long spared for future work, and greatly honoured in advancing and establishing the cause of religion in the community. — ROBT. MOODIE, Pres. Clerk.