

IMPORTANT NEW WORK

REPORT OF THE CENTENARY CONFERENCE

THE PROTESTANT MISSIONS OF THE WORLD

Held at the City Hall, London, England, from the 1st to the 10th of June, 1888.

Edited by Rev. J. A. S. S. Secretary of the Conference.

These volumes will be the most complete and authoritative record of the history of the Protestant Missions of the World.

From D. H. McNeill, D.D., President of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, Delegate to the Conference.

The Conference, composed of Missionaries and representatives from all parts of the world, was probably the most important ever held since the days of the Reformation.

From W. M. Morrison, D.D., President of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, Delegate to the Conference.

I desire to bear official testimony to the high character of the Report of the Centenary Missionary Conference held in London last June.

No one who wishes to keep himself abreast of the times respecting Foreign Missions, can afford to dispense with these volumes.

The work of editing has been well done. The papers, printed and bound in all so good that one would be inclined to find that one could not do better.

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THE PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW.

GENERAL NOTICES

(1) Terms:—In advance \$5.00. The subscription price of the Review is \$5.00 per annum.

(2) The number against the name on the top of the page indicates the number of copies of the Review sent to the subscriber.

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THURSDAY, JAN. 31, 1889.

TESTIMONY TO OUR WORK IN TRINIDAD AND DEMERARA

The lamented death of Rev. John Gibson, Missionary of our Church in Demerara, following close upon the loss of two other valued labourers in the Trinidad and Demerara Mission, has directed of late special attention to that field.

year than it ever was. How thankful I feel when I look round the church and see so many intelligent women and children.

But in addition to this cheering testimony from our own missionaries, as to their encouragements in their labours and the Divine blessing upon them, it gives us much pleasure to lay before our readers the following facts furnished to us in an interview with Hon. Senator Macdonald, of Toronto.

The death of so eminent a Presbyterian as the Rev. Alexander Taggart McGill, D.D., I.L.D., Professor of Homiletics and Pastoral Theology in the Princeton Theological Seminary, must be of interest to all Presbyterians.

In his best days, Dr. McGill was one of the strongest and most influential ministers in the Presbyterian Church of the United States.

The same testimony was borne by merchants and leading persons throughout the Colonies. It is not when the Government of Canada is addressing the Secretary of State, making reference to denominational work, still less frequent is it for them to single out any particular denomination for eulogy.

In addition to the above [statistics of the Government Primary Schools and Aided Private Schools] there were fifteen Coolie and estate schools partly aided by the Government.

Continuing, Mr. Macdonald said:— "It was a matter of regret to me, that I had no opportunity of personally looking into the work carried on by the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

These are facts which ought greatly to increase the interest of those who have had their attention drawn to this class of work and ought to lead them to sustain it with increased efficiency.

"The death of Mr. Gibson was very generally commented on by all classes, and the hope was expressed that the place left vacant by his lamented death would soon be filled."

Our readers we doubt not will heartily agree with Hon. Senator Macdonald that the facts presented by him with regard to our Church's work in Demerara and Trinidad are very encouraging, and should lead them to support it with increased efficiency.

forasmuch it is calculated to arouse the laity to a lively sense of the character and object of the English Church Romanists, and prepare them to take such steps as shall neutralise the danger and progress of the old Tractarian and Puseyite party, now called Ritualists, who have already misguided so many and are still leading on their followers a day's march nearer Rome.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The friends of Temperance have much reason to be gratified with the meeting of the Ontario Branch of the Dominion Alliance, held in this city last week.

That the process of appointment of constables be simplified so that the police magistrate and justices of the peace, out of session, be empowered to appoint the necessary officials, whose term of service will be of sufficient length of time to enforce the law.

That all legitimate influence be exerted to place temperance men in the several municipal, provincial, and Dominion offices through which the enforcement of any liquor laws may be made to pass.

That this Convention instruct the Executive Committee of this Alliance to memorialize the Dominion and Provincial Governments to have placed upon the statute books of this country the necessary legislation to give the women with the necessary qualifications equal privileges at all elections.

It is pleasing to notice that the Alliance is now out of debt and that it feels itself warranted in appointing a salaried agent to devote his whole time to the work of extending, organizing, and otherwise promoting the objects of the Alliance.

