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Toronto, Sept. 2, 1897.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The meeting of the British Association is the event of the day in Canada. All fears as to the success of the meeting were set to rest at an early stage of the proceedings when it was found that the membership rose to a very gratifying figure and that the programmes contained many papers of great value as contributions to scientific knowledge. Toronto has shown herself, as usual, a model hostess, and the visitors have been received with splendid hospitality. The excursions were taken advantage of to see Niagara Falls and the Northern country and with all they saw the distinguished Britishers were greatly delighted.

The opening of the Muskoka Sanitarium on Saturday was the occasion of a very pleasant outing.

From Toronto a special train conveyed quite a number of Philanthropists interested in the worthy object to be accomplished by the Sanitarium, and the trip was thoroughly enjoyed. That object will appeal to all who take an interest in pulmonary diseases, for science proves the good results which may be expected from the use of such an institution as has been established near Gravenhurst. The object of the promoters is to “establish a Public Institution or Institutions for the isolation, treatment and cure of persons affected with pulmonary diseases.” As the public are expected to bestow considerable patronage on the institution the guarantee of confidence will be found in the following names of Officers and Trustees: Sir Donald Smith G.C.M.G., President; Sir Wm. Ralph Meredith, Kt.,

vice-President; Mr. W. J. Gage, Treasurer; Dr. N. A. Powell, Secretary; Messrs. W. E. H. Massey, James Ross, Dr. James Stewart, Hon. Geo. A. Cox, Hon. G. W. Ross, L.L.D., Messrs. Edward Gurney, Hugh Blain, D. E. Thomson, J. McNeil, and Hon. W. E. Sandford, Trustees.

The degrees conferred by Toronto and Trinity Universities, on Lord's Kelvin and Lister and on Sir John Evans the President of the British Association reflected honor on the conferring bodies from which these distinguished gentlemen consented to accept the same. No names are higher on the roll of scholarship and intellectual greatness than those of Kelvin and Lester and the academic connection here may give an impetus to Canadian students to emulate their devotion to scientific research if not to attain equal greatness.

In a blue book just issued the Government of Canada makes grateful acknowledgement to the subscribers to the “Canadian Indian Famine Fund.” The amount subscribed was 570,000 rupees, 100,000 rupees being valued at about \$31,000. It is stated that amounts subscribed through other than the Government channels will bring Canada's contribution up to about \$200,000, a fact most gratifying as showing the interest taken by Canada in the suffering of the Indian subjects of the British crown. His Excellency Lord Aberdeen is to be warmly congratulated on the enthusiasm which he was the chief means of inspiring in the movement and on the liberal response that enthusiasm so quickly evoked.

The Manitoba College Calendar for the current year shows that the Western Theological hall is prepared for a session of vigorous work and that the student life is not to be dwarfed for want of mental food and stimulus. The college occupies a unique coign of vantage and deserves the goodwill and liberal consideration of all friends of church extension in the Western field.

Statistics on social problems do not, as a rule furnish pleasant reading, but the social canker, is a fact that must be dealt with like every other evil. Large cities are naturally the sphere of the evil and of the remedial efforts. In New York there is a body named The Federation of Churches and Christian Workers which aims at the amelioration of the hard lot of unfortunate human beings. The Workers have been operating in a certain district in which they have found a sorry condition of affairs. In one section there are 400 rooms having no access to outer air. The 19,717 persons canvassed live in 16,362 rooms. Of the 3,988 fathers of the district, 279 are out of work. One thousand, one hundred and fifty-two sons are wage earners and 1,486 daughters. The heads of families earn, on the