

parents wake up in the latter part of life to find out the mistake! The parent says, "I have been too lenient," or "I have been too severe in the discipline of my children. If I had the little ones around me again, how different I would do!" You will never have them round you again. The work is done, the bent to the character is given, the eternity is decided. I say this to young parents—those who are twenty-five or thirty or thirty-five years of age. Have the family altar tonight. How do you suppose that father felt as he leaned over the couch of his dying child, and the expiring son said to him: "Father, you have been very good to me. You have given me a fine education, and you have placed me in a fine social position; you have done everything for me in a worldly sense; but, father, you never told me how to die. Now I am dying, and I am lost."—*Talmage*.

THE FIRST GENERAL CONFERENCE OF
THE DOMINION EVANGELICAL
ALLIANCE.

The event to which the attention of the Christian people of Canada has been for some months directed is now a thing of the past, long to be remembered with thankfulness. Taken as a whole, it stands out a conspicuous epoch in the religious history of the Dominion—a stand-point of review in respect of past years, and a starting-point from which, as we trust, in years to come there shall be dated from time to time such evidences of spiritual life and Christian co-operation as shall gladden men's hearts and bring blessings to the community.

A detailed report of the proceedings of the Conference is quite beyond our reach. We shall sufficiently discharge our duty in this regard by recommending our readers to procure for themselves the reports contained in "The Evangelical Alliance Extra" of the MONTREAL WITNESS, which is offered to the public in convenient pamphlet form for the small sum of twenty-five cents, and which, besides containing the full text of nearly all the addresses, is also embellished with

portraits of the leading speakers. With this report before us we shall endeavour to recall and note some of the impressions made upon our mind by the things seen and heard, and which a perusal of the printed pages cannot adequately convey.

We think of some of the attendant disadvantages: that it was a Colonial undertaking: that it was the first meeting of the kind held in any of the Colonies: that it followed so soon after the great, overshadowing meeting held in New York a year ago, and, that therefore it was largely an experiment. Yet, it was a success. We take the papers that were read, one with another, and we regard them in respect of scholarship and thought, fully equal to the average of similar discussions at meetings of the Parent Society. If a larger share of attention than to some might appear necessary, was given to that class of subjects respecting which religion and modern science are supposed to be at variance, recent assumptions of speculative unbelief made this inevitable, and we may rather rejoice that among us are found so many valiant defenders of the good old religion "pure and undefiled." On the other hand, it must be accounted simply an accident that none of the speakers selected as a subject worthy the highest ability, and of universal interest, that of CHRISTIAN MISSIONS.

Those who wish to know the history and aims of the Evangelical Alliance will find both clearly stated in the paper read by Rev. Dr. Burns, and in that which followed by Major General Burrows. The idea of establishing a branch Alliance for the Dominion originated in New York, last October. The arrangements were left in the hands of the members in Montreal, and we have now to do with the results of their arduous and disinterested labours, a very large share of which necessarily devolved upon the recording secretary, the Rev. Gavin Lang, and the acting chairman, Principal Dawson.

We think of these results under three aspects. First, as series of MASS MEET-