

The Canadian Independent.

"ONE IS YOUR MASTER, EVEN CHRIST, AND ALL YE ARE BRETHREN."

9803

Vol. 23.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, Jan. 8, 1879.

New Series. No. 1.

THE CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.

Published by the Congregational Publishing Company

REV. W. MANCHEE, *Managing Editor.*

REV. JOHN WOOD,
R. W. WALLACE, M.A., } *Associate Editors.*
JOSEPH GRIFFITH.

REV. J. B. SILCOX, *Business Manager.*

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

All communications for the Editorial, News of Churches, and Correspondence Columns should be addressed to the Managing Editor, the Rev. W. MANCHEE, Box 204, Guelph, Ont. Any article intended for the next issue must be in his hands not later than Monday morning.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT.

All subscriptions and advertisements should be sent to the Business Manager, Rev. J. B. Silcox, 340 Spadina Avenue, Toronto, Ont. Subscription \$1 per annum, payable in advance. Remit by Money Order, Draft, or Registered Letter. We want an active Agent in each Church. Advertising rates sent on application.

Notes of the Week.

Dr. Howard Crosby's crusade in New York, against the rum-power, has resulted in the closing of 1739 grogeries in one year. The Doctor also says one of the results of his work has been "the vertebraing of officers and judges," who were weak-backed before. This good work is not yet finished.

MORMONISM is just now being more thought about and discussed than for many years. Right thinking people in the United States begin to look upon the state of things in Utah as somewhat disgraceful. It is a good sign that the leaders of the Mormon Church begin to feel uneasy. Probably they see the doom of the iniquity approaching.

A correspondent tells us that the Congregational Churches in the West, which fell to his lot to visit, are all making an advance in their gifts to our missionary treasury. That is good. There is need of planting in all our populous centres, just such simple, spiritual, liberal churches as we believe in; and their planting costs money. Let there be an advance all along the line from Sarnia to Margaree.

By another of those artful eversions of ecclesiastical law, for which Dean Stanley, in his broad charity, is so noted, Principal Tulloch, a Presbyterian, has been preaching in Westminster Abbey. His theme was "A personal Christ the central fact of the Gospel, and the source of Christian enthusiasm." A good theme, and well treated; but the preacher could not occupy the pulpit, and delivered his sermon from the lectern.

The London *Spectator* has been discussing in its columns the subject "Will progress diminish joy?" The positive and negative aspects are both given. One writer maintains that the sorrows of the world are brought to us by the telegraph and press, and that science is directly setting towards despair—that joy is seriously threatened. The other maintains that the sufferings of people far away will not affect our gladness disastrously; and that even now, science is evincing signs of returning to the faith in the supernatural and Divine. It is a big question.

PROF. ROBERTSON SMITH, of Aberdeen, suspended from office on account of his theological views, has gone to Arabia. A correspondent of the New York "Observer" writes of him from Scotland: "He is going to study Arabic for the benefit of the Aberdeen students, whom he still hopes to be permitted to teach. That he will find an outlet for his learning, I do not doubt. The Established Church has been put in great fear by the Liberationists. Its leaders seem

now to believe that the battle is at the gates; and one or two of them have lost their heads in consequence."

THE tendency in the markets on which the great manufacturing industries of Britain depend is still downward. A reduction of wages has taken place in almost every branch of trade. Some large establishments have stopped work entirely; others are working short time; and on the whole the out-look of the British workman is more discouraging than it has been for many years. Tidings of distress also reach us from Switzerland and other manufacturing countries.

LIQUOR DRINKING Scotland has been told a blunt truth by the Lord Provost of Glasgow that the loss of £5,000,000 which has fallen on the shareholders of the City of Glasgow Bank represents but its six months' expenditure for strong drink. He then indicates to his countrymen who are devising means to relieve the calamity that they could wipe it off by reducing their liquor bills one-half for a year. What, if they should make a clean sweep, and with heroic self sacrifice give up the other half!

"ECONOMY is the order of the day in England," writes a London correspondent of the New York "Times." "If you go to the great co-operative stores of London you find that the provision departments are the chief quarters of business. Among the upper middle classes extravagant dinner parties are dropping out of fashion. Men who a few years ago would not have been seen on the railway in anything but a first-class carriage, now ride in a second, men who used to ride second now ride third. We are all economizing."

