

be gained over Dr. CODERRE and his fanciful notions. It is only the other day that a despatch was received from Kingston, Jamaica, stating that with the aid of vaccination and other sanitary precautions the number of cases of small-pox in that city has been reduced from eight hundred to two hundred. The experiences of all our large cities goes to corroborate the evidence in favour of vaccination. The question as it now stands, therefore, between vaccination and its opponents amounts simply to this:—Are we to place more credence in Dr. CODERRE'S belief in the dangerous results of the practice than in established facts, backed by statistics the correctness of which there is no gainsaying? We trust that the matter will receive the serious attention it deserves, and that at the next session of Parliament ample provision will be made to prevent the too-often fatal experiments of the anti-vaccination theorists.

THE DOMINION EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.

On the first of October next Montreal will be the scene of a mighty religious gathering, at which all parts of the country and all shades of belief which may be classed under the comprehensive title of Evangelical Christianity, will be represented. On that day the first General Conference of the Dominion Evangelical Alliance with open its session, and there is every reason to trust that it will be crowned with a measure of success equal in every way to that obtained by the recent Conference held in the States. The object is a most laudable one, and one which cannot fail to recommend itself to the large body of Christians in this land as possessing peculiar and absorbing interest at the present crisis in religious affairs. We may be pardoned, therefore, if we devote some space, not so much to a consideration of the work of the Alliance as to a brief *résumé* of the subjects which will come up for discussion during the six days on which the Conference will sit. The importance attaching to these subjects will be vastly increased by the fact that they are to be treated by no apprentice hands. In addition to the foremost evangelical clergymen and laymen of Canada, a number of learned and devoted gentlemen who have laboured in the field of Evangelicism will be present from the United States and Great Britain, and will add much to the interest of the proceedings by taking an active and without doubt a useful part therein. Among these eminent strangers are the Rev. DONALD FRASER, of London, Eng.; Rev. Dr. BLACK, of Inverness; the Earl of CAVAN; Rev. Dr. SCHAFF, of New York; Rev. Dr. PORTER, President of Yale College, and the Rev. Dr. HALL, of New York. Of Canadian representatives it is sufficient to say that almost every name of note in connection with the Evangelical Churches of the Dominion will be found on the list of those who are to take an active part in the proceedings.

The first day's session of the Conference will be devoted to the opening services and the address of welcome, to which a number of distinguished visitors are expected to reply—and to the transaction of preliminary business. On the second day, after routine business, the subject of "Christian Union and Allied Topics" will be discussed, and papers relating to this subject will be read by Dr. SCHAFF, Dean BOND, Dr. DABNEY, of Virginia, Dr. BURNS, and the Rev. Mr. POOLE, of Toronto. In the evening Dr. BLACK, of Inverness, will lecture on "God's Work in Scotland during the last twelve years." The subject for Saturday's discussion will be "The Church's Work and Worship," the essayists being the Rev. DONALD FRASER, and the Rev. Messrs. MACKNIGHT, LATHEEN, and GRANT, of Halifax. On Sunday, the 4th, services will be conducted in the City churches by members of the Conference and in the afternoon a general communion of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated. Both in the afternoon and evening meetings will be held at which addresses will be delivered by members of the Conference. On Monday the subject of "Romanism in its Relation to Christianity" will be taken up, and papers read by the Rev. Dr. CRAMP, of Wolfville, N. S.; Rev. Mr. CHAPMAN, of Montreal; Rev. Mr. MARLING, Toronto; Rev. Mr. MURRAY, P. E. I.; Rev. Messrs. LAFLEUR and BORLAND, and Mr. JAMES COURT. In the evening there will be a meeting for the discussion of the Sunday School question, and a second meeting at which the proceedings will be conducted in French. Tuesday, the closing day, is devoted to the consideration of "Science, Philosophy, and Literature in relation to Christianity." Papers will be read by President PORTER, of Yale; Prof. MURRAY, of McGill; Rev. M. GIBSON, of Chicago; Principal NELLES, of Victoria College; Principal VICAR, of the Presbyterian College, Montreal; and Principal DAWSON, of McGill. In the evening a farewell meeting will be held at which addresses will be delivered by delegates and others.

It will be seen by the programme that the meet-

ing promises no usual attractions. It will doubtless be attended by a large number of visitors for whose benefit we give the following information as to travelling rates, etc., special reductions having been made for the occasion. The price of tickets of admission, one dollar, entitling the holder to the benefits of all the meetings—has been fixed at the lowest possible figure, in the hope that all classes may enjoy the privilege. Tickets for any one day's meetings may be obtained for twenty-five cents each. For the sake of those coming from outside of Montreal, special travelling arrangements, at reduced rates, have been made with the following Companies: The Grand Trunk Railway; Toronto, Grey and Bruce Railway; New York and Canada Railway; South Eastern Railway; Canadian Navigation Co.; Ottawa River Navigation Company; and the Richelieu Steamship Co. have consented to issue return tickets from all stations or ports on their lines at the rate of a single fare for the double journey. The Great Western Railway; St. Lawrence and Ottawa Railway; Midland Railway; and Brockville and Ottawa Railway will issue return tickets at the rate of one and a third fare. The Intercolonial Steamship Company will carry to and from St. John and Portland at five dollars gold—Clergymen one dollar less by calling on the Agents. The presentation at the railway station or port of departure, of the Ticket of Admission to the Conference is all that is necessary, but is necessary, to secure the above travelling privileges. Tickets, if not already on sale in the District, will be forwarded, by return of post, on a written application to the Secretary, whose post address is Rev. GAVIN LANG, Montreal, accompanied by the enclosure of a dollar for each ticket and the address of the applicant in full.

