

Gen. Thomas from the charge of disloyalty at the opening of the civil war, and the other recounts an interesting visit paid to President Lincoln a few days before his tragic death, and shows the President's distress with so much bloodshed and his desire for peace. The subject of a National Literature is ably discussed by Walt Whitman, who thinks that the elements of real American literature begin to appear. Mr. Wiman contributes a characteristic article on the political situation in Canada (written before the late election). This article is intended for an answer to Sir John Macdonald's manifesto, and it would now be interesting to hear Mr. Wiman reply to the powerful argument of the Hon. Edward Blake. From over the water comes the voice of the historian Lecky on the undesirability of Home Rule for Ireland. We fear Mr. Lecky's prejudice lies deep, and that they, rather than a desire for the welfare of Ireland, are the mainspring of his utterances. Among the remaining articles, all interesting reading, Lieut. Troup's refutation of several of Mr. Stanley's declarations in the famous rear-guard controversy, is particularly remarkable. It was doubtful from the beginning that Mr. Stanley was a hero as represented, but now his claims are rapidly falling away, and much of the honours he has received belongs to inferior officers.

**THE DÈNE SYLLABARY.**—We have received explanatory sheets of a new alphabet of the Dène language arranged by Rev. A. G. Morice, O.M.I., of Stuart's Lake, B.C. The rev. gentleman informs us of his intention to publish a review for the benefit of the Indians on the Pacific Coast. The alphabet appears to be simplicity itself, and already the zealous missionary has met with gratifying success in the instruction of Indians in reading. Illustrative of the practical worth of the new Syllabary, he says that Indians of common intelligence have learned to read in one week's leisurely study before they had any Primer or printed matter of any kind to help them on. We even know of a young man who performed the feat in the space of two evenings. We wish the Rev. Father the greatest success in his undertaking, and if his energy in the past be any criterion, the future of the review and the benefits to the savages are already

assured. We believe this to be the first attempt of the kind, and it is noteworthy that it originates with a priest of the Catholic Church, ever anxious for her children's education.

**IS ONE RELIGION AS GOOD AS ANOTHER?**—By the Rev. John MacLaughlin, D. & J. Sadlier, Montreal. We have already reviewed this excellent vindication of Catholicity which has established such a firm hold upon popular favor; however, we are pleased to note the appearance of the 27th thousand, just issued in answer to the constantly increasing demand. The full value of Fr. MacLaughlin's work, is now universally recognized. He has placed in the hands of preachers a powerful weapon against the popular religious errors of the day. To the calm and unprejudiced reader he makes an appeal wholly irresistible, and his most pronounced opponents must allow that his negative answer to the question at issue, is sustained throughout and with offence to nobody. The conciliatory tone of the book, is by no means the least among its many admirable features.

The new edition is practically the result of the efforts of a number of Bishops and other clergymen, who have felt it incumbent upon them to place Father MacLaughlin's book largely in the hands of the masses, both Catholic and non Catholic.

---

### 1 VALUABLE SERIES.

Amongst the new publications lately received we note with pleasure a series of tastefully designed and handsomely illustrated pamphlets treating of the resources and manifold advantages of the Canadian Northwest as a field for colonization.

The pamphlets are published by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, and the series comprises the following:—"Dairy Farming and Ranching," "100 Farmers Testify," "The Canadian Northwest," "Free Farms," "A Scotch Farmer's Success," and "British Columbia."

These form a most valuable set and contain a vast amount of useful and interesting information, secured by special commissioners who thoroughly covered the ground, and contain numerous illustrations of farming operations, etc., upon the prairies; also a great number of letters in