

# THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

VOL 14.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26th, 1885.

No. 35.

"In every respect a credit to the Presbyterian Church in Canada."—*Barric Gazette.*

**THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN,**  
PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY BY THE  
Presbyterian Printing and Publishing Co.

"Without doubt the best religious publication in Canada, and a well come visitor to thousands of families."—*Stratford Beacon.*

THE PRESBYTERIAN is recommended by the General Assembly as "worthy the hearty support" of the ministers and members.

An Agent wanted in every congregation in the Dominion. Liberal commissions to suitable persons. Specimen copies mailed free on application. Apply at once to

C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, Toronto.

## Notes of the Week.

THE Principalship of Upper Canada College, rendered vacant by the lamented death of Principal Buchan, has just been filled by the appointment of Mr. George Dickson, M.A. His long and honoured connection with one of the most successful collegiate institutes in the Province justifies the choice that has been made. An educationist of Mr. Dickson's attainments and experience is sure to increase the reputation and efficiency of Upper Canada College. The appointment is in all respects a most satisfactory one.

IN the death of Sir Francis Hincks, Canada loses one of her prominent public men. Though not in active politics since 1873, he has taken a lively interest in public questions, and has used the press freely of late years for the dissemination of his opinions. He has left behind him the reputation of being an honest statesman. He could not justly be accused of using the high position which oftener than once he filled in the councils of his country for the furtherance of a selfish ambition, or for personal ends. His life was one of great activity and enterprise. In business, journalism, and in politics he achieved deserved success, and his public efforts were generally directed to the promotion of the best interests of the country.

THE *Independent* says: Those who patronized the grog shops during cold weather—to keep from taking cold—and now sail in for help in the same direction, to keep clear of a sun-stroke, or a chill after a bath, or of malaria when exposed to night air, or of the dangers of over-eating, or of hard work, or of troubles in business, or of loss of appetite, etc., should read the following, by Dr. Loomis: A man can take two or three glasses of stimulants daily, and may continue the habit for perhaps twenty-five years without harm; but when this man reaches that period of life when the vital powers are on the decline, he suddenly finds himself old before his time, for he has had all these years been laying the foundation for chronic endoarteritis. I believe that fifty per cent. of all diseases arise from the use of stimulants.

A SOMEWHAT startling letter by Father Andre, of Prince Albert, has been published. The *Pere* is a native of France, and speaks in the most gushing manner of Riel's counsel in the recent trial. He states his views on the North-West, and what he deems necessary for its pacification. The matter, however, that calls for immediate attention is the charge he brings against the captors of Batoche and General Middleton. For some time it has been asserted that the volunteers plundered the defeated Half-breeds, and inflicted several cruelties on them. Now *Pere Andre* makes specific charges and accuses General Middleton of not only not restraining his command from looting, but that he himself was guilty of the same offence. It is claimed that he appropriated a horse and carriage. These charges have been denied. But it is due to the General and those who fought with him that all doubt on these serious charges should be removed. There ought to be an official and thorough investigation.

MONTREAL has again been visited by that peculiarly loathsome disease, small-pox. Though the deaths reported are numerous, the scourge does not appear to be making rapid headway. The venerable politician, Sir Francis Hincks, has fallen a victim to the epidemic. Among our French Canadian fellow-citizens there exists an unaccountable apathy to sanitary reform, and what is equally unaccountable they appear to have a dread of vaccination. Many of them seem to fear it worse than the disease that has so often made fearful ravages among them. Up to the present the epidemic has not assumed unmanageable proportions and the prompt action of municipal and medical authorities may prevent the spread of this destructive plague. A case has been reported in Toronto, though happily the patient is now thought to be out of danger. The appearance of contagious diseases in populous cities reminds all of the need of cleanliness, prompt attention to the laws of health, the isolation of the attacked and trust in God.

A VIGOROUS movement in favour of early closing and a Saturday half-holiday is being made in several Canadian cities. It is to be hoped that there will be no relaxation of effort till the desirable boon has been gained. Many retail establishments are kept open in cities till eight, nine, and ten o'clock on week evenings, and till midnight on Saturday. A little consideration will convince all parties concerned that these late business hours are as unnecessary as they are injurious. No class is alone responsible for this undesirable state of matters. Employes would not of their own option desire to work through so many hours a day. Retail traders would much prefer early closing, but the competition is so keen that while some of their number keep their places of business open others feel that in self-defence they must do the same. There must be a general agreement among tradesmen if the abuse is to be reformed. The cure of the evil, however, rests with the public. If people would resolve to make their purchases at seasonable times this modern slavery would speedily end.

