

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1889

CHURCH UNION IN SCOTLAND.

THE subject of Church Union is one which is outside the sphere of politicians. Governments may endow Churches or disendow them, establish or disestablish, but they can never unite them. At the same time the action of politicians may be a means of directing public attention towards the expediency of dealing with this question apart from the exigencies of parties.

It is far different in Scotland. Union, if ever reached there, cannot be cheaply purchased. The cost will be great. There are problems both of law and equity to be dealt with in considering the question. These problems are weighty and complicated, and cannot be set aside.

Equally friendly and self-restrained though more judicial, is an article in response by Prof Calderwood, in the United Presbyterian Magazine. He agrees fully in the urgency of the call for deliberating on the whole subject, and for publicly discussing the question, with the most earnest desire for the future good of Scotland.

The difficulties to be faced are clearly set forth, and the merits of the grounds of severance are ably discussed. The learned professor shows, however, that it is not without good hope of the final issue. Fourteen years experience of the happy effects of union among ourselves, enables us to join very heartily in the good wish of the editor that, as a consequence of a deliberate proposal for Disestablishment associated with a proposal for union of all Presbyterian bodies in Scotland, emanating from the Established Church itself, "the Presbyterians of the two sister Churches will at once become concerned directly in a future united organization, and will have their attention concentrated on a new religious movement, having promise of good for the country which none can adequately forecast.

While it is most encouraging to observe the intelligent Christian spirit manifested towards this movement by the editors of two leading periodicals representing different branches of Scottish Presbyterians, the following incident will serve to show how much remains still to be done, in some quarters at least, in the way of cultivating self-restraint and mutual toleration.

REV. PRINCIPAL KING ON EQUAL RIGHTS.

THE Manitoba Press having taken occasion to speak in contemptuous terms of those in this Province who sought to secure the disallowance of the Jesuits' Estates Bill, Rev. Principal King writes to that journal in the following terms:

But Catholic, have complained of the invasion of their prerogative by the Church of Rome. I have not written these lines to originate a discussion for which I have neither taste nor time, but simply to prevent misapprehension.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

HON. SENATOR MACDONALD, of Toronto, who has been giving in The Globe his impressions respecting his recent trip to Alaska, concludes a very interesting series of letters by an appeal in behalf of the Indian women of the Alaskan Coast.

But I must not forget the primary cause which led to the publication of these letters. I started on my journey impelled by a strong desire with my own eyes to look upon geyser and canyon, mountain and waterfall, fjord and glacier, but there came upon me an overwhelming sense of the need of every Christian man and woman who may chance to read these lines doing something, and doing it now, to help those of their fellow-creatures along the Alaskan Coast to emerge from a condition vastly worse than death, and who, without such help, must soon be blotted out from the race of men.

By adopting this resolution the Convention puts again on record its opinion that with candidates for seats in our legislative halls temperance principles are stronger than party ties. Recent events give no warrant for such conclusions.

We hope that there will be a hearty response to Senator Macdonald's pathetic appeal. He has just reason to expect much from the Christian people of Canada when fully seized of the facts of the case.

FROM the report given in other columns it will be seen that the Jubilee of Queen's University was celebrated last week with *éclat* worthy of the great occasion. The programme of proceedings was on the whole admirably conceived and most enthusiastically and successfully carried into effect.

ACCORDING to the Ottawa Evening Journal, some dissatisfaction exists among those interested in Coligny College regarding his Excellency's movements. A fortnight ago the Governor-General was invited to grace the first closing exercises of Coligny College, the representative ladies' educational establishment of the Presbyterian body and Protestants of Ottawa.

returned to the city by the 5 o'clock morning train, and in the evening attended the pianoforte recital of Miss B. O'Reilly at the College of Music.

WILLIAM MACDONALD, charged with the murder of Mrs Macrae, of St. John, by sending poisoned candy through the post, of which the deceased lady partook, was, on the 21st inst., found not guilty, on the ground of insanity. The jury found that Macdonald was insane at the time of the commission by him of the crime charged in the indictment.

THE only thing of much practical importance done at the meeting of the Ontario Branch of the Dominion Alliance in this city last week, was the defeat of a motion looking to the endorsement of the new Third Party as the only hope in present circumstances of obtaining Prohibition.

THE inauguration last week of the new biological laboratory of Toronto University marks another important step in the development of the Provincial University on the scientific side.

THE Methodist Church of Canada mourns the loss of her General Superintendent, Rev. John A. Williams, D.D., who, after a somewhat protracted illness, passed away on the 16th inst. Dr. Williams was widely known and highly respected even beyond the pale of his own denomination.

WOULD not a year's subscription to THE PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW be a good New Year's gift to a friend?

Literary Notices.

