

of some trouble and experiment on the part both of parents and those responsible for the conduct of teaching; but if trouble and thought and experiment are to be spared in this great matter, we had better at once resign the hope of attaining any moral and intellectual results of real value from what we are doing.—*Popular Science Monthly.*

**KEEP STILL.**  
Keep still. When trouble is brewing, keep still. When slander is getting on to its legs, keep still. When your feelings are hurt, keep still, till you recover from your excitement at any rate. Things look differently through an unagitated eye. In a commotion once I wrote a letter, and sent it, and wished I had not. In my later years, I had another commotion, and wrote a long letter, but life had rubbed a little sense into me, and I kept that letter in my pocket against the day when I could look it over without agitation and without tears. I was glad I did. Less and less it seemed necessary to send it. I was not sure it would do any hurt, but in my doubtfulness I learned to reticence, and eventually it was destroyed. Time works wonders. Wait till you can speak calmly, and then you will not need to speak, maybe. Silence is the most massive thing conceivable some times. It is strength in its very grandeur. It is like a regiment ordered to stand still in the heat of battle. To plunge in were twice as easy. The tongue has unsettled more ministers than small salaries ever did, or lack of ability.—*Selected.*

Contributed.

**FROM BOTZEN TO FLORENCE.**  
I HAVE already sent notes of travel to Botzen and Meran, and now supplement these by additional notes of our journey from Botzen to Florence. One of the most interesting places between Botzen and Verona is

**TRENT (TRIDENTUM).**  
once the wealthiest and most important town in the Italian Tyrol, and therefore perhaps selected as the meeting place of the Great Council of the Roman Catholic Church, which sat from 1545 to 1563, and which formulated the dogmas of that Church. It still contains numerous towers, marble palaces, etc., now verging on dilapidation, indicative of what was once an important Italian town. St. Maria Maggiore, where the Council met, contains a picture on the north wall of the choir, with portraits of the members of the Council, which embraced seven cardinals, three patriarchs, thirty-five archbishops and two hundred and thirty-five bishops, with seven abbots, seven heads of orders and one hundred and forty-six professors of theology. There is also a column, dedicated to the Virgin, which was erected in 1855, on the three hundredth anniversary of the meeting of the Council.

**THE FIRST ITALIAN STATION**  
is reached about sixty-seven miles from Botzen. The railway now enters the celebrated Chiusa de Verona, a rocky passage by which the Adige penetrates the limestone mountains. On a height on the right bank is Rivoli, well known from the repeated attacks made upon it by Napoleon in 1796-9, led by Massena, the general from Nice, who derived his special title from that village. A road leads from the lake near here to

**LAGO DI GARDA.**  
The Lago Benacus of the Romans, which is thirty-five miles long and from four to eleven miles broad. On the north of the lake stands Riva, which has become a resort for many English and Americans, and in the season there are many reasons for selecting this as a meeting place. The views are fine and the lake presents many aspects, just as it did in the days when Virgil applied to the words, "*fluvius et frons adurgens Benacus marino*," and which those who sail on it still find to be true. Small steamers traverse it several times a day, but those who desire a pleasant trip should take morning hours before the south wind raises the waves and disturbs the gastronomic functions of those on board.

The south shore of the lake is, in some respects, more interesting than the north. Here is the narrow promontory, "*Sirmio, peninsularum insularumq; ocellus*," which extends some three miles into the lake, and on which was a villa once the residence of Caligula, who composed most of his poems there. The steamer finally stops at the small fortress of Peschiera, at the efflux of the Mincio. To the west of Desenzano, places alluded to by Tennyson in his sonnet on the words of Catullus, "*Prater æque Vale*," which I quote for the sake of your classical readers, and admirers of the *Pocahontas*.

Row us from Desenzano, to your Sermione, row!  
So they rowed, and there we landed—O, Venezia Sirmio!  
There in me thro' all the groves of olive in the summer glow,  
These benches the Roman rule where the poet's flowers grow,  
Came that "Æque Vale" of the poet's hope-  
less woo,  
Tenderest of Roman poets nineteen hundred years ago,  
Prater æque Vale—as we wandered to and fro  
Gazing at the Lydian laughter of the Garda-lake below,  
Sweet Catullus' all-but-lost, olive-silvery Sirmio!"

