

NOTES BY A PROBATIONER.

THOUSAND ISLAND PARK (Concluded.) MONSTER SABBATH SCHOOL.

To organize the visitors to the Wesleyan Island into an immense Sabbath School was a new feature in the S. S. Parliament. It proved a most profitable one. To make it a model school was the intention of the originators. In some particulars it might be called model; in others any school would be injured if modelled after it. The officers, including the pastors were all in their places; scholars in abundance were present; singing was most inspiring; all classes had the same lesson: the Lord's prayer was repeated by the school and the lesson was read responsively. These were good features. As a set off against them may be mentioned the necessarily imperfect classification; the confusion; the want of class rooms and the large number of curious onlookers. With a Presbyterian Pastor, a Primitive Methodist Superintendent, a Wesleyan Methodist Assistant, and a Baptist Secretary, the school was certainly Catholic enough in its character. However, all worked harmoniously together. I have not yet heard that any attempt was made to proselyte. 32 officers and teachers, and 1029 scholars, composed the largest school that I had ever seen anywhere—except in print. It was a great treat for the writer, to be a scholar again with a layman as a teacher. Sometimes it would be a great good to the Church if ministers could be taught. Before the lesson was through my teacher thought he had found a Jonah—fleeing from duty. Explanation was made and I was acquitted by a Lay Court. He admitted a prophet might occasionally be on far enough and sin not. The restoring to life of the widow of Nain's son was the lesson. The pastor's address was chaste and practical. After a collection for the Spanish and Italian work, in which Miss Winslow was engaged, the monster Sabbath School closed.

BUSINESS AND RELIGION. No people can "run" these together as well as the Americans. Sometimes it is difficult to decide whether they are religious for the sake of their business, or they are in business for the good of religion. Some real philanthropist for the "good of the cause" had supplied the platform with a bouquet of immense proportions and of exquisite tints. However, by placing in front of it a large character, "From 'Nursery' (name of the address in full) had taken care to acquaint all the visitors to the Parliament where beautiful flowers might be obtained—perhaps not on such easy terms as these. Again just as the school was closed it was announced that "Mrs. Lechworth would give a reading, and that she was open to engagements (to read) during the coming winter." With little feeling but with much exhibition of her art, she read a pretty and suggestive piece, "The Starless Crown." A "trained actress" all veyed her. The sudden transition from a purely religious training to a professional entertainment was too much for most of us. It was like being jerked, in mid-winter, out of bed into a snow storm. It was evident to the uninitiated, that this was a real "Yankee Institution." Such a combination of religion and business is native to the American mind. Outside of that never expect it or there will be disappointment.

REV. I. E. JACQUES, D. D., The President of Albert University, Belleville, who was one of the representatives of the M. E. Church (Canada), at the late General Conference, gave an address on Christian Unity. It was overloaded with illustrations. The illustrations were pleasing, but exactly what some of them illustrated it was difficult to divine. However, they took well with part of the audience. He said the Sunday School work is all blessing and blessing all. It blesses scholars, teachers, church, country and the world. The best was the entire absence of sectarianism. However, it is not wicked to believe that our church is a little the best for us. It is absurd to believe that within the narrow precincts of our church all excellencies are combined. Persons might search for gold, and when they have found it, claim that all the gold was to be found there. How foolish to build a high wall and shut out all the sunshine and then pity all that were outside because they were in darkness. Sectarianism is not to be cured by throwing down all denominational distinctions. Different denominations are more the result of human weakness than wickedness. They are the result not of inconsistencies in the Bible, but of the inconsistencies of the human mind. No one puts exactly the same meaning to two words. We shall not all see precisely alike in heaven. Else we should all be duplicates of one another, and we should have no company. Everybody would assent to me in everything. Men are predisposed to different things. They are predisposed to believe certain things—to do certain things. Christianity has fit into a great variety of minds. How far can we fraternize with all denominations? Wherever I find a man trusting in the Lord with all his heart I can say, "Give me thy hand." We never know a Christian until we get to the heart. In a time of religious excitement all the sects unite to point the people to the Saviour. The different sects were compared to the different ranks of an army. But each fight for his country. Again the different sects were compared to vessels. There was the Methodist steamer, which some said made a little too much noise. There was the Baptist tug-boat that some said drew a little too much water. There was the Episcopal yacht that some said was a little too gay. There was the Presbyterian brig that some said was a little too slow. There was the Congregational skiff, that some said was too loose in its framework. They were all moving in the same circle. Most of us point to the same centre, which is Christ. All are workers in the same harvest field. The river of death

