

Selected Articles.

British American Presbyterian.

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No double columns; cuts 25 percent extra; specials in reading matter 15 cents. per line each insertion.

Any irregularity in the receipt of the PRESBYTERIAN will be immediately rectified on notice being sent by Postal Card or otherwise.

A DENOMINATIONAL ORGAN.

An overture on this subject from the London Synod was supported by Dr. Proudfoot, who thought that such a medium as a weekly newspaper would greatly advance many interests of the Church.

On motion of Mr. McMullen, after some discussion, it was resolved that the overture be rejected, AND THAT THE ABOVE-MENTIONED PAPER BE RECOMMENDED TO THE MINISTERS AND MEMBERS OF THE C. P. CHURCH AS WORTHY OF THEIR HEARTY SUPPORT.

British American Presbyterian.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, AUG. 23, 1872.

OUR FRIENDS are reminded that subscriptions to the BRITISH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN are payable in advance. With this issue we commence the second half year; and those who have not yet remitted, are invited to do so without any further delay.

SUBSCRIBERS who paid for six months and wish to continue, should RENEW AT ONCE, in order that their names may not be struck off the list.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

The heat and the elections still monopolize attention in Canada. Everything else is neglected.

The Young Men's Christian Association has met at Belleville. Nothing particular either said or done.

On the other side of the lines the same thing may be said. Those who can get away are holiday-making, and the newspapers are vigorously praising this G. or that for President, according to their political proclivities.

The fact of Dr. Livingstone having been found and relieved by Mr. Stanley, is now put beyond all question. Letters have been received from the great traveller, which set the matter entirely at rest.

The riots in Belfast have awakened very painfully disagreeable feelings among all sober, well-disposed people. If the Roman Catholics choose to trudge through cities and towns in celebration of anything they deem valuable, why not allow them? In general it is a silly way of rejoicing, but if people think differently, why should they not, whether Orange or Catholic, be allowed to tramp about in peace till they be tired, with-

out any one bothering his head about them, either one way or the other. It is a perfect disgrace that the large city of Belfast should every now and then be at the mercy of unprincipled ruffians who call themselves Roman Catholics or Protestants, but who are simply bent on plunder as the chief end of their existence.

THE PRESS.

The importance to Churches of making use of the newspaper press is being more and more recognized and so far acted upon. Not however to anything like the extent it ought to be.

As a channel of communication, as a medium of correspondence, and as a means for the diffusion of religious and denominational intelligence, there is nothing really so effective as the newspaper which is specially devoted to the discussion of religious and social questions, and that with special reference to a particular section of the Church.

There are a good many Presbyterian congregations in which we have not yet a single subscriber and a good many others where the minister is our only supporter. We hope to have a large accession of readers for the commencement of another year, and shall be happy to communicate with any who are willing to canvass single congregations or certain wider districts. Terms may be had on application.

There is great excitement among the manufacturers in England on account of the extraordinary rise of coal, it being from 60 to 100 per cent. dearer than it was a year ago.

Infallibility has not brought quiet to the distracted papacy. By using the decrees of politicians, a packed convention elected an infallibilist as Patriarch of the Armenian-catholics in Turkey.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We should like it to be understood that from all correspondents we require, name and address, not necessarily for publication, but to certify to the facts stated as well as the good faith of the writer.

WE ARE VERY MUCH obliged to the Rev. Mr. Ross, Kirkhill, for his account of "Romanism in Glengarry" but, as he will have noticed, we published an account of the proceedings referred to, on the very day his letter was written, and one not substantially varying from what Mr. Ross has given.

"A CANADA PRESBYTERIAN" is severe upon those who are anxious to raise an enduring monument to the memory of the Rev. Dr. Burns, by endowing a Theological Chair in Knox College.

"PRESBYTERIAN" is very anxious to give credit to whom credit is due in the matter of starting and strengthening a new Presbyterian cause. It would be somewhat invidious to publish his letter, for even the friends in whose service he is so zealous, would not thank him for it.

"AN ELDER" wishes to reopen the discussion about "One who Knows," but we must respectfully decline. If we thought his letter would serve any good purpose, we would give it, but we don't think so.

MR. JOHNSON, THE MISSIONARY STUDENT'S letter are always very welcome. We are only surprised that so few of our missionaries should avail themselves of the Press to tell the members of the Churches their varied experiences and the nature of their work.

"OUR POET-CORNER" is not by any means closed against good original verse. But we like that it should be good for we frankly acknowledge, we prefer even what is but merely passable prose to indifferent poetry.

"A YOUNGSTER" complains of our selected stories being sometimes not up to the mark. That is right, we are always pleased to notice that the PRESBYTERIAN is read even though the result is complaint.

