

# THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

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## Notes of the Week.

THE McMaster & Darling firm have issued a very handsome lithograph of their large establishment on Front Street. The building itself is a fine specimen of massive architecture, and the artist has reproduced it in admirable proportion. The concern has received a new impetus by the accession of Mr. Henry W. Darling, a gentleman whose business talent and enterprise are widely recognized.

ADVICES from Auckland, New Zealand, say that the French have annexed Raiatea, one of the Society Islands, whose people recently revolted from King Tomatoa. The native chief refused to submit, the gun-boat *Scorpion* bombarded the villages, and a proclamation was issued, stating that the natives would be punished and fined unless they submitted to French authority.

THE attendance of lady students at the Swiss universities is rapidly decreasing. Especially is this the case at Zürich, where formerly they congregated in large numbers. Ten years ago there were eighty Russian ladies at Zürich; now there are less than forty. In the whole Russian Empire 779 ladies are attending university instruction; of these no less than 139 are Jewesses.

A MEETING of publishers favouring the passage of an international copyright law was held at Delmonico's last week. It resulted in the formation of an association to be called American Publishers' Copyright League, its object being to co-operate with the American authors in securing international copyright. The following officers were chosen: W. H. Appleton, president; G. P. Putnam, secretary; Charles Scribner, treasurer. An executive committee was appointed to act in connection with a similar committee from the Authors' Copyright League for the passage of the desired law. The committee consists of the following members besides the officers of the league: J. W. Harper, A. D. F. Randolph, Dana C. Estes, Henry O. Houghton, Craig Lippincott.

MR. SPURGEON has asked that the deputation appointed to confer with him at Mentone may wait until his arrival in London. Writing to his congregation, he says he has made up his mind to stay at Mentone until the second Sunday in the new year. After that he hopes to return for a long season of earnest, holy service. He is now free from pain in body and refreshed in mind, and the prayers of his people have encompassed him like an atmosphere of peace. But he asks for a double share of prayers just now, as he is now entering upon a season wherein much wisdom will be needed. In the course of a published letter, he says: God's truth will prevail, even if every apostle should turn out to be a Judas, and every Prophet a Balaam.

THE Rev. Alexander Heriot Mackonochie, who became so well known as the ritualistic vicar of St. Alban's, Holborn, while on a visit to the Bishop of Argyll at Ballachulish, went out for a walk lately, was lost in the mist, and on Saturday was found dead in the Kinloch forest, about six miles above Kinlochmore Lodge. The body was found in a snow wreath, where after a struggle he had perished. He was fond of pedestrian exercise. Mr. Mackonochie was a native of Scotland, a bachelor, and had passed his sixtieth year. He never lost one of his characteristic Scottish traits; he was a strict Sabbath keeper, declining always to use a cab on that day. The ritualistic party in the Church to which he belonged made an imposing display at his funeral.

A CONTEMPORARY says: A rare instance of catholicity was afforded on Sunday week in connection with the evangelistic gatherings at the Agricultural Hall. On account of the Smithfield Club Cattle Show, the usual Sunday afternoon service could not

be held, but the Rev. W. E. Haigh, M.A., vicar of Holy Trinity, the nearest place of worship, and also the most spacious in Islington, offered the use of the sacred edifice, where a large congregation assembled; the prayers being offered and lessons read by Dr. Thain Davidson of the Presbyterian Church, whilst the sermon was preached by Rev. G. D. Wyatt, vicar of St. John's Church, Highbury. Such a practical example of genuine catholicity is rarely met with in England, and is more eloquent than fifty platform speeches.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Christian Leader* draws attention to one of the gravest incidents in political matters that has transpired of late. The Irish question is the hot chestnut; the Government are burning their fingers over it, and they propose to tempt the Pope, with money drawn from Protestant purses for a scheme of higher Catholic education, to play the monkey for them. Our contemporary remarks: Whether Home Rule or Coercion be right or not, this is certainly wrong. And the sturdy Protestantism of Britain must be on its guard against asking help from Rome to govern Ireland; we must do that ourselves or not at all. Three hundred years ago it was settled, in the loss of the Armada, that England was not to have its affairs interfered with by Rome; such interferences must not be allowed now.

SOME attention is being directed in Scotland to the manner in which the Moderator of the United Presbyterian Synod is elected at the opening meeting; and the suggestion is again made that the Moderatorship should be settled as in the sister Presbyterian Churches, by some responsible authority sufficiently far in advance of the meeting of Synod as to make the best possible choice, and afford the coming Moderator time to prepare an address that would prove stimulating to the assembled fathers and brethren. If not the ex-Moderators, there are committees representative of all the Presbyteries of the Church which might be asked to undertake the duty of recommending to the Synod the minister they consider the most entitled to receive the high honour of occupying the Moderator's chair, and best qualified to discharge with dignity and advantage its important duties.