**VERONA**  
is a name familiar to the readers of Shakespeare, who made it the scene of

his well-known play of *Romeo and Juliet*. It is said that the events on which the play was founded actually occurred here; but what truth there is in this it is difficult now to ascertain. There is, of course, what the guide books tell you is the "Tomb of Juliet"—Tomba di Giulietta. It is in a supposed monastery in the Via Cappuccini, where in a partially restored chapel is a medieval sarcophagus in red Verona marble. But it appears there is not the slightest authority for giving it that name. But this is constantly found in visiting places like this, where guides and hotel porters profit by inventions, associating them with distinguished names. There is a marble tablet over the gateway of an old house in Via Cappello, which is said to have been the residence of Juliet's parents, the Capuletti. The tomb of the Scaligers or della Scala family, presidents of Verona when it was a republic, which is pointed out to sight-seers, is no doubt genuine.

**MANTUA,**  
the next town passed on the way to Bologna, is often mentioned as the home of Virgil. But he was born not here, but at Andes, an old town three miles to the south-east of Mantua, on whose site the present village of Pietole is erected. Here is a monument consisting of an antique column, on the summit of which is a bronze statue of Virgil, seven feet high—a draped figure with a crown of laurel. The column stands on a simple granite pedestal in the Greek style, having on front this inscription, "E QUELLO OMNIA GENT' L PRIMA SI NOMA PIETOLE PIU CHE VILLA MANTOVANA," and at the back, "PIETOLE ERASSE IL 21 SETTEMBRE, 1848."

**BOLGNA**  
is a large and very old city, and like most old towns in Europe, has arcades over the sidewalks, which at least protect you from the sun. The first time we stopped here was to see

**RAPHAEL'S ST. CECILIA**  
which is in the Accademia delli Arti. It is difficult at first for untrained eyes to see its real meaning. The picture looks simple and natural, but after a time you realize that the prominent figure is exalted to the regions of the supernatural. Cecilia, the patron saint of music, has just ceased playing the organ to her friends, and a heavenly echo falls upon their ears. The angels resting on the edge of a cloud have caught up the melody and continue it by singing. Critics say the painting is intended to depict the impression produced by celestial music. The saints on earth are silent in the presence of the heavenly choir. St. Cecilia lets her hands rest mechanically upon the organ, but with head and eyes turned upward listens entranced to the song. St. Paul on the left is in deep meditation. In contrast to both figures, Mary Magdalene on the right holds a box of ointment in her hand and shows her delight simply and openly. In the second line stand St. John and Augustine (?). The figures are all dressed differently as to colour, yet all blend harmoniously. The saints in the background are said to have much to do in toning down and blending the colours, as well as giving expression to the composition. The picture was painted in 1513. It was carried to Paris in 1796, where it remained until 1815.

**THE LEANING TOWERS**  
attract attention here as in Pisa. They are named after their builders. One, *Torre Asinelli*, erected in 1100, is 330 feet high and is four feet out of the perpendicular; the other, *Torre Garisenda* (1110) is 163 feet high and ten feet out of perpendicular. This is said to be probably the only one of the leaning towers in Italy whose obliquity was intentional, it having been found impossible to be completed.

**THE UNIVERSITY**  
(1119) is the oldest in Italy after that of Salerno. The celebration which took place recently attracted visitors from all countries, and so much has been published regarding it that further reference to it is unnecessary. The Geological Museum in an adjoining building interested me greatly from the fine collection of fossils it contains and the prehistoric anthropological curiosities to be seen. Between Bologna and Florence the train crosses the Apennines, but I shall inflict no more mountain engineering on your readers, having so recently described many Alpine heights.

**FLORENCE,**  
the "flowery city" is reached at last, but so many volumes have been written on this city of art, and Romola has made it so well known, I shall not here refer to it farther at present than to say that I have visited the

**WALDENSIAN COLLEGE**  
and spent an hour in the School of Theology—Palazzo Salviati, 51 Via de Serragli. When I entered, the professors were in the act of criticizing a sermon delivered by a student who still occupied the pulpit. Each student has to deliver two discourses of this kind each session. The remarks were long, but made in a pleasant manner, sometimes causing amusement to the other students. When this was concluded I had a pleasant conversation with the three professors, all of whom I had met before. Prof. Geymonat teaches systematic theology; Prof. Revel, Hebrew and Exegesis, and Prof. Comba, Church History. Each professor has now the letters D.D. added to his name, two by the University of

Edinburgh, and one by St. Andrew's. The students, about twenty in number, looked intelligent young men, and from the thorough training received here, as well as in their earlier studies, their future course promises well for the evangelization of Italy. T. H. FLORENCE, ITALY, October 1888.