There is a good deal of recrimination going on just at present among the party organs over the question of the qualification of unseated members to present themselves for re-election. The two cases most frequently cited in this connection are those of Mr. MCGREGOR in Essex and Mr. PETER WILKS in North Renfrew. Both of these gentlemen were unseated on account of the corrupt practices of their agents, and both intend offering themselves for re-election. Of course the Conservatives raised an immense shout over the depravity of the Grits in selecting Mr. MCGREGOR as "the 'most fit and proper person' to represent them in Parliament;" while the latter retorted that the Conservatives were no better than themselves, inasmuch as they too had chosen an unseated member for re-nomination. Another case bearing on this matter of the qualification of unseated members is that of Major WALKER, in London, whom Chief Justice HAGARTY declared to be not disqualified. The petitioners in this case have commenced proceedings in appeal from this decision, and it is not impossible that they may be successful, the Act declaring that proof of direct or indirect corruption shall be sufficient to unseat a member, and to render him incapable of being returned to that Parliament. It is pretty evident that so long as indirect corruption, by the means of agents or otherwise, may be practised by a candidate without the fear of being incapacitated for re-election, purity of election will be a desirability as far off from attainment as ever. The unseated member will run a second time, and in nine cases out of ten employ bribery as a means to his election, taking his chance of having his election contested, or of having sufficient proof of corruption brought against him.

The important subject of the winter navigation of the St. Lawrence has again come into notice. The Ottawa Times says that the other day Mr. E. W. SEWELL, of Quebec, called upon the Premier and the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, in connection with the question of the navigation of the St. Lawrence, in which he has long taken a deep interest. He desires that a survey should be made during the coming winter, in order to ascertain the exact position of the open water, as also the position and character of the ice fields. His proposition was attentively listened to, his suggestions met with considerable favour, and he received the assurance that a careful inquiry would be made into the subject without unnecessary delay. It may be remarked in this connection that Mr. SEWELL has written a good deal on the subject to the Quebec newspapers, and, with many others, believes that the Lower St. Lawrence could be navigated by strong vessels sheathed with metal, similar to the ferry boats which ply between Quebec and Levis during the winter.

It has been frequently asserted of late that great hostility existed between the Danish and German Governments. The cause of this feeling is now revealed. It seems that Bismarck proposed to King Christian of Denmark that he should enter the Bund with his whole king-

dom. Germany would then cede the whole of Schleswig to Denmark, and guarantee the integrity of the territory of Denmark. The Bundeskanzler further demanded that the Danish fleet should become an integral part of the German fleet, and that German ports should be established in Danish colonies. King Christian declined these proposals, as might well be expected.

A New York paper suggests a municipal improvement which might well be adopted in a large and growing city like Montreal. It says that the whole business of locking up people at night without the form of trial and keeping them in confinement from twelve to twenty-four hours is in itself an outrage. It would be an easy matter for a magistrate or police justice to remain on duty till 1 o'clock in the morning to examine persons arrested by the police. Under an old system in New York, the Aldermen had the right to open court in the station-houses at any hour and to release prisoners who were found innocent upon due examination.

There is to be another Woman's Congress in Chicago within a short time. We are promised something more sensible and practical than has been the rule heretofore in such assemblies. The revelations of the Beecher scandal will naturally, and perhaps rightly, come up for consideration, and the dress reform movement will also be discussed. Ladies ought to be able to decide these and other questions for themselves, and if they give the example of seriousness in their deliberations, we do not see why they should not be heard with respect. Can anybody tell us why a public meeting of women should always *ipso facto* be held up to ridicule?

Some of the American papers are publishing queer stories about the desertion of large numbers of the Manitoba Mounted Police. Such rumours have also been afloat in certain of our Canadian journals. We have a special artist with the force, and in his letters to us he has never hinted anything of the kind. The matter is, however, of sufficient importance that, if false, the government organs should take it up and give it an authoritative denial.

The Democrats of New York have nominated S. J. Tilden as their candidate for the governorship. This gentleman was the most efficient agent to break through the Tweed tyranny and the Tammany Ring, and ought therefore to command a strong vote. As, however, the Republicans will probably renominate General Dix, the race will be a tight one, with the chances in favour of Dix.

It speaks poorly for the Province of Quebec that no Agricultural show is held this year. These things are better managed in Ontario, where public spirit and enterprise manifest themselves in this as in other respects. Another circumstance equally remarkable is that none of the papers in Montreal and Quebec seem to care to advertise on so palpable a neglect.

The insurgents in Louisiana have given a good example of submitting to authority by laying down their arms at the request of the President of the United States. It only remains now for the President to requite this generous conduct by withholding his support from Kellogg and his ring, awaiting the untrammelled will of the people, as expressed in new State elections.

The terrible fire at the Granite Mills, Fall River, is another instance of a holocaust due to a want of proper distribution of exits and entrances to large buildings. The great tower in the centre served for a flue to animate the flames, and as all the stairs communicating with each story converged into this tower, the means of escape was fatally cut off.

Montreal is caught napping again this year. The "Sarmatia" has been obliged to discharge her cargo at South Quebec owing to the lowness of the water in Lake St. Peter not allowing her to steam up to Montreal. While we are apathetic, shippers and underwriters in England note this fact and will act accordingly.

People have no idea how much general elections cost the country. The official figure of the last elections is \$91,946.27. Add to this the wholesale corruption practised on both sides, and you easily reach a million of dollars.