RECENT disclosures of wide-spread and abominable vice have brought to light a strange eagerness to palliate and ignore the danger to society such festering corruption is certain to produce. This fact has been clearly brought out that no matter how culpable an individual may appear to be, he is sure to be defended by some plausible apologist. The *Pall Mall Gazette* made its revelations, and the force of the appalling disclosure was sought to be parried by the imputation of interested motives. The personal character of Sir Charles Dilke was degraded by social crime, forthwith his affianced ostentatiously telegraphs from India that she holds to her purpose to marry him. The Pearce incident, it is hinted, is a case of black mail. Now all this is beside the question. Were the *Pall Mall Gazette's* disclosures statements of facts, or were they not? The motive for publishing the loathsome details may have been good or bad, but a thoroughly competent commission has declared that the facts were substantially correct. Does a telegram from India or the resolution of a body of political supporters absolve Sir Charles Dilke from the offence with which he is charged? Will any candid person affirm that a counter-charge by Mr. Pearce disposes of the accusation brought against him? Dust clouds must not be permitted to conceal plain matters of fact and their bearing on moral questions.

AN article on a recent pastoral by the Bishop of Qu'Appelle in the *Regina Leader* concludes as follows: We leave this charge without further comment than this: The Bishop is perhaps not aware that to large numbers in his diocese who are strongly attached to the Church of England with its noble liturgy, the use of the word "priest" to designate a clergyman is offensive. A priest in the Roman Catholic Church we can understand. They say they have a sacrifice to offer. But what sacrifice was a Church of England minister to offer? What is conspicuous by

its absence from the charge is more remarkable than anything in it. Not one word said about the number of men and women brought under the power of the Gospel of Christ. Exercising such influence is the true seal of a man's divine mission to preach that Gospel. We understand that the Bishop intends to move to near Qu'Appelle. We wish him success and God speed. His actions indicate that he is ready to make many sacrifices for the sake of his divine calling. He may, therefore, be expected to imitate Paul who became all things to all men that he might by all means save some. Paul said if meat scandalized his brother he would eat no more meat so long as he could eat at all. What would he have thought of scandalizing his brother because of a riband or a posture? We are laying the foundation here of a strong and free people to whom an effeminate ceremonial can never be identical with the manly and soul-inspiring Gospel of Christ.

THE Young Men's Christian Association of the Maritime Provinces has just concluded its eighteenth annual convention. It was held in St. John, N.B., and the meetings appear to have been very profitable, a number of practical questions having been fully discussed. The Study of the Bible Essential to the Growth of the Young Christian, was introduced by Rev. George Bruce. He showed the fitness of such a subject. The Bible itself declares that it is essential to the growth of a Christian. All Scripture is given by the inspiration of God. He showed the great power of the Bible, and described the different modes of studying it. The reverend gentleman discussed the subject in all its phases in an earnest and eloquent address which was attentively listened to by the large audience. Principal Forrest said that growth was necessary. A plant cannot stand still; so it is with man. They must go forward or fall behind. What proportion of their time did they give to the study of God's Word? They required to study the Word of God more than they did. The Bible was a reasonable book, and it took far more faith to disbelieve than to believe it. At a subsequent session a letter from Rev. R. F. Burns, D.D., the American delegate to the Association Convention of the World at Berlin was read, after which the subject of discussion was taken up, being The Individual Responsibility of Christian Laymen to Work for Christ, with a full appreciation of His claims upon them. Principal Forrest, of Halifax, said, in opening the discussion, that no one could read the history of the past ages without seeing at once what great progress Christianity had made. He referred briefly to the blank of the Dark Ages and accounted in some degree for the cause. The great secret of the progress of Mohammedanism was because after its followers had avowed their belief they became active workers. In such manner should they become active members and soldiers in the great army of God. He did not think there was much distinction between minister and layman. Each one should do his own quota of work. Some people asked, What was the work of a minister? They were to testify for God. All of them had the idea that it was the minister's duty alone to preach. That idea arose in the days of priestly superstition. How often they had seen ministers retire from their vocation and think that their work was done, their preaching was done. To the business men he would say that God had claims upon them, claims upon their possessions. They were all the gift of God. How much had they given the Lord of that which had been intrusted to them? What did they give the Lord in comparison with what they spent on their own enjoyment? He believed that when the majority of God's people wished it the millennium would come. Dr. Macrae, when called upon, said he had come to listen and to learn rather than to speak at the convention. Individual effort is one of the best ways to carry on God's work. He held that all associations are useful, but he felt that those very associations hampered individual effort. He cited the work of the Apostles as an example of individual exertion, and concluded by bidding them God speed in their work.