Correspondence.

A PLEA FOR UNION.

**SIR**—You refer in kindly terms to the report of Mr. Fielding, Secretary Congregational Colonial Missionary Society, and his enjoyable trip across our great continent. Mr. Fielding was formerly a minister in Australia and doubtless makes a good secretary, but to look at Canada through Australian spectacles is not the only way to look at the situation. Not a little suffering has been endured by brethren from the Old Country who came out hoping to take their share of good work in a growing country, but hope does not grow into realization in all cases. I know a city of 10,000 people having a Congregational church. Three or four trials have been made by as many good brethren during the last seven years. One of these told me his congregation was in the morning, thirty-eight and in the evening forty-five. I know these brethren have suffered.

Now, the bulk of our population is made up of Scotch, North of Ireland and English rural people. In all these three sections, Congregationalism is weak. If people do not come out Congregationalists they are not likely to adopt that polity after arrival here, and not a few members of that body are glad to join local churches other than their own for the sake of bringing their children to the house of God.

May we not plead? Why maintain this Union with a sect whose serious odds are against it? Is it coming in stronger lines—why not let it come? Old Country Independents teach the Shorter Catechism in their Sabbath-schools, why not let the children come to the true home of the Shorter Catechism, and save waste and friction and many a loss?

These lines of demarcation are melting away—let them melt and let the children of God be massed in such numbers as to give strength, and courage, and victory.

Yours, etc.,  
ONTARIO HIGHLANDER.

THE NORTH-WEST INDIAN PROBLEM.

**SIR**—Your editorial subjects are usually so vigorously treated and with such successful pertinacity that it is the more to be regretted when you waste your strength in arguing from premises that are unfounded. Your editorial on "The N.-W. Indian Problem" had for its basis, the letter of a correspondent, of which the following sentences may be taken as the gist: "That the children should ignore education is not to be wondered at. The encouragements extended by their guardians, the Government, are all in that direction." And again, "Across the line, it appears, regular attendance is encouraged and non-attendance discouraged, but in Canada it is quite the reverse. If the American policy were adopted—or, for instance, if the teachers were provided with the means to give the children a mid-day meal, the day school system would not be such a failure as it is reputed to be."

Now these statements are quite inaccurate. The Government has done a great deal to encourage attendance at the schools. The instructions of the Commissioner are precise and emphatic; and we have reason to believe that they are faithfully carried out by many of the agents and farm instructors. Agents in some cases personally bring children to school; and in some cases withhold rations from parents who refuse to send their children. Indeed many of the officials of the Indian Department are numbered by the teachers among the best friends of their schools. And not only does the Government use its authority with Indians to have the schools well attended, but it uses its authority too, with the Mission Committees. When a teacher, however faithful, does not display tact or does not succeed in winning the confidence of the Indians or the attendance of the children, the case soon becomes a matter of correspondence between the Commissioner and the Mission Committee. Of course, it may be said that some officials manage to evade or to neutralize the instructions of the Government, but that is to be expected. Influence is too subtle a kind of service to be compelled.

It only remains to be said that what your correspondent calls the "American policy" of giving the school children extra rations has been in use in the Northwest for a considerable number of years, and that the returns sent by the teachers to the Government, each quarter, contain spaces for indicating the amount of supplies that have been used in this way.

There still remains much to be done before it can be said that the Government is adequately discharging its duty in educating the Indians, but let it be admitted that at least a good beginning has been made. We are, Sir, Yours, etc.,  
THOMAS HART,  
ANDREW B. DAIRD.

Winnipeg.

Church News.

RECEPTION TO REV. PRINCIPAL GRANT.

LAST Friday evening a public reception was tendered to Rev. Principal Grant in Queen's University Convocation Hall, by the Students, Faculties and Trustees in honour of his safe return from his trip around the world. There was a very large attendance of students, University men and the public generally. Chancellor Fleming, C. M. G., occupied the chair and presented the address of welcome, and Mr. Edward Ryan B. A., President of the Alma Mater Society read an address on behalf of the students. Principal Grant made a brilliant reply, in which he referred to his recent trip around the world, his feelings of devotion to the University, and his pride in Can-

ada. He earnestly advocated the claims of higher education. He concluded his address by saying:—