will bear away our Discipline, Hymn-books. Next the different sects were compared to planets, &c. The atmosphere of the Methodist mercury was pleasant but warm. Some said a little too hot. The Baptist Mars had both light and heat. Some said the atmosphere was a little too moist. The Congregational Jupiter was said to have more light than heat. The Presbyterian Saturn is a good place to live on. Some said it was a little too cool. If we could only hear the music of these different spheres we should bear them singing—

In reason's ear they all rejoice And utter forth a glorious voice, For ever singing as they shine, The hand that made us is divine.

In the evening Dr. Hurst preached from Heb. iv. 1. The two thoughts he illustrated were God's rest and the promise of rest to the people of God. In speaking of the rest promised to the people of God, he said it was far beyond the letter of the promise. It is the true measure of the Gospel—pressed down, heaped up and running over. It cannot be pressed into words. It is so sweet, so full, so rich that all that we can do is to receive it for ever. It will be a rest after long divided and long diverted paths. G. S.

A THEOLOGICAL DISCOVERY.

THE ORIGINAL FRENCH CATECHISM OF CALVIN FOUND IN PARIS AFTER THREE CENTURIES.

John Calvin's Latin version of his original catechism was first published at Basle, in March, 1538. Copies of it are extremely rare. It was reprinted some ten years ago in the complete edition of Calvin's works, edited by M. M. Baum, Gurtz and Reuss. Not long ago M. H. Bordier, a writer upon French ecclesiastical affairs, while making researches in the Bibliothéque Nationale of Paris, had occasion to consult a volume numbered as 940, in the well-known Dupuy collection. In this volume he found a tract entitled "Instruction et Confession de foy dont on use en l'Eglise de Geneve." It was a small, thin tract, printed in Gothic characters, without the author's name or the date of publication, and with it was bound up and pagged a manuscript copy of "La Discipline Ecclesiastique des Eglises Reformees de France." The tract thus discovered was submitted to M. Theophile Dufour, who examined it in company with M. Albert Rillix, and after comparing it with the text of Calvin's Latin Catechism came to the conclusion that it was the original French edition of Calvin's Catechism which Calvin was known to have published soon after he reached Geneva in 1536, but of which no copy has been known to exist for many years past, and which has been thought irretrievably lost. The discovery is one of great and real interest, alike to men of letters and to theologians.

The field army of the Ameer of Afghanistan is believed to number 50,000 infantry, 12,000 cavalry, and 200 guns, including a battery of Armstrong guns. A Lulla correspondent states a valuable contingent of 5,000 men has been obtained from the native princes.

The Rev. Dr. Wiseman, President of the English Wesleyan Conference, in a recent speech, said that the English speaking population of the globe was divided into the following religious beliefs, as follows:—Methodists, 15,000,000; Episcopalians, 12,500,000; Presbyterians, 11,000,000; Baptists, 10,000,000; Congregationalists, 7,000,000; Minor Denominations, 1,250,000; Roman Catholics, 10,000,000.

DIPHTHERIA has for a long time been very prevalent, and very fatal. Its fatality seems to be greatly owing to neglecting what is supposed to be an ordinary cold or sore throat until its has progressed to its stages, and then when medical aid is procured it has too often found to be too late. From the fatality attending this disease every family should keep a remedy on hand and use it on first appearance of sore throat. A preparation called DIPHTHERINE has been placed before the public. It is the discovery of an English physician, and has been regarded where it has been used, to be an infallible remedy for that disease. It is placed within the reach of all; put up in bottles with full directions, and sold by Druggists and dealers in medicines at the low price of 25 cents a bottle.

POSITIVE RESULTS.—There are numerous remedies that cure sometimes and become trusted and useful, but none have ever proved so effectual—cured so many and such remarkable cases—as Dr. Ayer's medicines. The Cherry Pectoral has restored great numbers of patients who were believed to be hopelessly affected with consumption. Ayer's Compound breaks up chills and fever quickly and surely. Ayer's Compound of Sarsaparilla eradicates scrofula and impurities of the blood, cleanses the system and restores it to vigorous health. By its timely use many troublesome disorders that cause a decline of health are expelled or cured. Ayer's Pills and their effects are too well known everywhere to require any commendation from us.—Toronto (Pa) Times.

