

The Dominion Presbyterian

IS PUBLISHED AT

323 FRANK ST., - OTTAWA

AND AT

MONTREAL AND WINNIPEG

TERMS: One year (50 issues) in advance

.....\$1.50

Six Months......75

CLUBS of Five, at same time\$5.00

The date on the label shows to what time the paper is paid for. Notify the publisher at once of any mistake on label.

Paper is continued until an order is sent for discontinuance, and with it, payment of arrearages.

Sample copies sent upon application.

Advertising Rates. — 15 cents per agate line each insertion, 14 lines to the inch, 121.2 inches to the column.

Letters should be addressed:

THE DOMINION PRESBYTERIAN,
P. O. Drawer 1070, Ottawa.

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OTTAWA, WEDNESDAY, MAR. 13, 1907.

It is worth while to do even the smallest kindness as we go long the way. Nothing is lost. No de drop perishes, but sinking into the flower makes it sweeter.

Speaking at his jubilee celebration a few days ago, Dr. Potts said Methodism had suffered seriously at the hands of its young preachers. These, he considers, should always be kept for a number of years as curates until they gain the experience needed in a pastor. Our young men get a good training for pastoral work in the mission field, where they labor for two years before being eligible for a call.

A movement is being made by the Y.M.C.A. of this city to erect a new building in which to more efficiently carry on the beneficent work of the association; and so, last Sunday, in many of the city churches representatives of the association spoke in the interest of this movement. The aim of the officers and friends of the Y.M.C.A. is to raise \$200,000, and to do so by the end of the month. From the way they are going about the work we have no doubt that the desired amount will be realized.

The Presbyterian church at Kingston, Jamaica, was destroyed by the recent earthquake, about seventy of its members killed outright, many others maimed for life, and everyone, even the richest if not ruined, terribly hit. Rev. W. Graham, the pastor, makes an appeal through Dr. Herridge to the members of St. Andrew's congregation for aid to rebuild his church. The loss is more than \$20,000. No doubt there are many outside St. Andrew's church who would like to help in this good work. Mr. Geo. Burn, General Manager of the Bank of Ottawa, and Mr. Geo. Kydd, Manager of the Royal Bank, have kindly agreed to act as joint treasurers, and will acknowledge contributions, and forward them to Mr. Graham.

LONGFELLOW'S RELIGION.

A writer in the "Interior," in connection with the Longfellow centenary, speaks of the poet's relation to religion. Longfellow is pre-eminently the poet of calm, sane religious experience. His "Psalm of Life," is no cry of defiance to fate; it is a thoughtful consideration of life's noble possibilities from the point of view of the average man. "Lives of great men all remind us we may make our lives sublime,"—the thousands of schoolboys and school-girls who have read and sung and recited it have found in it an ideal fitted to their own experience. It might not kindle heroic daring, but it does feed faithfulness; and that is greater work. He faces death not with grim despair nor with mystic rapture, but with quiet resignation. "The Reaper" is no La Saisiaz; but it is a poem one can read at a funeral service, and feel that through it the Spirit of God's peace lays his hand on the head of the sorrowing. His "Song of the Silent Land" has the sweet sadness of the meditations of the average man about the "beyond." His religious hero is not some martyr defying death; it is Sir Humphrey Gilbert, with his word of good cheer and quiet trust,

"He sat upon the deck,

The Book was in his hand;

'Do not fear. Heaven is as near,'

He said, 'by water as by land.'"

It is significant that the character that voices his conception of Christianity is not Paul, but John, and the message he gives is not mystical, but natural, wholesome, ethical,—the religion of the Sermon on the Mount, which is the heart of the Bible of the "once-born."

"And I remember still

The words, and from whom they came,

'Not he that repeath the name,

But he that doeth the will,'

And Him evermore I behold

Walking in Galilee,

And that voice still soundeth on

From the centuries that are gone

To the centuries that shall be."

CANADA'S INCOMERS.

The type of immigrants to Canada was last year on the whole satisfactory. General Booth promises to send a lot of good settlers this year also. Most of last year's incoming crowd were English-speaking, and nearly all went to the agricultural regions of the Western provinces. England sent 65,135; Scotland, 15,846; Wales, 797; Ireland, 5,018; Newfoundland, 340, and the United States 57,919, leaving to Asiatic and Continental European races only 41,430. Nine thousand of these were Hungarians, 7,000 Jews, 8,000 Italians, and 2,000 Japanese. Canada has no reason to worry over her immigration problem so long as these proportions are maintained.

General Booth is now in Canada and will lecture in Ottawa on Wednesday next, 20th inst. The subject of the lecture will be "The Secret of the Success of the Salvation Army." Admission by ticket. We recommend our readers to hear the lecture. General Booth is now in his 78th year, and still speaks with all the force and fervor of former years.

FAR REACHING DECISION.

The state cannot license a saloon for the sale of intoxicating liquors, is the gist of a decision recently given by Judge Artman of the Circuit court of the State of Indiana. The case is one of world-wide interest, and if Judge Artman's decision is sustained by the higher courts, it will sound the death-knell of the liquor saloon. The application for a saloon license which was granted by the license commissioners' court, was appealed to the circuit court and tried by Judge Artman and the decision given on the 13th of February. In delivering judgment he said: "The ultimate question for decision in this case, is whether or not the sale of intoxicating liquors at retail, for beverage purposes, can be legally licensed. It is conceded that there is a statute of the state purporting to authorize such a license. Not every act of the Legislature is a law; only the valid acts of the Legislature are law. The decision of the ultimate question involves the determination of the validity or invalidity of this license statute. Did the Legislature have the authority to enact the statute? Can the Legislature authorize the licensing, for a consideration, of the sale of intoxicating liquors at retail for beverage purposes?"

The judge then proceeded to show from many court decisions that the public good is the supreme law. "Whatever is wrong cannot be lawful, and whatever is right is legitimate and lawful." Then taking up the question as to the inherent common-law rights of citizens to engage in the saloon business, showed that courts of last resort and eminent attainment have answered the question both in the affirmative and the negative, and cited a large number of cases, but the preponderance of opinion of the courts of last resort is that liquor selling is not on the same basis as dealing in the ordinary commodities of life. One of the judgments is that by the Supreme Court of North Carolina, which reads as follows:—"Liquor in its nature is dangerous to the morals, good order, health and safety of the people, and is not to be placed on the same footing with the ordinary commodities of life, such as corn, wheat, cotton, potatoes," etc.

Two important questions underlie Judge Artman's decision: (1) "Can the legislature legalize the destruction of the public health, the public morals and the public safety?" And (2) "Can the legislature make lawful, for a price, that which is unlawful because it contravenes the fundamental principle of government?" His answer to these questions is "surely not."

From a number of decisions showing how the courts view the sale of intoxicants, the following by the Supreme Court of Indiana will suffice for illustration: "That drunkenness is an evil to the individual and to the State, will probably be admitted. That its legitimate consequences are disease and destruction to the mind and body, will also be granted. That it produces from four-fifths to nine-tenths of all the crime committed, is the united testimony of those judges, prison-keepers, sheriffs and others engaged in the administration of the criminal law, who have investigated the subject. That taxation to meet the expenses of pauperism and crime, falls upon, and is borne by the people, follows as a matter of course. That its tendency is to destroy the peace, safety and well-being of the people, to secure which the First Article of the Bill of Rights declares all free governments are instituted, is too obvious to be denied."