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## The Canada Presbyterian

C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, MANAGER.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10TH, 1895.

JUST as we go to press a circular from the Rev. Dr. Warden reaches us *anent* the Pointe aux Trembles Schools, giving an account of a most interesting communion season observed there, and of the prosperity and work of the school. It also mentions the serious illness of the Principal of the school, the Rev. J. Bourgoin, and that \$4,000 are urgently needed before the end of April, to close the year free of debt.

ALL the editorial fraternity, of the male persuasion, especially, and a vast number more over the whole country, are on the tiptoe of expectation for the coming *Woman's Globe* to appear on the 18th inst. We have no fear but that the result will amply justify the brightest expectations of what our Canadian women are able to do in getting up a number of the *Globe* which will equal at least, if it does not surpass, the very best that has ever appeared of that veteran in the field of Canadian journalism.

THE Rev. Dr. Briggs will hardly feel flattered, or can think his cause helped by the *denouement* which has taken place in the case of the Rev. Dr. Ecob, of Albany, N. Y., who forsook the Presbyterian Church because of the Assembly's action in his case and who has lately publicly rejected the evangelical doctrine of the Atonement. He and the Rev. W. E. Brundage, who leaves the Methodist Church, are to establish a liberal church without a creed, that will be virtually Unitarian. It is sometimes the case that our friends are our worst enemies.

ASLIP of memory, in our issue before last, led us unwittingly to overlook, in the list of names we then gave, which have been proposed for the moderatorship of next General Assembly, two, than whom none of those mentioned have done longer, or, in their own line, more valuable work for the Church, or by character, or competency in every way, are better fitted to fill, and even adorn, the Moderator's chair. We refer to the names of Rev. Dr. Proudfoot, of London, for so many years an esteemed lecturer in Knox College, and that of the Rev. Dr. Torrance, of Guelph, whose financial and statistical returns compiled by him for many years for our blue book, have been marvels of pains taking labour and accuracy.

DEFICITS in our Church funds, or, indeed, in any other, are very unpleasant things, and when they become chronic, are not only unpleasant, but may grow both formidable and dangerous. The Home Mission Committee, therefore,

acted very wisely, all will admit, in taking prompt and effective measures to lessen, and if possible, altogether avert that threatened in connection with Home Missions. We trust the committee will be met in a generous spirit. We are glad to record as a help the following sums received by Rev. Dr. Cochrane: Sherwood Free Church, Paisley, Scotland, £100; McCheyne Memorial Church, Dundee, Scotland, £36; New College (Edinburgh) Missionary Society, £50; Kelvinside Free Church, Glasgow, £10 17s. 8d.

THE Brantford Ladies' College is known for the excellence of its musical department, and we are pleased to see it mentioned that the following young ladies, after having obtained a very high percentage of marks, have passed successfully the Board of Examiners of Victoria College of Music, London, England—the first three into the senior grade in Harmony and Counterpoint, and the four following into the junior grade in Harmony:—Miss Fanny Murdoch, Miss Irene White, Miss Maude Smith; Miss Mildred Jackson, Miss Anna Wisner, Miss Grace Shepherd, Miss Isabelle Howe. Dr. Cochrane has also received intimation that Miss Jean Patterson, of New Westminster, B. C., a former pupil, has been selected out of a large number of applicants as teacher in the public schools of New Westminster.

EVERY reliable testimony to the good work done in any of our Ladies' colleges should be gladly welcomed because of the important place they occupy and the work they are doing in connection with and in a sense for the church. The visitors appointed by the Synod of Toronto and Kingston, Rev. Dr. Fletcher, of Hamilton, and Rev. John Neill, of Toronto, have just been spending some time examining the pupils of the Ladies' College, Brantford, of which Mrs. Rolls is the lady principal, and they speak in the warmest terms of the exceptionally high standard reached by the the pupils in all the branches they examined. Mrs. Rolls and her efficient staff received from them well-merited praise for the thorough grounding of their classes in the several departments under their charge.

THE interesting communication in another column from one of our catechists in the North West, following so closely upon the able argument made by Mr. Fraser in our last issue for their being invested with power to dispense the sacraments, reveals that, so far from being able to administer the sacraments, they have not, in the cases where the practice prevails of the catechist supplying the place of the ordained minister who does it, the privilege of even participating in the observance of this ordinance. We should hope that the hardship made known in this case is not a very common one. Whether it is or not, surely such measures should be taken as will effectually avoid the necessity for a continuance of such a deprivation to our catechists as this so hurtful to their spiritual life, and which the more earnest and faithful and spiritually minded they are, is all the more keenly felt.

