

# The Canadian Independent.

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'ONE IS YOUR MASTER, EVEN CHRIST, AND ALL YE ARE BRETHREN.'

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## Topics of the Week.

—Three Israelites in Germany last year devoted 1,400,000 marks to charitable purposes without distinction of faith.

—The native Japanese Christians of Tokio, held an open air two days meeting in October at which from 4,000 to 5,000 were present.

—The fifty six churches of the Sandwich Islands, with a membership of 7,454, last year raised \$27,642.21 for their home and foreign work, of which \$4,428.90 were for foreign missions.

—The Rev. Frederick James Jobson, D.D., the distinguished Wesleyan minister, died of paralysis on Tuesday, January 4th, in his 69th year, at his house in Highbury place. He was born at Lincoln, and entered the ministry in 1834.

According to a contemporary the Jews of London have departed from the custom of their religion by offering prayers for the repose of the soul of "George Eliot," although not of their own faith, in recognition of her services as the literary champion of their race.

Among the languages of civilized nations English is the most widely spread. It is the mother tongue of about 80,000,000 people, German of between 50,000,000 and 60,000,000, French of between 40,000,000 and 50,000,000; Spanish of 40,000,000; Italian of 28,000,000, and Russian of between 55,000,000 and 60,000,000. *Barnes' Educational Monthly*.

The Brewers' Congress has offered a prize of \$150 for the best essay in reference to the scientific education of young men intending to enter the brewing business. Now it would be in order for somebody to offer a similar prize for the best essay on what the brewing business will do for a man, morally and spiritually, after he has learned it.

The ruins of a magnificent bathing establishment have just been discovered at Herculaneum under thirty feet of lava. The fountains and tanks are of granite, the floors of glass mosaic, and the walls have rich paintings and stucco work. Many people in these days do not think enough about bathing for health or cleanliness.

Prince Adam Constantine Czartoryski, Duke of Klewan and Zukoff, who died a short time since, in Europe, was the oldest member of a distinguished family which figured conspicuously in Polish history. He was a nephew of the celebrated "Constitutional King of Poland." Prince Adam George Czartoryski (1770-1861), who was the leader of the Polish insurrection of 1830.

The *Fountains* says: "Our readers will be glad to know that Mr. Spurgeon is rapidly regaining strength, and that there is reason to hope he may occupy his pulpit next Lord's Day. Dr. Gervis, after a thorough examination, is able to certify that Mr. Spurgeon has no organic disease, and that his illness has been entirely superinduced by the exhaustion of nerve power consequent upon the enormous strain of his pulpit and literary labours."

—The Rev. Joseph Cook is thus spoken of by a Welsh paper:—"You might take him for a well-to-do farmer of the vale of Glamorgan—happy, content-

ed, well-fed, a large shareholder in our veritable flesh and blood. When he begins to speak, it is not the speech of the elegant scholar or the polished man of the world which strikes you; but a homely, broad, farm-like accent, with a dash of Americanism in the enunciation."

—Papal influence has contrived to drive the last Bible colporteur from the Tyrol, Austria. The man had permission to labor as colporteur, but as the law is interpreted, he must only take subscriptions, and the books must be sent by post from the store. The colporteur was followed by a spy day after day, until evidence was obtained that he had actually committed the crime of selling a copy of the Word of God! Then he was arrested and fined, his license revoked and his books confiscated!

—The remains of Lieutenant Irving, of the *Terror*, who perished in the Franklin expedition to the Arctic regions, have been interred with naval and military honours in the Dean Cemetery, Edinburgh. The procession included a large number of seamen, and the remains, after service in Free St. George's Church, were borne on a gun-carriage drawn by six horses. The marines fired three volleys over the grave. Lieutenant Irving's remains were recently brought to this country, having been discovered in the Arctic region by the American expedition.

—Interdenominational exchange of pulpits (which by the way is to be repeated this month), is not confined to Toronto we are glad to find. The following is from the *Christian World*, Jan. 13th: "At a meeting of Evangelical Nonconformist ministers held in Birmingham last October, it was agreed that on Sunday next, the 16th of January, 61 pulpits belonging to Congregational, Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian bodies should change pastors in the evening, and on the following Tuesday evening a united communion service will be held, the Rev. Dr. James (Wesleyan) presiding, in Carr's Lane Chapel (R.W. Dale's), different ministers taking part in the service.

—Some startling facts and figures have recently been presented to the British Parliament in the official Blue-book form. The volume is entitled "Shipwrecks," and its three hundred and forty large quarto pages contain a record of all the losses of British merchant vessels the world over from shipwreck, and also all losses of British merchant vessels by spontaneous combustion of cargo. They do not include fishing vessels, nor vessels sunk by collision with ice or floating wrecks, nor vessels burned by other causes than spontaneous combustion of cargo. The following table shows the number of steam and sailing vessels foundered and missing during each year from 1873 to 1880, together with their tonnage and the number of lives lost:

Year.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Lives lost.
1873.	336	121,045	2,065
1874.	319	120,973	1,942
1875.	224	73,180	1,209
1876.	288	104,968	1,912
1877.	232	74,919	1,054
1878.	244	92,434	990
1879.	244	95,925	1,324
1880 (Jan. to May 16) 78		25,750	331
Totals.	1,965	729,194	10,827

The volume should be called a Black-book, for its records teem with horrors.

