

THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

VOL. 17.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3rd, 1888.

No. 41.

Notes of the Week.

COUNTESS TOLSTOI, wife of the Russian novelist and reformer, does not sympathize with her husband's extreme religious views; and, it is said, threatens, if he attempts to carry out his plans of selling all that he has and giving the money to the poor, to ask for an official investigation of his sanity.

PROFESSOR PROCTOR, says the *New York Independent*, was one of that very numerous class of men brought up in the Roman Catholic faith, whom the erroneous demands of that Church upon the faith of its members have driven into infidelity. France and Italy have more infidels than Germany, England or America, for no other reason than that in those countries modern scholarship has had to meet the claims of the predominant Catholic Church.

THE Rev. Dr. John Hall, of New York, has been preaching in May Street Church and in Rosemary Street Church, Belfast. The two collections amounted to about \$500. Next evening, Dr. Hall delivered a lecture in Fisherwick Place Church, on the "Encouragements of Our Time." The object of the lecture was to inaugurate the Session of 1888-9 of the Central Presbyterian Young Men's Association. The chair was taken by Mr. Thomas Sinclair, J. P.

THE visit of Mr. Hudson Taylor to Canada has resulted in deepening the interest taken in the Christian enterprise with which he has been so long associated, the China Inland Mission. His appeals have led quite a number of young Canadians to devote themselves to the work in China, on the lines hitherto pursued by that mission. Farewell services have been held in various places, and now the young missionaries are on their way to their promising field of operation.

At the recent meeting of the Free Presbytery of Glasgow, one of the clerical members informally brought up the question of the paper read by Dr. Marcus Dods at the Pan-Presbyterian Council; but Dr. Adam counselled the leaving of the matter alone. We understand, however, says the *Christian Leader*, that more than one member of the court is determined to call attention to Dr. Dods's London deliverance, with a view to free the Presbytery and the Church at large from the responsibility for the views on the Inspiration of the Bible set forth by Dr. Dods in that paper which seems to be the only feature of the Pan-Presbyterian Council that has excited general and enduring interest.

WHEN the news of Major Barttelot's death was received two weeks ago, all eyes turned to Professor Jamieson as the one to lead an expedition to the relief of Stanley. In fact, it was announced that he was preparing to leave Stanley Falls at an early date with this object in view. But now comes the news of his death. With this news the hope of Stanley's immediate relief vanishes. If alive, he must look out for himself. He is a man of infinite resources and he may live to reach Emin and with him be able to withstand the perils of the Southern Soudan. King Leopold has intimated his intention of supporting another search and relief expedition. Perhaps Stanley himself will be heard from ere long.

IN a lecture delivered recently in Aberdeen, the Rev. C. L. Engstrom, secretary of the Christian Evidence Society, referring to the relationship between Christianity and the intellect, remarked that it was a common opinion that if a man would only open his eyes and be fair he would in that proportion be gradually drawn away from Christianity. Hardly any of the great names of history were on the side of atheism, and, as to science, he gave it to them as having it on personal knowledge, and by having taken an infinite amount of pains to find out, that the English-speaking scientific men in England, Ireland and America were very decided Christians.

Professor Stokes and Professor Flowers had both declared that the great majority of their scientific friends were Christians.

WHAT may be considered the opening concert of the season took place in the Toronto Pavilion last week. It was a brilliant success. Mr. Agramonte, an eminent teacher from New York, has been giving lessons in Hamilton and Toronto during the summer. The concert was interesting in that it tested the capabilities of several of his pupils. The more prominent of the performers were Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Mackelcan from Hamilton, Miss Rhodes from New York, Miss Robinson, Mr. George Mackenzie and Mr. J. F. Thompson, while others contributed to the success of the evening. The music was of a classical character, and was most effectively rendered. The violin playing of Mr. Hasselbrink, of New York, was specially graceful and attractive. Mr. Agramonte's efforts as an accompanist were fine exemplifications of musical skill and good taste.

PROFESSOR RENDEL HARRIS, a brilliant Quaker scholar, says the common belief that the New Testament, considered as an intellectual study, is a worn out mine, is about to receive another great reverse in the publication of the lost harmony of the Gospels, written in the second century by Tatian, the philosopher-ascetic Christian, the disciple of Justin Martyr. There is in the Vatican library a manuscript in Arabic, brought from the East by J. S. Assemani, and catalogued by him as "The Diatessaron of Tatian, or the four Gospels edited in one", and, after much needless delay, a Latin translation of it is being issued from the press in Rome. Professor Harris thinks the recovered harmony will probably furnish a clue to the number of early apocryphal sayings attributed to our Lord or His disciples. He also believes that this new find will cause as much discussion as the "Teaching of the Twelve."