THE annual meeting of the W.F.M.S., to be held in this city next week, notice of which is given in our advertising columns, is looked forward to over the whole Church with interest only equalled by the meeting of the General Assembly. This occasion brings so many delegates from all parts of the Western Division of our Church, the object of it is of such importance, it is conducted with such ability, and the history of the Society has been one of such continuous and almost marvellous growth, that it is well calculated to excite a sacred enthusiasm over the whole Church. We doubt not the coming meeting will be equal to, if it does not surpass in numbers and interest any previous one. Such has been their record almost uniformly in the past. In only one respect have we ever heard that these meeting failed somewhat or could be improved, and that is in the one particular of all who speak at them, speaking so as to be heard by all present. Some have not the volume of voice, or distinctness of enunciation to make themselves heard over a large church, even when they try, but others who might be, fail to be heard because of not making sufficient effort. It is unnecessary to point out how greatly this

may or even destroys the profit and pleasure of the gathering to those who have travelled, perhaps, hundreds of miles to hear and carry away with them to their home-society the stimulus to be got at such a large annual rally of ladies all deeply interested in the sublime object they are engaged in. A word to the wise is sufficient.

IN addition to the circular of Dr. Cochrane *anent* the Home Mission deficit our readers will not fail to notice also that respecting the important work of French Evangelization. In addition to the interest which belongs to Home Mission work this has an interest peculiar to itself, because of the great importance to us politically and nationally of the religious, moral and intellectual condition of our French Roman Catholic fellow-subjects, and which is at the present moment forcing itself upon our attention in such an emphatic manner in connection with the school system in Manitoba. The amount required by this department of our work by the end of the present month is a large one, the prospects are bright and brightening, let them not be darkened by any want of interest or of liberality to enable the Committee to fill old fields and go in and occupy the new ones inviting it to enter them.

WE have often heard the desire expressed by those who have profited by the prelections, of the Rev. Dr. Proudfoot, that he would put into some permanent form his valuable lectures on Homiletics, Pastoral Theology and Church Polity, with which the students of Knox College have now for so many years been favored. We are glad to know that this desire is likely in so far to be gratified, we hope before any great length of time elapses. The scriptural basis on which the eldership as it is found in the Presbyterian Church rests, the elder's place and functions, whether ruling or teaching or both, although the subject of many treatises, are not yet so fully established and clearly defined as they might be. This is a subject to which the doctor has given much attention, and should he take it up, his clear, logical faculty, his strong grasp of any subject he undertakes to deal with, and capacity for forcible expression of his views, would lead us to expect, should he deal with it, a presentation of it which would be in every respect most thorough and satisfactory.

EVERYONE admits the great importance of the kind of books which children read, and all who have paid any attention to the subject known, along with a great deal that is good, how much undesirable literature, to put it mildly, is to be found in many of our Sabbath school libraries. We are glad to see a proposal made, which to us appears in every way feasible, to meet a want in this direction. It is proposed by Mr. D. Sutherland, of this city, to publish a set of ten missionary biographies to be put up in small form of two and a half by three and three-quarter inches, containing 125 to 150 pages, done up in a neat pasteboard case interestingly and simply written for children from seven to twelve years of age, and the whole set to cost two dollars, provided he can secure one hundred advance orders, so as to guarantee him against any actual loss in the first instance, and the money to be paid only when the books are ready. Such an undertaking is well worthy of support, and once the proposal of it is made known, there should be no difficulty and we hope there will be none to prevent its being carried out at an early day. Could any thing be better to put before the minds of children, or more interesting than a series of biographies of such names as Dr. J. G. Paton, McKay of Uganda, John Williams, Hudson Taylor, etc.

## KNOX COLLEGE CLOSING.

THOUGH not strictly speaking a part of the College, yet the annual meeting of the alumni is so closely connected with it that we give at the outset of our brief account of the closing of the college proper, a notice of that also. A goodly number of students were present at the meeting of alumni on the afternoon of Wednesday, the third. The Rev. John Neil, vice-president, owing to the decease of the late Professor Thompson, occupied and discharged well the duties of the chair. Many and touching allusions were made to the high Christian character and ability of the late president.