

abandoning the time-honoured and historical Church in which they were born and bred, "in order that they may fling themselves into the entanglements of the latest phase of American Sectarianism."

The *Ottawa Times*, speaking for itself no doubt echoes the sentiments of the Reformers.

"Anathema cannot and does not prevent schism. It may be presumed that the Church's curse will cause the many to submit to the exercise of mummeries and flummeries against which the judgment of the few rebels, and which are a positive disgrace to modern Christianity. The many do submit. But people, uninfluenced by priestcraft see that Protestant Churches are decorated; that there are candles lighted on the altars; that the services are intoned; that the choristers are surprised; that the organ, not the congregation, groans the Amen; and that the sermon is slurred over as of no avail. The ungodly mile. The earnest take another view, and see in these absurd ceremonies the beginning of that decay in Christianity which must assuredly result from such heathenish practices."

"Anathema! The word is startling. One is inclined to ask if ecclesiastical malediction can be possible in this age? Will not congregations in spite of such stupid customs, rebel and declare emphatically by their acts that they will have a naked christianity, and insist upon being permitted to join in that beautiful church service in which they have been brought up unadulterated by altar-cherubs, lighted candles gorgeously surplised curates, or the weird howlings, which, in some churches, have taken the place of the reverend reading or repeating of prayer. There can be only one answer. These innovations introduced by "educated" clergymen will disgust congregations, and with congregations the true remedy rests."

The new Temperance movement in the States, to wit the women's crusade against saloon keepers and frequenters has not yet crossed the lines. And we feel disposed to hope that, when it comes, as come it may, it will be in a slightly modified form. Perhaps we are prejudiced, but we fancy the people of Montreal have too much respect for the decencies of religion, as well as for their wives and daughters, to have any desire for the re-enactment of those scenes that are daily furnishing pabulum for the sensational in the towns and villages of the neighbouring Republic. While taking exception to the means employed, the object contemplated has our entire sympathy. Heaven speed the day when bar-rooms shall be abolished, and when drunkenness shall hide its head for very shame!

A notable event was the opening of the BROOKLYN TABERNACLE for worship, which strikingly illustrates the rapid growth and development of American churches and the enthusiasm of American church-goers. Five years ago Rev. De Witt Talmage was called from Philadelphia to Brooklyn by a Church that could bring together at a meeting for the purpose only nineteen members. They built a large church, which was destroyed by fire in December, 1872. The building which has just been opened is the largest Protestant church in the

United States, seated for 4,600, and will hold about 5,000. The cost of this fine building was only \$100,000. On the day of dedication it was announced that there remained \$35,000 to be provided for. No sooner said than done! Then and there the money was subscribed, to be paid in four monthly instalments. The Pastor's name heading the list with \$1,000, and others doing likewise until the thing was done. Mr. Talmage belongs to the Dutch Reformed Church, but on this occasion was assisted by brethren of other denominations. Dr. Ives, a Methodist, put them up to paying off the debt. Henry Ward Beecher rejoiced to see that the shaking of the tree had brought down the golden fruit over their heads that day. "Debt on a church was the *Devil's saddle*, and he would not fail to ride in it. Therefore he should not think they were free until every cent was paid on this fair fabric. It was worth it."

LITERATURE.

THOUGHTS ON GRAND AND IMPORTANT SUBJECTS.—The title of this beautiful little volume is a sufficient index to the subject matter of the nineteen practical discourses contained in it. Those who have seen and heard the Rev. A. Melville of the C. P. Church will prize this volume as a souvenir of an earnest and eloquent preacher, and the Christian reader who, in the perusal of these pages, first makes his acquaintance, will find comfort and edification in these specimens of his pulpit administrations, the careful revision and arrangement of which have given employment to his declining years. It confirms one's faith in the efficacy of a preached Gospel to find one who for a century ministered to others saying with the Author, when the shadow is lengthening "that the great truths which engaged his attention in early life are still his own chief comforts in old age. The work is published by Messrs. James Campbell & Son, Toronto, in their usual tasteful manner.

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF YOUNG MEN are earnestly and ably set forth in a Sermon preached to the Glasgow Young Men's Christian Association, by the Rev. John Marshall Lang, D.D., of the Barony Parish, and published at the request of the Association. THE GAEL IN THE FAR WEST is the title of a lecture delivered by the Rev. Dr. Masson, of Edinburgh, before the Greenock Gaelic Society, in which we find a truthful and graphic account of what the lecturer saw and heard of his countrymen on the occasion of his recent visit to Canada. Both these reverend gentlemen have our thanks for their kind remembrance of Canada and Canadians, and they may rest assured that this bare mention of their names will bring to the minds of many on this side the Atlantic very pleasing recollections of personal intercourse with them and of the good words spoken by them.

THE PROTESTANT is the name of a new monthly magazine published by F. E. Grafton, Montreal, at \$1.50 per annum, designed "to unite Protestants of all denominations in resisting the political aggressions of Ultramontane Romanism in Canada." The first numbers contain some very good articles.