By the use of Fellows' Syrup of Hypophosphites the nerves become reinforced in strength, the stomach is made capable of digesting the food, the food changes to blood, the heart becomes strengthened to pump the blood, the lungs distribute and purify the blood, healthy blood displaces the unhealthy muscle and tuberculous matter, the patient becomes vigorous, and then by using his constitution as intended by a beneficent Creator, he may live up to a ripe old age, when like the corn ready for harvest he drops from the husk.

MACDONALD & CO IMPORTERS OF CAST AND MALLEABLE IRON PIPE, With Fittings of every description. BRASS AND COPPER TUBES, SHEETS, ETC. STEAM AND VACUUM GAUGES, HAND AND POWER PUMPS. Rubber Hose and Steam Packing. MANUFACTURERS OF ALL KINDS ENGINEER BRASS FITTINGS. Also—The heavier description of BRASS AND COPPER WORK FOR STEAMSHIPS, RAILWAYS, TANNERIES, ETC. Nos. 166 to 172 Barrington Street, - - - - Halifax, Dec. 22.

Victoria Steam Confectionery Work WATERLOO STREET, We call the attention of WHOLESALE DEALERS and others to our STOCK OF PURE CONFECTIONS Some of which will be found entirely new to the trade. We invite their inspection and solicit a share of their patronage. WHOLESALE ONLY, J. R. WOODBURN & CO., Victoria Steam Confectionery Works, Waterloo St., St. John N.B., (dec. 15) H. P. KERR

FOR SINGING CLASSES.

Onward! (75 cents, \$7.50 per dozen) by L. O. Emerson, and is the author of last and perhaps best compilation for Singing Schools. Fine instructions, abundant exercises, many Glee, and Songs, and a good quality of Sacred Music.

Johnson's Method for Singing Classes (90 cents, or \$9 per dozen) for Singing Schools, (the higher classes) and for the younger classes of High Schools.

The Laurel Wreath (\$1.00 or \$1 per dozen) by W. O. Perkins, is a grand book for Singing Classes in High Schools and Seminars. Part I, Elementary. Part II, Voice Cultivation. Part III, Music in 2, 3 and 4 parts. Part IV, Sacred Music.

Grammar School Choir (60 cents, or \$6 per dozen) by W. S. Hudson, is an exceedingly well constructed book for the Singing Classes in Grammar Schools, (the higher classes) and for the younger classes of High Schools.

The Whippoorwill (50 cents, or \$5 per dozen) by W. O. Perkins, is a genial and very bright collection of School Songs. Any book mailed post free, for retail price.

OLIVER DITSON & CO., Boston, C. H. DITSON & CO., J. E. DITSON & CO., 848 Broadway, Successors to Lee & Walker, New York, Phila. Sept 28

Blank Forms of every description, and Bill Heads printed at this Office.

MACDONALD & JOHNSON, BARRISTERS, Attorneys-at-Law, Notaries Public, &c. 152 Hollis St., Halifax, N. S. CHARLES J. MACDONALD JAMES W. JOHNSON

CONCERNING NEWFOUNDLAND If any of our readers visit St. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, and need to buy Watches, Clocks, or Fancy Goods, Advise them to patronize EARLE, Jeweller, 216 Water Street. Oct. 19, 78, 17r

Agents Wanted for Dr. March's Works NIGHT SCENES in the Bible, and our Father's House. No Books ever published have received such universal approval from the Press, Ministers and leading men everywhere. The choice readings, fine steel engravings, and superb bindings, make them welcome in every home. On SAMPLES ALL-SEND for terms. Being a part of business at once. J. C. McCURDY & Co., Philadelphia, Pa. Feb 16

JUST PUBLISHED. BAPTISMA: A new book on Baptism. EXEGETICAL AND CONTROVERSIAL By Rev. J. LATHERN. Price 75 Cents FOR SALE AT METHODIST BOOK ROOM, 125 Granville St., Halifax, N.S.