Might we again hint to all our respected friends who favour us with letters, that a short communication has a much better chance of securing insertion than a long one? We shall not object to the publication of even lengthened papers on important points, but as a general thing, it is scarcely possible for a newspaper correspondent to err on the side of brevity.

"MINISTERS LIBRARIES." We are not aware that any Presbyterian Congregation in Canada has as yet started a Theological Library for the exclusive use of the minister, but to continue the property of the congregation.

The best education in the world is that got by struggling to get a living.—Wendell Phillips.

CHURCH BOOK-KEEPING.

We are not in a fault-finding mood, and don't at all wish our remarks to be taken as generally applicable, but is it not too often the case that congregational finances are not managed in the best and most business-like style? It requires no complicated system of book-keeping to exhibit the financial condition of a congregation, and show with sufficient correctness its income and expenditure, either for the week or the year.

Far from resenting this, every right thinking man would take charge of church funds on no other condition. Then there are cases in which the Treasurer is allowed to be the congregation's banker, and to mix up church funds with his own private affairs,—it being thought sufficient and satisfactory that he can pay all demands as they become due and show the financial balance sheet at the end of the year all correct.

All accounts ought also to be submitted to this Board of Management and passed, as the Treasurer is not legally at liberty to pay a single church account without its having been formally examined and sanctioned.

Then there is too often no minute book for the managers meetings and no regular account kept of their proceedings. The meetings are often informal—held about the church door, or on counting the collection, and there are no regularly signed minutes.

When seat rents are taken up, there is frequently the same slipshod neglect of ordinary business rules. All is done in a careless perfunctory fashion, much to the injury of the church, and the annoyance of the minister. There cannot be a doubt but that through this, many a congregation is going back which under better financial management would be prosperous and advancing.

And why should it be left to the Treasurer to pay the Minister when he thinks fit or finds it convenient? We have known cases in which the funds were all raised, and the congregation thought the minister paid, while for weeks, and even months after, it was due, no stipend was forthcoming because the Treasurer had put all Church funds into his private business, and it was not convenient to pay.

know but the congregation may be behind, and though utterly without a coin do not like to dun. Cases have even been known of Treasurer's giving cheques for payment of stipend, and these cheques when presented being dishonoured, with the curt answer "No funds." The whole of this and kindred grievances would be rendered impossible if the laws of the Church were only better understood and acted upon.

Good preaching is specially needed in order to make a prosperous Church, but good rational finance has also its place, and it is not an insignificant one, if the cause is to continue and continue prospering. "Business is business," both in the Church and the world, and if in the management of the secular affairs of congregations there were less left to misunderstandings there would be fewer misunderstandings.

PRESBYTERIANS ALL OVER THE WORLD.

The Rev. J. Moir Porteous, of Wanlockhead, Scotland, has lately published a volume on "The Government of the Kingdom of God," which seems, from notices given in English periodicals, to be a very vigorous and exhaustive discussion of the whole subject.

Table with columns: [England] [Scotland] [Ireland] [Total]. Rows: Synods, Presbyteries, Churches, Ministers, Elders, Deacons, Communications, Sunday School Teachers, Sunday School scholars, junior and senior.

The following statistics of the Presbyterian Churches throughout the world will be interesting to our readers. According to Mr. Porteous there are 146 Synods; 1180 Presbyteries; 20,133 Churches; 18,774 Ministers; 25,528 Elders; 21,002 Deacons; 26,785,996 Members, and 84,351,857 of a Presbyterian population.

The influence of Roman Catholicism in keeping the masses of its people in ignorance is illustrated by the fact that in Naples, the largest Italian city, 400,000 of the inhabitants could neither read or write at the time the power of the Church of Rome was broken.

Rev. Dr. Titus Coan, the venerable Sandwich Island missionary, has organized six new churches from the one of which he has been pastor over thirty years, and which is still under his care. During the last year his church contributed nearly \$1,500 for foreign missions besides the same amount for church work at home.

The Congregationalist says:—Hardly an Episcopal or Presbyterian exchange comes to our table in which there is not some allusion to the question "How shall the ranks of the ministry be increased?" Some of the former urge that those already in the office should be better supported, and that liberal aid should be granted to young men who are willing to prepare for it.

A telegram from Frankfort says:—The Jesuits at Mayence, exceeding those in number of any other German city, have held a special mass, lasting from four a. m. to eight p. m., preparatory to their emigration. Most of the order being Austrians, the institution will be removed to Feldkirch or Brixen. Only a small number of the members will emigrate to other countries.—Another telegram from Vienna says:—According to the semi-official Gaz. Gazette, Count Andrássy has expressed approval of the German Anti-Jesuit Bill, and declared that Austria will in self-defence be compelled to follow the example up to a certain point, or at least demand guarantees that the Jesuits seeking an asylum in Austria will not avail themselves of Southern hospitality to continue their agitation in the north.