

great work under his review, Courage and humility are leading traits in his character. When Prof. Drummond's book—"Natural Law in the Spiritual World," appeared, and one of the ablest of the adverse criticisms of it which were published was from Mr. Denney, at the time a student in the same college, of which Mr. Drummond was a professor. His opinion of the new Expositor's Greek Testament, notwithstanding the demur here quoted, is very high. He winds up his article in these terms:

"But when this is allowed for, the book as a whole stands without a rival as an interpretation of the teaching of our Lord. The minister who has it on his table has a new well of living water to draw from, and the minister who has not does not know what he is losing."

MR. MOODY'S OFFER.

MR. D. L. Moody sends for publication the following with reference to the Chicago Bible Institute, where most excellent work has been and is being done for the Lord:

I believe one of the greatest needs of the time is for centres where those who so feel that they have been put in touch with the gospel and are in debt to a lost world, may come aside for a longer or shorter time, as they are able, for the study of the word of God and contact with those of long experience in the work of winning and leading souls and go out again to be a blessing. Demands are coming to me all the time for pastors assistants, teachers, and workers in all kinds of Christian work. I doubt not there may be many who are efficient and able to meet these means, but where are they, and how are they to be found unless they let themselves be known, to some such centres as have been suggested?

There is a training school for Christian men and women in Chicago known as the Bible Institute, and should these lines fall under the eye of any who may be led to say with one of our mission leaders of to-day "If God will show me anything I am not doing for the salvation of the world, I will do it now," and would like to put themselves under training for effective service let me hear from them at once.

—D. L. MOODY.

EDUCATION IN QUEBEC.

Among the papers read at the Toronto Normal School Jubilee celebration was one by Mr. S. P. Robins, M.A., LL.D., principal of McGill Normal School, which reveals the condition of education in the Province of Quebec. In Quebec, he said, all nationalities were represented, but the great mass of French-Canadians were unaffected by the others. There were 1,500,000 of the former, of whom 1,300,000 were most devoted Roman Catholics. About 100,000 all told were Protestants. The question of schools in Quebec was the weightiest problem in Dominion affairs to-day. There were two problems, in relation thereto, before the people. The first was to give the country entirely over to the education of the priesthood. It would be hard just to say what would be the outcome of such a course of action. The public mind of Quebec was stagnant. Philosophy of the most rudimentary nature was not discussed. The people had no ambition for a change. Books and newspapers found no place in the homes of a great many. As the parents lived and died so lived and died the children. The second problem centred about the Protestant schools. With what degree of success could one-seventh of the population educate their children in dissentient schools? Could the schools become proficient? By the enactments of the Province the Protestants could establish schools at their own expense. The Province gave them no aid. The Protestant population was so sparse that it was

impossible to have proper schools. He did not think there was an intention on the part of the Catholics to do injustice to the Protestants. Any cases of it were local, but honesty was not a universal virtue. The Protestant schools, Dr. Robins said, were small and very poorly equipped, but their supporters were ambitious and progressive. They were fighting against fearful odds. A prominent member of Parliament had told him that in thirty years Protestant schools would be extinct. Perhaps this was going a little too far, but he was of the opinion that by the middle of the next century there would only be Protestant commercial colonies at Montreal, Quebec and Sherbrooke. Economic conditions were driving them from the farms. They had to pay a tax of twenty-five bushels of grain to the priesthood. Catholics could buy lands of Protestants, who in turn could not buy lands from their Catholic brethren. The schools and churches were being closed amidst their own ruins. Soon they would be a people of the past. One quarter of the population of Montreal was Protestant, owning half the property and paying half the taxes.

This picture is a dark one indeed, but no authority is higher than Dr. Robins. This question is one of the serious problems, difficult of solution, which have to be faced in a country like Canada, with forbearance, and great care as to the divergent interests involved.

TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY.

THE steps taken to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the completion of the Shorter Catechism, will issue in a world wide, and worthy tribute to the priceless value of that inestimable book. Canada will not lag behind in her recognition of the anniversary as an important date in the history of the Church. The recommendation of the General Assembly to Presbyteries and Sessions has been generally acted upon, with the result that suitable arrangements have been made throughout the bounds of the Church. The celebrations will be mostly in the form of public meetings, at which addresses on topics germane to the Westminster Assembly and the Shorter Catechism will be delivered, and the value of the book as a compendium of doctrine emphasized. What we hope for as a result of these meetings is a revival of interest in the Catechism, and more devoted study of it in Sabbath school and Bible class, and especially in the homes of the people.

The news of Rev. Dr. George Patterson's death will be received with much regret by the church. He reached his 74th year, having spent an arduous life in the ministry and church. At the outset of his career he engaged in newspaper work, and throughout his life he was an occasional contributor to the press. He wrote much about the early ministers of the Maritime provinces, and as editor of the *Christian Instructor*, and *Missionary Record* his pen was busy in the cause of knowledge. He published, also, several volumes, among them being *memoirs of Rev. John Keir, D.D.*, and *Rev. James McGregor D.D.*, of *Rev. S. F. Johnston*, *Rev. J. W. Matheson* and *Mrs. Matheson*, *Missionaries at Tanna*, *Life of Dr. Geddie*, *A History of the Country of Pictou* and other works. He was versed in church law and procedure and of great service in the church courts, while his ministry was fruitful of good results.

The full report of the British Columbia Endeavorers' Convention shows that on the fair Pacific the cause is making satisfactory progress. There was a large gathering and the civic welcome by the Mayor of Nanaimo was most cordial. The business, the addresses, and the discussions were all of a practical character, and a tone of hopefulness prevailed from beginning to end of the proceedings which lasted for three days.