SAVE THE NATION! For it is sadly too true that thousands of CHILDREN are STARVED TO DEATH every year by improper or insufficient FOOD. RIDGE'S FOOD FOR INFANTS AND INVALIDS REMEMBER It is all a great deal more than we have claimed for it. It is a HEALTHY NUTRITIOUS and easily assimilated FOOD, grateful to the most delicate and irritable stomach, and especially adapted for the INFANT and GROWING CHILD. Invalids, Nursing Mothers, and those suffering from INDIGESTION will find that on trial. RIDGE'S FOOD FOR INFANTS AND INVALIDS is all they can desire. It is carefully put up in four sizes. Constant users will find our No. 4 size (always the most economical size to buy) now much larger than formerly, thus materially lessening the expense. WOOLRICH, Dispensing and Family Chemist, Upper Water Street. Depot for Ridges Food, Pick Me up Bitters, &c., with a well assorted Stock of Pure Drugs.

ECONOMICAL LIBRARY.

Bound in Extra Cloth in uniform style and put up in neat wooden case (imitation walnut.) The volumes numbered and ready for use. PRICE \$29.00 Nett. Average number of pages per volume 300. Eorty Catalogues Free.

Gypsy Breynton Gypsy's Cousins Joy Gypsy's Sowing and Reaping Gypsy's Year at the Golden Crescent Geoffrey, the Loidard, by Frances Eastwood Hubert, by Jacob Abbott June and George, by Jacob Abbott June on a Journey, by Jacob Abbott Kempton's (The) by H. K. Purwin King's Servants (The) by Heba Stretton Lillingstones of Lillingstone, by Emma Jane Wood Little Boats, by Jennie Harrison Lucy's Life Story, by the author of Lonely Lilly, Lonely Lilly, by the author of Twice Found, etc. Little Man; or a Living Remembrance, by the author of Lonely Lilly Layman's Story (A); or, the experience of John Laicus and his Wife, in a Country Parish by Lyman Abbott Minnie Carleton, by Mary Belle Bartlett. Mary Osborne, by Jacob Abbott Margaret by C. W. Fraser Tyler, author of Jasmere Leigh. Nelly's Dark Days, by Heba Stretton On Both Sides of the Sea; a Story of the Commonwealth and the Restoration, by the author of the Schenbergs-Cotta Family. Old Back Room (The) by Jennie Harrison Polly and Winnie. A Story of the Good Samaritan, by the author of Lonely Lilly, etc. Rassel Family (The) by Anna Hastings Syrian Home Life, by the Rev. H. H. Jessup, D.D. Stirling (The) by Norman McLeod. Tom Burton, or the Better Way To and Trust, or the Life Story of Patty, by Mrs. E. L. Balfour Twice Found, by the author of Lonely Lilly Victory of the Vanquished. A Story of the First Century, by the author of the Schenbergs-Cotta Family. Wonderful Life. A Life of Christ, by Heba Stretton Wandering May, by the author of Lonely Lilly &c. Alice and Her Friends; or, the Crosses of Childhood. Agnes Warrington's Mistake; by Lucy Ellen Guinness. Bible Lore, by Rev. J. Comper Gray. Brought Home, by Heba Stretton. Crooked Places; a story of Struggles and Triumphs by Edward Garrett. Cumberstone Contest, by the author of Battles Worth Fighting Cousin Bessie; a story of Youthful Earnestness, by Mrs. E. L. Balfour. Character Sketches, by Norman Macleod. Crew of the Dolphin, by Heba Stretton. Children of the East, by H. H. Jessup, D.D., Missionary in Syria. Claire's Little Charge, by the author of Lonely Lilly. Christian Way. (The): Whither it Leads, and How to Go on, by Rev. Washington Gladden. Draytons and the Daventans; a story of the Civil Wars in England, by the author of the Schenbergs-Cotta Family. Deaf Shoemaker, and other stories, by Phillip Barrett. Double Story (A) by George Macdonald. David Lloyd's Last Will, by Heba Stretton. Early Dawn; or, Sketches of Christian Life in England in the Olden Times, by the author of the Schenbergs-Cotta Family. Familiar Talks to Boys, by Rev. John Hall, D.D. Faire Gopeller (The); Mistress Anne Askew, by the author of Mary Powell. Finland Family; or Fancies taken for facts, by Susan Peto Cornwall. Fred Lawrence or the World College, by Margaret E. Teller. Frank Forrest, or the Life of an Orphan Boy, by David M. Stowe. Henry Willard, or the value of Right Principles, by C. M. Trowbridge. Household of Sir Thomas More, by the author of Mary Powell. Happy Land, or Willie The Orphan, by the author of Lonely Lilly. Half Hours in the Tiny World—Wonders of Insect Life. With 100 illustrations. Gleanings, or Holidays at the Cottage.

