

delegations in his honour: from the Prince of Wales, and from the Queen, whose message was received by the whole company up-standing. And let us mark the simplicity and modesty of the man, an accompaniment of true genius and greatness. In his reply he says—"I know no more of electric and magnetic force, of the relation between the ether and ponderable matter, or of chemical affinity, than when I began to teach Natural Philosophy fifty years ago." This is in right apostolic succession to England's greatest—to Newton, who felt himself but as a child gathering pebbles on the shore of the Infinite Unknown.

An Apparent Injustice. A Montreal despatch in the daily press announces that Judge Purcell has condemned George Bradshaw, a Protestant ratepayer of the school municipality of St. Gregoire de Thaumaturge, to pay the school commissioners of that municipality \$26 for school taxes. Mr. Bradshaw had resisted the demand on the ground that he was not a Catholic and that the school funds were being devoted to the maintenance of a Catholic school only, but the court decided that until the dissentient property holders formed a school board of their own in the manner prescribed by the statute, they would have to contribute to the general fund.

Wise Counsel. The story of the man who signed a petition that he himself should be hanged is familiar, but *The Watchman* caps it with another quite as instructive:

A minister signed a petition which purported to be for a charitable purpose, and on the strength of his name nearly every reputable citizen in the town signed it. The first intimation that the minister had that he was the victim of a joke came with the formal notice that his application for a license to keep a saloon was granted, and that the license would be issued as soon as payment therefor was made. Nobody has time to sign a document which he cannot first find time to read.

Another Parliament of Religions. Dr. Barrows of Chicago is making a vigorous effort to arrange for a Second Parliament of Religions at the time of the Paris World's Exposition in 1900. The encouragement so far is meagre, and it is doubtful if it can be made to materialize. Paris is not a religious city and shows little interest in the project, while most of the Christian Churches are even less willing than in 1893 to lend their countenance. The Roman Catholic Church especially which was so prominent in Chicago, having everything to lose and nothing to gain shows no disposition to repeat in Europe the experiment which it was ready to make in America. There are many others beside them who are inclined to think the one Parliament already held will serve our needs for a good while to come.

Wise Children. The Dundee *Courier* thus remarks on certain questions set in a shorter catechism examination by the Meigle Free Presbytery: At Meigle Free Presbytery some regret was expressed that so few children entered for examination in the Shorter Catechism. Judging from the specimens of the questions quoted by the Rev. Mr. White, Blairgowrie, there was scarcely room for wonder that the children shied at them. One of them was:—"What would have been the consequence had man not been left to the freedom of his own will?" It is always a difficult matter for a man, and probably for a child, to say how he would have acted had he been placed in different circumstances. Possibly the difficulty would be slightly increased were the question to be asked at man or boy, "How would another person—say Adam have acted had he been placed differently from

what he was?" The child who looked at that question and did not seek to answer it, but executed a strategic movement to the other portions of the questions for testing his religious knowledge, was a wise child—and could give points in wisdom to the rev. fathers who propounded the question. By outflanking the question he probably saved himself from the quandary of what freewill was, and how it consorted with "foreknowledge absolute," reasoning on which the author of our greatest epic has said a certain group of higher intelligences were "in wandering mazes lost."

A Professor's Troubles. Attention was recently called to a charge of incompetency made by the students against Professor Johnston of the University of Aberdeen. And now we have a parallel case on this side the Atlantic. One of the professors in the Alleghany Theological Seminary, the Rev. Dr. J. A. Wilson, has been charged by his students with incompetency. It is said that "every time he lectured or heard a recitation the greatest disorder prevailed, and when he made his appearance in the class-room it was the signal for groans and hisses. On one or two occasions beans and paper wads were shot through tin tubes." The Board of Directors have investigated the charges, and have vindicated Dr. Wilson and duly censured the students. However, it is said that Dr. Wilson has received a call to a vacant church, and is likely to accept it.

Church Exclusive. This is how a contemporary describes the Dr. Langtry of the South:—A narrow gauge, altitudinous Protestant Episcopal, by name Papineau, recently addressed the Maine Diocesan Convention, Bishop Neeley being present and not rebuking him. The members of all churches other than the Protestant Episcopal Mr. Papineau described as "heathen," who are only awaiting the proclamation by Mr. Papineau and his fellow-ritualists that "we are the Catholic Church, opposed to Romanism on the one hand and Protestantism on the other. We must tell them that outside of this church there is no Salvation," and then they will cease to be "heathen," and become God's children. The figures as to Protestant Episcopal growth in Maine during the past decade do not indicate that the "heathen" are likely to show great alacrity in embracing Mr. Papineau's scheme of Salvation,

Religion in Business. A large bank in New York city has recently been seeking for a young man to take a responsible position in the institution. There were many applications. The following questions were asked by the president of the bank in his examination of the applicants:

1. What church do you attend?
2. What Sunday school, and who is your teacher?
3. Where do you spend your evenings?
4. Who are your associates?
5. Do you ever use intoxicating drinks or tobacco?

The successful young man was he who could give an honest record of regular Church and Sunday school attendance, show that he was not out evenings except for proper purposes, that his companions were wholesome and that he did not use intoxicants or tobacco. He is now occupying this important and lucrative position that has a large and promising future. So much for the commercial value of good habits.

The Pan-Presbyterian Council has decided to hold its next meeting in Washington, D. C. An invitation was received also from San Francisco. For this the Council expressed its thanks, regretting that it could not accept it as well.