It was very pleasant to travel, but it is pleasant far to be at home again and at work. Never before did I get so much good from travelling, and on that account, as well as upon Plato's principle, that men should not travel till they are sixty, I hope to be that before very long. I may be sent away again. Every day I feel more eager to learn, perhaps because the red face so much beloved by some wise men was so greatly honoured in my day. It is a sad thing to see a student leave college without any love of learning, to see when his school days are over his mind is a blank with a sigh of relief. His mind should be such that all his life he should echo the language of the most learned, "The older I grow the more I want to become a learner." It has been said that the greater aptness of age is not the learning of one of the thousand things, but the learning of immortality. When the love of learning ceases to well up in the heart, count me among the dead. Albert's words, ladies and gentlemen, representing his friends and benefactors all over the country, I thank you for your gentle welcome and far too flattering language. I am sure, find an echo in the heart of every young and old. "Prove yourselves worthy of your fathers." That was the rallying cry of Greek patriotism. Were not your fathers as worthy of imitation as theirs?

There were hearty cheers when the Principal concluded. There was a cry for Mr. G. Kirkpatrick, and that gentleman spoke a few words. He pointed to Principal Grant as a man who had wrought wonderful changes in Queen's, and added that he was doubly welcomed home by the people of Kingston because of the interest he took in Queen's. His high ideas and aims and his wonderful devotion to duty were the mainstays of his success.

After a number of letters had been read, expressive of the regrets of the writers for unavoidable absence, the meeting was conducted by the singing of the National Anthem.

On Friday, the 21st ult., the minister's Bible class spent a pleasant evening at the music, Bracebridge, and presented their teacher, Doctor Clarke, with an affectionate address and a handsome set of Persian lamb furs.

At the annual entertainment in connection with St. Matthew's church Sabbath school, Woodlands, presided over by Mr. A. C. the pastor Rev. J. J. Cameron, was presented with a handsome cutter and tubes as one among many expressions of appreciation since his settlement.

The annual meeting of the Cheltenham congregation was held on Monday, Dec. 31. All the reports were encouraging, and considerable enthusiasm was manifested. The meeting was the largest in many years.

Dr. COCHRANE has received \$25 from Dr. Robertson, collections in N.-W., for Home Mission Fund. The Mission Band of St. Andrew's church, Perth, have sent, through Miss Jessie Hart, \$150, to assist in support of a missionary in the N.-W., and promise the same next year. Cannot other Mission Bands do like Perth?

A COMMITTEE, consisting of Messrs. Gibson, Gillies, Whitham, Sloan and Moffat, waited on the Rev. Alexander Jackson, on Monday, 7th inst., and presented him with a purse to purchase a fur outfit—coat, cap and gaiters—on behalf of the congregation of Knox church, Galt, as a token of their esteem for him and appreciation of his services as their pastor. The address was made by Mr. James S. Moffat.

The Newburgh Presbyterian Sabbath school, Presbytery of Kingston, was organized in January, 1887, and at the end of that year seven pupils received Bibles for having recited the Shorter Catechism without a mistake. Two of these were only ten years of age and had never studied it before the school opened. At the close of 1888 six pupils were awarded Bibles for repeating the Shorter Catechism perfectly, making thirteen in two years. Dr. H. R. Duff is the efficient superintendent.

REV. MALCOLM MACGILLIVRAI of Kingston speaking recently on the topic "Schools and Universities," touched upon the matter of religious instruction in the Public Schools. He expressed the conviction that the Bible should always be read in the public schools, but it should not be left till the last moment, when the children are tired and wish to be set free. Parents should see that the teachers are good and that the influences which surround their children are elevating.

The annual meeting of the W. F. M. Society, Uxbridge, was held in the school-room of the church, 5th inst. The reports read were most encouraging, the financial statement showing an increase of funds over last year, although accounts were closed two months earlier in consequence of a change having been made in the time of holding the annual church meeting. A pleasing feature of this meeting was the presentation of a certificate of life membership in the W. F. M. Society to Mrs. F. T. Stewart, on the occasion of her resigning her office as President of the society, which position she had held for a period of ten years. Mrs. Stewart was also presented with a handsome dressing case, at the same time accompanied with an address.

The friends in Parkhill will be congratulated on these tokens of prosperity.