"The Book of Hades," as carved on the tomb of Seti I, has never been translated entire; but now an attempt is to be made by M. Lefebvre. The subjects of this most important Egyptian record relate to the lower regions, through which the sun was supposed to pass during the hours of the night. Each of the twelve spaces, or hours, has a special name and proper inhabitants, also symbolical doors, through which the great god, the sun, passes in his divine bark. The general sense of the composition is that the sun and the souls who accompany him are swallowed up by the earth in the west, only to arise again in the east. The underworld is the place of chastisement of Apap, the symbol of evil, and is the dwelling-place of the good, as well as of the wicked: the former there to be recompensed by Ra, the latter to be punished by Tum and by Horus.

The Roman Church maintains a steady attention to the Holy Land. A correspondent of a contemporary has been sending from Jerusalem some interesting information respecting the activity of the Roman Catholics in that neighbourhood. At Jatha they have erected a new hospital, they have established a branch nunnery at Ramleh, and a nunnery and schools at Bethlehem. It would appear that the Franciscans have a new establishment at Emmaus, in addition to the large hospice at Jerusalem. From the *Record* we learn:—"On the Mount of Olives a grand sanctuary and an extensive nunnery have been erected and endowed by the Princess de la Tour d'Auvergne, who, with great devotion, spent several years on the spot in order personally to superintend the work."

The *Liberator* says that the most cutting things which have been said about Mr. Dale and Mr. Enraght have been said by the bishops. The Bishop of Manchester says of them: "They are posing as martyrs, while they are, in fact, anarchists and bad citizens." The Bishop of St. David's says: "I am very sorry for Mr. Dale, as I am for the Indian fakir, who tortures himself, and thinks he does 'God's service!'" Judging from the voluminous correspondence recently appearing in the *Times* the general tone of those entitled to speak with good authority on church affairs is sound as to the contumacious attitude of the Ritualists. The sum and substance of episcopal criticism is that Mr. Dale and Mr. Enraght have been incarcated not for errors of conscience but for breaches of discipline: not for dogma but for disobedience. As Lord Penzance told Mr. Dale before he saw the inside of Holloway prison, release in their own hands. As for their consciences, those elastic phantoms should teach, as the bishops plainly hint, that these recalcitrant clergymen should either obey or abandon the Church."

Read the following from the annual message of Governor Long, of Massachusetts. After recommending that a local option law be passed, to take the place of the present miserable license law, he continues:—"There is a growing demand, shared by men of all shades of theoretical opinion, that whatever be the law in this matter, it should be honestly enforced, and that, just as far and as fast as possible, the dram-shop should be rooted out, in the interest alike of good morals and of the material welfare of capital and labor. The Bureau of Statis-

tics has, during the year, added to its admirable work by conducting an original inquiry into the causes of crime. It has made a personal investigation of every case in the nine criminal courts of Suffolk County, which were selected as a sample, and the result constitutes the strongest indictment against the use of intoxicating liquors that has been drawn. Of the 16,867 cases, more than 72 per cent. were for the various grades of drunkenness, and, in addition to these, more than 12 per cent. were offences committed by persons under the influence of liquor, leaving only some 15 per cent. of crime to represent, what would be about the total amount but for the use of intoxicating liquors?" Think of that, and see if you can have any patience with the sale of intoxicating liquors. Out of the criminal arrests eighty five out of one hundred, six out of seven, are those that alcohol is responsible for. Abolish liquor drinking, and only about one seventh as many arrests would be made, and the expenses of the courts would be reduced one-half at least. The state has the right to this relief. Give us the total suppression of this sale, which burdens the honest people with taxes and fills our prisons and almshouses.

## NEVER TOO LATE TO LEARN.

Socrates, at an extreme old age, learned to play on musical instruments.

Cato, at eighty years of age, learned the Greek language.

Plutarch, when between seventy and eighty, began the study of Latin.

Sir Henry Spellma neglected the sciences in his youth, but he commenced the study of them when he was between fifty and sixty years of age. After this time he became a most learned antiquarian and lawyer.

Ludovico Bonaldesco, at the great age of one hundred and fifteen, wrote the memoirs of his own times.

Franklin did not fully commence his philosophical pursuits till he had reached his fiftieth year.

Dryden, in his sixty-eighth year, commenced the translation of the *Iliad*, his most pleasing production.

Ogilvy, the translator of Homer and Virgil, was unacquainted with Latin and Greek until his fiftieth year.

Dr. Carey acquired nearly all the dialects of India after he was well advanced in life, and his translations of the Bible are still in use. —*Exchange*.

The cost of crime as promoted by the whisky traffic is enormous. A number of months ago a policeman of this city, Lee Lynam, was shot by one Francis, who was in a state of intoxication. Several efforts have been made to try him here, but the case was recently transferred to Hamilton, Butler County. Thus the trial has not yet begun, and yet nearly one thousand three hundred dollars have been spent, as figured by the clerk. Men groan under taxation, but do not ask what it costs to punish crime which for a paltry sum is licensed among us.

The laws of nature were not appointed by the great Lawgiver to baffle his creatures in the sphere of conduct, still less to confound them in the region of belief. As part of an order of things too vast to be more than partly understood, they present, indeed, some difficulties which perplex the intellect, and a few, also, it cannot be denied, which wring the heart. But, on the whole, they stand in harmonious relations with the human spirit. They come visibly from one prevailing mind, and express the authority of one enduring kingdom.—*Argyll*.