THE Irish correspondent of the *Presbyterian Messenger* says: The *Freeman's Journal* (Roman Catholic and Nationalist) has the following strong words in an article on the alleged bargain between the Irish Roman Catholic Hierarchy and the Government, which is said to have been brought about through the intervention of Monsignor Persico: Even supposing the statement is true, it says, "We have yet to learn that there is any dogma of the Church, or any obligation of religion, that imposes upon Catholic Nationalists the duty of submitting to so intolerable a transaction. The Holy See might suffer, and would inevitably suffer; Irishmen would remain Catholics, but they would remain Nationalists." Whether Irishmen would long remain "Catholics" after a rupture with the Holy See may well be questioned. But it is a significant fact that such bold language should be used by the leading Roman Catholic newspaper of Ireland.

THE new Board of Education for the North-West Territories held its first meeting lately, sitting two days. There were present Bishop Pinkham, Mr. Justice Rouleau, Revs. A. B. Baird, J. McLean, Father Leduc, Messrs. A. E. Forget, J. Secord, and Secretary Brown. Bishop Pinkham was elected chairman, Lieut.-Governor Dewdney going out of office by the provisions of the new ordinance. Nineteen resolutions were passed, and much important business transacted. The date for the examination of candidates for teachers' certificates was fixed for the second Tuesday in February. The Board of Examiners appointed contains Rev. Messrs. Baird, Gillies and Granton, and Mr. Thomas Grover. Mr. A. E. Forget and Rev. A. B. Baird were appointed a committee to apportion the grants on inspectors' reports. A committee, con-

sisting of Bishop Pinkham and the Rev. Messrs. Baird and McLean, were appointed to consider the Text Book question, and report at next meeting. Among the inspectors appointed were the Rev. Charles McKillop for McLeod, and Rev. D. G. McQueen for Edmonton.

THE *Christian World* says: The Rev. H. C. Willson, the widely-esteemed Presbyterian minister of Eastbourne, boldly assailed the practice of early marriages at a meeting of the unemployed in that town. He said that a young man called upon him some time ago wanting to be married to a young woman. The man had no money, no house, not even furnished rooms; and Mr. Willson refused to perform the ceremony, and gave him a piece of his mind about asking a woman to be his wife when he could not provide for her. The anecdote was received with loud applause, which would seem to show that the working classes are at last beginning to see that it is necessary for them to exercise the prudence and self-control in this direction which are habitual with the classes above them. Too early and improvident marriages tend, more than anything else, to pauperize the masses, without at all raising their general morals. Ministers of the Gospel too often encourage the practice of marrying without means of any sort. If they would steadily set themselves to discourage it, they might enormously diminish the number of miserable homes, aching hearts and hungry mouths in the land.

THE *British Weekly* has published a valuable series of articles on "Tempted London." They are ably written, calm and dispassionate in tone, and supply ample room for thought as to the manner in which the young and friendless in the great metropolis might be preserved from the dangers to which they are so constantly exposed. The great increase in gambling, and the recent rapid multiplication of places where games of chance are played, show that the evil is becoming more dangerous than ever. Correspondents are naturally asking whether Church bazaars, etc., have not some relation to this insidious and injurious habit. A Church lottery or raffle is kin to the games played in workingmen's clubs, and other resorts where the gambling habit finds free scope. The difference is only in the place and its associations, and the class of people who frequent them. It is high time for the Christian Church to abstain from every form of evil. In continuing questionable methods of raising money for religious purposes, the Church rests under a terrible responsibility.

IN Montreal the Presbyterians have a strong and enthusiastic Sabbath School Association. Under its auspices the usual New Year's gathering of children was held in Erskine Church, in that city, in the forenoon of the 2nd of January. The building was taxed to its utmost capacity. Mr. J. Murray Smith, president of the association, occupied the chair, and besides him on the platform were the Revs. A. B. Mackay, James Fleck, Dr. Campbell and L. H. Jordan, and Mr. James Croil. Each school carried a banner bearing an appropriate motto. The proceedings commenced with the singing of the hymn, "Hail to the Lord's Anointed." The rendition of the various hymns was hearty. The Rev. James Fleck delivered a short address, taking as his subject "Hands." He pointed out the difference between clean and dirty hands, free and fettered hands, kind and cruel hands, helpful and idle hands. He concluded a happy little discourse by expressing the hope that the hands of children before him might be blessed, like the hands of Jesus. The Rev. A. B. Mackay took for his subject "Hearts," illustrating black or wicked hearts by means of coal in the shape of a heart. He trusted all the children before him might have regenerated hearts—blessed and kind hearts. Mr. James Croil also spoke a few appropriate words, and read a congratulatory message received from the Methodist Sabbath School Association, to which a suitable response was sent.