The usual monthly meeting of the Presbyterian Women's Missionary Society, Montreal, was held last week in the rooms of the Y. M. C. A., and was well attended. The devotional exercises were conducted by Mrs. Dr. Campbell, who was in the chair. The usual reports were received and proved interesting and satisfactory. Mrs. Davis read a thoughtful and timely paper, "Waiting and Watching." I emphasized the necessity of earnest prayer accompanying all Christian work. Mrs. Macmaster followed with an extract from the pen of Dr. Peterson on "The Great Commission." A part of a letter from Rev. Alex. Campbell was also read, asking the prayers and sympathy of all for the mission work in the North-West in which he is engaged. This scene of his labours is about twenty miles from Port (St.) Appelle and forty miles from the S. S. junction of the same name. As the Indian children are very fond of music, it is the desire of Mr. Campbell to obtain a small organ to help forward the work. Mr. R. Campbell will be very glad to take charge of contributions that any may like to donate to this object.

The annual meeting of Cooke's church, Toronto, was held on the 10th inst., and was well attended. After devotional exercises, led by the pastor, Rev. Wm. Patterson, Mr. P. G. Close was voted to the chair. Mr. W. C. Riddle, secretary, announced that at last meeting of the trustees it was unanimously resolved to recommend that \$400 be added to Rev. Mr. Patterson's salary for this year, and that henceforward Mr. Patterson's salary be \$2,000. On motion of Messrs. Rogers and Kinnear, the recommendation was adopted amid applause. Mr. Kinnear spoke of the rapid progress the congregation is making. This progress, he said, was largely due to the ability and energy of Mr. Patterson. Mr. Thos. Caswell read the report of the Sessional Board. The year was reported to have been a very successful one. In the beginning the membership was 314. There have been received by profession of faith eighty, and by certificate 123, an addition of 203. The present membership is 486, an increase over that of last year of 172. The Elizabeth street mission was reported to be in a growing state. Mr. Johnson, of Knox College, has been appointed assistant in charge of the mission. The Bible-class has had a successful year, the membership now numbering ninety. The envelope system of collecting for missions was reported not a success, but there had been handed in during the year \$533.55, which has been apportioned as follows:—Home Missions, \$120; Foreign Missions, \$130; Augmentation Fund, \$75; French Evangelization, \$100; Knox College, \$35; Aged and Infirm Missions, \$46.55; Manitoba College, \$10; Widows and Orphans' Fund, \$17; Home Missions, \$25; Assembly Fund, \$10. The Sabbath-school report, as read by Mr. Wm. Corbett, jun., stated that at the beginning of the year there were sixteen classes, seventeen teachers, three officers and 250 scholars. The attendance has been more regular this year than last. The highest attendance of the year was 244, the lowest 136, with an average of 180.

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The new church, Parkhill, was formally opened Sabbath 6th inst., Rev. Principal Grant preaching morning and evening and Rev. A. G. Harris (Methodist) in the afternoon. On the following evening a social gathering was held at which addresses, the pastor Rev. Mr. Lochhead, in the chair, were delivered by Rev. Messrs. Pritchard, of Forest; Smith, of Guelph; Harris, of Parkhill; Anderson, of Nairn; Russell of Parkhill, and Carriere, of Grand Bend. During the evening several fine pieces of music were rendered by the choir. On Tuesday evening the children's tea-meeting was held. The new church is a beautiful brick structure of modern Gothic design, with seating accommodation for 300 persons in the body of the church while a gallery seats 200 more. The total collections on Sabbath and Monday amounted to \$400 which will be applied to the building fund.

ance of 1885. There were added to the roll 133. The school has now 283 scholars, twenty-three teachers and five officers. There was raised by collections \$210.21, as against \$122.45 in 1887, making an average of \$3.77 per Sabbath. The school also raised \$60.46 for the Points aux Trembles school. Very encouraging reports were received from the Ladies' Aid Society, the Auxiliary of the W. P. M. S., Earnest Helpers, the Young People's Association, and the Flower Mission Band. The report of the treasurer, Mr. James Allison, showed the finances of the church to be in a most satisfactory condition. The receipts of the year were \$3,515.41, of which \$3,218.08 was received from weekly offerings and \$1,444.15 from weekly collections. The total expenditure was \$7,699.24, leaving a balance on hand of \$328.17. The total liabilities of the church are now \$17,597.51. Heartily votes of thanks were tendered to the ladies, the treasurer, Mr. Allison, and to the retiring Board of Trustees. The following were elected the new Board of Trustees.—To hold office for three years, James Allison, P. G. Close and W. C. Riddle, for two years, Dr. Steppard, Wm. Corbett, jun., and T. A. Lytle; for one year, Wm. Anderson, John McMullan and W. P. Britton.

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