The *Christian Union* lately had a letter from Edwin Booth, the great tragedian, containing rather disparaging statements of the theatre, as generally conducted. Mr. Booth does not sanction his wife's attendance at any play until he has satisfied himself as to the character of the play and players. The theatre, in his estimation, cannot be healthy and helpful to sound morals, so long as it is controlled by speculators. These gentlemen will place on the stage "immoral gamcracks." Words like these, from such a source, are worth considering. Did not Macready leave the stage because of its general immoral tendency?

A STRIKING illustration of the value of littles is in the following facts. The United States Government issued a fractional currency—"stamps," from five cents to fifty. The little bits of paper have been so carelessly handled that about \$15,000,000 worth have been destroyed! A five lost here, a ten there—and the aggregate of many millions is reached. The loss is so much gain to the treasury. The Halifax "Witness" wishes the lesson of the "power of littles" implied in this fact would be borne in mind. "We are individually far too careless about fractions of money, of time, of property. Our Church finance requires to be re-organized on the basis of caring for and gathering carefully the minutest gift of the poor as well as the large offerings of the rich."

THE commercial crisis abroad is much more serious than it is in this country. Here over-production is charged as one of the causes of hard times, which have been aggravated by unemployed labor. In Europe political economists are tracing hard times to the immense standing armies, which are sustained mainly through the military influence of Germany. It is estimated that the European nations have now 7,500,000 men under arms. These men are non-pro-

ducers and are taken from their legitimate spheres of daily toil. These men cost on an average \$200 per annum, or about four million dollars each day, or a total of fifteen hundred millions of dollars per annum, expended for the services of men who do not add one penny to the productions of the country. The United States maintains no such army and the people do not have taxes to pay to support it, for which they should be truly thankful.

What a sight this is! Johnson, 75. Glen, in the Court of Chancery. The English church at Oshawa was vacant. The appointment of the incumbent lay in the hands of the Bishop, after consultation with the churchwardens and lay representatives of the parish. The Oshawa vestry submitted the name of a Rev. Mr. Fortin, of Sorel. The Bishop appointed the Rev. C. C. Johnson. The Oshawa officials locked the doors against the Bishop's nominee, and now he sues for the keys of the closed doors. Some interesting developments will be made by the trial. Both parties are determined—the Oshawa churchmen, not to have Mr. Johnson; the Bishop, that they shall have no other than Johnson. The Bishop, speaking with some dignity, maintains that the people have no right to suggest a name to him, but he has the right to suggest a name to them. The fuss must end some way, but how, whether on the side of popular rights, or episcopal domination, no one can tell. Meanwhile, we are spectators.

SAYS Mr. Moody. "If I see a Sabbath school teacher five minutes late, he falls fifty per cent. in my estimation at once. If he doesn't shake hands with his scholars, I take off the other fifty. He isn't worth anything at all. There's a good deal of gospel in shaking hands. Get acquainted with the children. Ask little Mary how they are at home. Getting to Sabbath school or church late is simply a habit. Appoint the hour at ten o'clock, and some will go five minutes late. Appoint it at half-past ten o'clock, and at twenty-five minutes before eleven these same persons will reach their places. Their besetting sin is to fall that much behind, and nothing but grace will expel and cure it." The most important part of Mr. Moody's remark is the fact that it suggests so much vigor and enterprise. He says in effect "If you are not earnest, cordial, prompt, you are not doing your duty. Be filled with the Spirit." And it is good counsel for Sabbath school teachers and other Christians.

THE week of prayer for 1879 will commence on Sabbath, January 5th, and will be observed by most Protestant denominations throughout the country. The following is the schedule of the subjects agreed upon by the Evangelical Alliance, which have the arrangements in charge: For Sabbath, January 5th, as a subject for the pulpit—"Christian Union." Monday, January 6th—Thanksgiving for the blessings of the year past, and prayer for their continuance. Tuesday, January 7th—Prayer for the Church of Christ: its ministers, its growth in grace, and its enlargement. Wednesday, January 8th—Christian education: the family, the young, colleges, seminaries of learning, Sabbath and other schools: Christian Associations of Young Men and Young Women. Thursday, January 9th—For nations: rulers, and people; for peace and religious liberty in the earth. Friday, January 10th—The press: for a blessing on publishers, editors and authors; the cause of temperance and other social reforms. Saturday, January 11th—Home and Foreign Missions and the conversion of the world. On Sabbath evening, January 12th—Public union meetings will be held for prayer and praise.