PRINCETON Theological Seminary began its year of study last week. The opening address was delivered by Dr. Warfield. The number of students is said to be larger than that of last year, and one or two changes in the curriculum have been made necessary by the accession of Dr. Patton to the College presidency and the resignation of Dr. Moffat. Dr. Patton is to give two lectures a week to the junior class, and the remaining hours vacated by him will be filled by Biblical Theology and Old Testament studies. Lectures in the department of Church history will be given by Dr. Moffat, Dr. Fisher, of Yale, Dr. Schaff, of Union Theological Seminary, and Professor Scott, of Chicago, each instructor giving a course of six lectures. The L. P. Stone foundation lecture course will be filled by the Rev. Dr. C. M. Mead, formerly of Andover. An attempt is being made by the younger alumni of the seminary to found a New Testament fellowship as a complement to the Old Testament already endowed.

THERE is something ludicrous as well as laudable about Bishop Wordsworth's invitation to Scottish Presbyterians to "come over" to the Scottish Episcopal Church. As Presbyterians form about eighty per cent of Scotland, and the Episcopalians only two and one-half per cent., it would be more fitting for the former to treat the latter as aliens from the Church than *vice versa*. Dr. Wordsworth is willing to make "several concessions" for the sake of union. He advocates a "temporary suspension" of the law of the threefold ministry and of episcopal ordination, and goes so far as to admit that in many cases Presbyterian ministers are prepared much more thoroughly for the ministry than Episcopalians. Further, he reduces to an absurdity the position of those Episcopalians who shrink from coming to close quarters with their "separated brethren." Such, Dr. Wordsworth remarks, do not venture to doubt that the Presbyterians' ultimate prospect of salvation may be as good as theirs, while at the same time they deny the validity of their means of grace! The bishop does not believe that the laying on of a

bishop's hands for the ordination of the clergy was prescribed by Christ as an essential act.

IN reference to a paragraph from the *Christian Leader*, which appeared in these columns, Messrs. Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier, the Edinburgh publishers, make the following statement: In the concluding paragraph of your justly appreciative notice of Dr. Andrew Bonar you say: "His memoirs of M'Cheyne, the best-known of his literary works, has reached a circulation in this country of over 130,000; but it is not generally known that from a pecuniary point of view Dr. Bonar has gained nothing from that valued work, having unselfishly allowed others to reap the benefit." As the sole publishers of this work for the last thirty years, we think it right—in justice to all parties—to lay before you, more fully, the facts of the case. The book was first published by the late Mr. William Middleton, of Dundee, by arrangement with the biographer and Mr. M'Cheyne's father, who had furnished Dr. Bonar with the materials; but at the expiry of two years the copyright was vested in Mr. Adam M'Cheyne, father of the late Robert Murray M'Cheyne, and his heirs and successors in the following terms, and signed by Dr. Bonar: "That after the said work had gone through several editions, and I had realized a certain sum from the profits thereof, it was agreed between me and the said Adam M'Cheyne that I should make over the work to him in trust for behoof of William Oswald Hunter M'Cheyne and Eliza Mary M'Cheyne, his surviving children." From that day till about thirteen years ago the profits of the book were paid over, in the shape of royalty, to the M'Cheyne family, and must have amounted to several thousands of pounds, when it became our sole property by the payment of a large lump sum. Had it been in our option, we would gladly have accorded a part of this royalty and final payment to Dr. Bonar; but we were precluded from doing so by the terms of the agreement, which now lies before us, and an extract from which we give as above.

THE *Winnipeg Free Press* says: The report of the Secretary of Education for the North-West Territories, recently laid before the Board of Education at Regina, contains some interesting particulars showing the progress made during the year. The increase in pupils, schools and teachers has been as follows:

PROTESTANT.			
	1887.	1888.	Increase.
Schools.....	90	108	18
Teachers.....	96	119	33
Pupils.....	2,425	2,804	379
ROMAN CATHOLIC.			
	1887.	1888.	
Schools.....	21	23	
Teachers.....	29	31	
Pupils.....	718	648	

While the report for the Protestant section shows good progress, that of the Roman Catholic section reveals a decrease of seventy pupils, and what seems very anomalous, an increase of two schools and two teachers. A good sign is the decrease of provisional teachers who are rapidly being replaced by others who are regularly certificated. In 1887 the number of teachers holding North-West certificates was nine first-class, twenty second-class, twenty third-class and forty-seven provisional. There are now sixteen first-class, thirty-six second-class, forty-three third-class, and only twenty-four provisional. The eight schools having the largest attendance of pupils are: Regina, 189; Calgary, 177; Moosomin, 150; Moose Jaw, ninety-five; Medicine Hat, eighty-eight; Lethbridge, eighty-four; Qu'Appelle Station, seventy-eight; Prince Albert, seventy-seven. The *Regina Journal* considers it a great mistake in the establishing of a school system in the North-West, Separate Schools have been allowed, and hopes in the near future to see this replaced by a non-sectarian school system. The question is one with which we would not be surprised to see the North-West Assembly deal during the approaching Session in October. There has been some talk about it.