MEN OF THE BIBLE: DANIEL, HIS LIFE AND TIMES. Rev. H. Deane, B.D. D. T. McAlinsh, Presbyterian News Co., Toronto. The origin of Mr. Deane's "Daniel, his Life and Times" gives it a character of its own. It is founded on notes made by the author while lecturing on behalf of Dr. Pusey, the late Regius Professor of Hebrew in the University of Oxford.

Church News.

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY. JUBILEE CELEBRATION.

IMPOSING CEREMONIES—THANKSGIVING SERVICES.—UNVEILING OF MEMORIAL TABLETS.—CONGRATULATORY ADDRESSES.—THE BANQUET.—SPEECHES, ETC. WEDNESDAY, 18th, inst., was a red-letter day in the history of Queen's University. On that day fifty years ago at a public meeting held in Kingston, the success of the institution had been assured by the liberal and enthusiastic manner in which the citizens had subscribed to the first endowment fund.

NEW PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

AMONG THE CANNIBALS OF NEW GUINEA. Being the story of the New Guinea Mission of the London Missionary Society. By Rev. J. McFarlane, LL.D. Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board; pp. 320. Price, \$1.15. THE WESTMINSTER QUESTION BOOK FOR 1890. A Manual for S. S. Teachers and Older Scholars; pp. 192. Price, 15 cents. RAO FAIR AND MAY FAIR. The Story of Me and Benje. By Julia McNair Wright, author of "Graham's Little Boy" and "The Whole." Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board; pp. 302. Price, \$1.15. RUTH IRVING, M.D. By Alice A. Barber. Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board; pp. 336. Price, \$1.15. DANGEROUS CHARACTERS. By Ella Rodman Church, author of "Birds and The Ways," "Flower Talks at Elmridge," "Home Animals," etc. Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board; pp. 384. 16mo. Illustrated. Price, \$1.25. BEGINNING LIFE. A series of Sermons to the Young. By Rev. Charles Wood, D.D. Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board; pp. 158. Price, 75 cents. [The above, published by the Presbyterian Board, especially well suited for Sabbath school libraries.—Ed. Review.] CLASSIFIED GEMS OF THOUGHT FROM THE GREAT PREACHERS OF ALL AGES in convenient form for use as a Dictionary of Ready Reference on Religious Subjects. By the Rev. F. B. Proctor, M.A., with a Preface by the Rev. Henry Wace, D.D. New York: A. C. Armstrong & Son; pp. 816. Price, \$5.50. NEW LIGHT FROM OLD ECLIPSES; or, Chronology Corrected and the Four Gospels Harmonized by the Rectification of Errors in the Received Astronomical Tables. By William M. Page, with an Introduction by Rev. Jas. H. Brooks, D.D. St. Louis: C. F. Barnes Publishing Co.; pp. 590. Price, \$4.50. NEVER AND FOREVER; or, "The Catherine-Wheel" Boy. By Grace Stebbing. New York: Robert Carter & Bros.; pp. 128. Price, 50 cents. LIFE'S STAGES; THEIR DUTIES AND OPPORTUNITIES. By James Stark. Edinburgh and London: Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier; pp. 192. Price \$1.00. THE UNITED STATES: ITS HISTORY AND CONSTITUTION. By Alexander Johnston, late Professor of Jurisprudence and Political Economy in Princeton College. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons; pp. 276. Price, \$1.00. LITTLE RADIANCE: A YEAR IN A CHILD'S LIFE. By Jennie Chappell. New York: Robt. Carter & Bros.; pp. 126. Price, 60c. MAGAZINES, PAMPHLETS, ETC. SHUT IN. Words for the Lord's Prisoners. By J. R. Miller, D.D. Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board; pp. 15. ISAIAH AND THE HIGHER CRITICISMS. By R. M. Patterson, D.D. L.L.D. Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board; pp. 23. SCRIBNER'S MAGAZINE (Jan 1890) Illustrated. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons. Single numbers, 25 cents. CASSILL'S FAMILY MAGAZINE. (Jan. 1890.) Illustrated. New York: Cassell & Co. Single numbers 15 cts.; \$1 50 a year. THE THEOLOGICAL (Dec., Vol. I, No. 1.) Presbyterian College Journal, Halifax To be issued for the present thrice a year. Single numbers, 20 cts.; yearly, 50 cents. Business communications should be addressed to McE. Harvey, Pine Hill College, Halifax.

When the half century o'er man's head has ro'ed Comes his decadence. Full of years, and full Of the years' wisdom, for a little space, On Time's best gifts he keeps a watchful hold Then—loosening fingers—thought and vision dull— And then the common lot—a vacant place. Other the fate the ages hold for her Who fifty years are but as childhood fled— As preparation for a noble strife. Who in her veins feels youth's fresh vigour stir, And stands firm-footed and with lifted head, And hands addressed to all the task of life.