Temperance Books. Select Volumes published by the National Temperance Society, New York. Discount 20 per cent (one-fifth) from the Publisher's price. At \$1.50 each, or \$1.20 nett. Alcohol and the State, by R. C. Pitman, LL.D. Temperance Sermons, by some of the leading Preachers of the United States. The Brewer's Fortune. The Life Cruise of Capt. Adams. A Strange Sea Story. Nothing to Drink. At \$1.25 each, or \$1.00 nett. The Dumb Traitor. Barford Mills. Mr. McKenzie's Answer. Humpy Dumpty. Ten Cents. Ripley Parsonage. The Mill and the Tavern. The Temperance Doctor. The White Rose. The Wife's Engagement Ring. The Glass Cable. Job Tufton's Rest. Wealth and Wine. Tom Blinn's Temperance Society. Aunt Dinah's Pledge. The Curse of Mill Valley. Nettie Loring. Alice Grant. Best Fellow in the World. How could he escape. Silver Castle. At \$1.00 each, or 80 cents nett. Image Unveiled. The Jewelled Serpent. The Brook and Tide Turning. The Old Brown Pitcher. Esther Maxwell's Mistake. A More Excellent Way. Eva's Engagement Ring, 90cts., 72cts nett. The Little Girl in Black, 90cts., 72cts nett.

Three Sets By Joanna H. Matthews. BESSIE BOOKS. 6 vols. in a box \$7.50 Bessie at the Seaside. Bessie in the City. Bessie and her Friends. Bessie among the Mountains. Bessie at School. Bessie on her Travels. KITTY & LULL BOOKS. 6 vols. in a box \$6.00 Tontou and Pansy. Kitty's Robins. The White Rabbit. Indie's Goat. Kitty's Visit to Grandmamma. Kitty's Scrap-Book. MISS ASHTON'S GIRLS. 6 vols. in a box \$7.50 Fanny's Birthday Gift. The New Scholars. Rosalie's Pet. Eleanor's Scrap-Book. Mable Walton's Experiment. Elsie's Santa Claus. For Sale at the METHODIST BOOK ROOM.

JAS. & W. PITTS, GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANTS, Ship and Insurance Brokers, WATER STREET, ST. JOHN'S NEWFOUNDLAND CORNER GRANVILLE AND SACKVILLE STREETS. NOVA SCOTIA Steam Machine Paper Bag Manufactory THE CHEAPEST IN THE MARKET SEND FOR PRICE LIST. ALSO BOOK BINDING, In all its Branches. & T. PHILLIPS

7 DOLLARS a day to Agents canvassing for the FIRESIDE VISITOR. Terms and Outfit rec. Address, P. O. VICKERY, Augusta, Main May 18 78

SAVE THE NATION! For it is sadly too true that thousands of CHILDREN are STARVED TO DEATH every year by improper or insufficient FOOD. RIDGE'S FOOD FOR INFANTS AND INVALIDS REMEMBER It is all a great deal more than we have claimed for it. It is a HEALTHY NUTRITIOUS and easily assimilated FOOD, grateful to the most delicate and irritable stomach, and especially adapted for the INFANT and GROWING CHILD. Invalids, Nursing Mothers, and those suffering from INDIGESTION will find that on trial. RIDGE'S FOOD FOR INFANTS AND INVALIDS is all they can desire. It is carefully put up in four sizes. Constant users will find our No. 4 size (always the most economical size to buy) now much larger than formerly, thus materially lessening the expense. WOOLRICH, Dispensing and Family Chemist, Upper Water Street. Depot for Ridges Food, Pick Me up Bitters, &c., with a well assorted Stock of Pure Drugs.

Methodist Book Room, 125 Granville St., Halifax, N.S.