The visit of Canon Knox-Little to this city has made apparent the long suspected fact that there are some— we hope not many—amongst the Anglican clergy and laity in Toronto who believe in auricular confession, baptismal regeneration, the real presence and other dogmas of popery.

Churchmen owe Canon Knox-Little a debt of gratitude for his mission here, forasmuch it is calculated to arouse the laity to a lively sense of the character and object of the English Church Romanists.

Alexander T. McGill was of Irish parentage, was born in the State of Pennsylvania; began life as a lawyer. In 1831 he entered the ministry when he was thirty years of age.

There was abundant encouragement to go forward. Among the recommendations adopted, were the following:— That the process of appointment of constables be simplified.

That the Dominion Alliance urge upon the Dominion Government to amend the Scott Act, so as to protect private individuals in bringing prosecutions against offenders.

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The Italian Priest, to whom had been referred the distribution of the \$100,000 to be collected from Canadian taxpayers—Roman Catholic, Protestant, Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, Anglican, Agnostic—as compensation for the confiscated Jesuits' estates, as it is euphemistically but most insolently called, has not waited long to make up his mind as to the disposal of the plunder.

We understand that Mr. J. T. Morton, of London, England, to whose interest in Missions our Church in common with other Presbyterian bodies is indebted for many acts of kindness and much financial support, has signified to the Foreign Mission Committee of our Church that he has forwarded for distribution to all our foreign missionaries copies of Spurgeon's "Interpreter," "Our Rest Day," and "The Blacksmith's Essay."

REV. PETER WRIGHT, B.D., of Stratford, Ont., Convener of the General Assembly's Committee on Temperance, desires, through the Review, to call the attention of Sessions to the fact that the Questions on Temperance are to be found in the Acts and Proceedings of last General Assembly, at the close of the Report on Temperance.

We would invite attention to Rev. Dr. Armstrong's series of papers on Sabbath Observance, the first of which appears on our first page to day. As Secretary of the Dominion Alliance, Dr. Armstrong has given much attention to the matter, and his presentation of the case cannot but prove helpful to all who are considering the best means of preserving the Sabbath day from violation.

At a meeting of the Presbytery of Edinburgh on Tuesday Jan. 8th, the "Spurgeon of the North," Rev. John McNeill, pastor of McCrie-Roxburgh church, accepted the call to Regent-Square church, London. It is our intention to give a portrait and biographical sketch of Mr. McNeill at an early day.

A PAPER from the pen of Rev. Dr. Smellie, of Fergus, on "Holiness" will appear in our next issue.

Literary Notices

THE Magazine of Art, for February, is especially noteworthy, presenting, as it does, a number of portraits of Mr. Gladstone, the frontispiece being a photograph reproduction of Millais' portrait of the renowned statesman and scholar.

"CHRISTIAN Work Among the Cree Indians" is the title of the opening article in THE QUARTER for February, and this is followed by "A Sermon on Salt," by the Rev. Michael Eastwood.

in Council." There is an illustrated paper on "Some Little-known Biblical Treasures," and a bundle of "Short Arrows" of more than usual interest.

Contributed.

SPIRITUAL RESULTS IN THE PRIMARY CLASS.

A MAN purchased a plot of ground for a garden. He was obliged to take not what he might have chosen, but what he could get.

And what of those who worked among the rocks? Great patience and endurance were required for the difficult task given them. Ever and anon the portions of rock which they were able to detach had to be carried off to make room for succeeding blasts.

Long weeks before the rocks were removed, the fertile spots in the garden were yielding their harvests, and even the tracts that had been covered by the thorn brush had begun to give back a slender yield of first fruits.

Which things are an allegory. Christ is the purchaser, yes, with red coin of His own blood. The gardener is the Church into whose care He gives what he has purchased.

Charles Dudley Warner, in his capital book, "My Summer in a Garden," says, "I believe that I have found, if not original sin, at least vegetable total depravity in my garden.

There are those, good Christian men and women in the Church, who drive us back with a warning hand, saying, "They're too young." They would let the devil-grow grow until such a network is formed beneath the surface that nothing short of a great upheaval can rid the soul of it.

Shall we take for our watch-word this sentence—A child that is old enough to become a criminal is old enough to become a Christian? How early can a child become a criminal? The law tells us that at eight years of age, a child may be convicted of murder in the first degree.

The editor looked only on the surface. If he will but look below it, he will find that boys thus engaged in crime are thought "too young" to have the devil-grow disturbed.

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