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Editorial Jottings.



IN every hand the signs of Spring are multiplying. God, as of old, visits the earth, and waters it; He makes it soft with showers, and blesses the spring there-

of. And to us, over and above all these blessings in themselves, there is a lesson to be learned—like a parable explained. There should always be growth, and repair, and the verdure of Spring, in the field of our spiritual life.

SOMEBODY says that even the postmaster knows when a man's own church paper quits going to the family, that "morality is getting low in that household: it is a sign of decay."

THE three most influential Free Church Pre-byteries in the country, those of Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen, have memorialized the Assembly to take up the question of simplifying or re-modelling the "Confession of Faith" at its next meeting.

DR. CUNNINGHAM GEIKIE has published a "Short Life of Christ." It is not an abridgment of his larger work, but an entirely new book. He has travelled in Palestine, and ripened and reviewed his former studies, and

given the world a book that will be immensely popular and useful.

"THE Temperance question is now ripe for settlement," said Mr. Chamberlain, "and it would be well for the Liberal party to put it in the first rank of possible reforms." And this is as good advice for Canada as for Britain. The party who takes it up will sweep the country.

WE are glad that Zion Church, Toronto, has secured Rev. Mr. Sandwell for pastor. A long *interregnum* is bad for a church. But we believe in "Repatriation," as much as "Immigration." Now could not some church secure Rev. J. B. Silcox, from San Diego, Cal.? A good pull would probably bring him back.

THE poet Whittier, in a recent letter, advised young men who would make the most of life to identify themselves early with some righteous but unpopular cause of reform. Such was Anti-Slavery, of which the Quaker poet was himself a champion; such has been Total Abstinence; and such is now Equal Justice for blacks and Chinese.

AN ILLUSTRATION OF WAR.—"Why do you kill me?" Pascal makes a man ask another in one of his *Pensées*. "Why do you live on the other side of the river?" was the answer. "If you lived on this side of the river I should be a murderer; but you live on the other side, and so I am a hero, my friend."

AND what does God think of you? What does He think of the thoughts and feelings