

THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

VOL. 19.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12th, 1890.

No. 11.

NOW READY. PRESBYTERIAN YEAR BOOK FOR THE DOMINION OF CANADA AND NEWFOUNDLAND, FOR 1890.

In addition to the usual contents, the following papers appear in the issue for 1890.—The Moderator, Home Missions, by Rev. William C. Hrane, D.D.; Our Foreign Missions—a general survey, by James Croil, Montreal; The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, by a member of the Central Board; Our Sabbath School Work: Its Present Condition and Pressing Needs, by W. N. Hossie, Brantford; Sabbath Observance, by a Layman; Young Ladies' Colleges, by J. Knowles, Jr.; Our Maritime Synod, by Rev. Dr. Burns, Halifax; American Presbyterianism, by Rev. A. T. Wolff, D.D., Ph.D., Alton, Ill.; Home and Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Churches of Scotland, William Johnston, Wamphray Scotland; The Presbyterian Church in Ireland, by Samuel Houston, M.A., Kingston; Sketches of St. David's Church, St. John N.B.; St. Andrew's Church, Windsor, and Knox Church, Winnipeg.

PRESS OPINIONS.

It contains a list of the Moderators of the Church, a record of notable events, officers, committees and boards of the General Assembly, information about home and foreign missions, members of Presbyteries and Synods, a list of the ministers of the Church, etc. Every Presbyterian should have a copy.—*Hamilton Times*.

The PRESBYTERIAN YEAR BOOK is a neat little publication of 120 pages, containing a great amount of useful information relating to the Presbyterian Church in this country, and its work at home and abroad. It also contains papers dealing with the Church in Scotland, Ireland and the United States.—*The Mail*.

Its get-up is very neat and attractive, and the arrangement inside is as carefully done. It will be difficult for any loyal Presbyterian to get along without it.—*Windsor Mercury*.

This publication is one of the best of its class in Canada. . . . The YEAR BOOK is beautifully printed, making it a most attractive volume.—*The Globe*.

PRICE, TWENTY-FIVE CENTS.

For sale by the leading booksellers, or mailed on receipt of price by
THE PRESBYTERIAN PRINTING AND PUBLISHING CO. (LTD).
5 JORDAN STREET, TORONTO.

Notes of the Week.

THE *Semeur* has been superseded by *La Citoyen Franco-Americain*, published weekly at Springfield, Mass. It is published in the interest of the French Canadian Protestants in the eastern States, is ably conducted; it deserves a cordial support and a wide circulation.

IT is stated that the Rev. William Anderson, of Old Calabar, who had attained his jubilee as a minister in the United Presbyterian Church, and is held in unusual honour in his denomination, is to be nominated as Moderator of the next Synod. Mr. Anderson is eminently worthy of any distinction which his brethren can confer on him.

THE *British Weekly* says: We understand that the Rev. James Stalker, M.A., of Glasgow, author of "Imago Christi," has received the high honour of being asked to deliver the Yale Lectures on Preaching. Dr. Dale, it will be remembered, was one of the lecturers—the only one from this country. Mr. Stalker has accepted the invitation.

THE Rev. Moses D. Hoge, D.D., last year completed the forty-fifth year of his service as pastor of the second Presbyterian Church of Richmond, Va. This is his first pastorate, and he is the only pastor that the church has ever had. It is seldom that any pastor or any church can show such a record. The record is creditable alike to both.

DR. WM. TAYLOR has given an admirable rule for preaching concerning the introduction of questions of the day into the pulpit. He says: Unless there is something on which I cannot hold my peace, I leave them alone. This would preserve congregations from a great deal of pulpit sensationalism, if universally observed. Let the question compel the preacher, and not the preacher the question.

AT the last Oriental Congress Professor Merx exhibited a Samaritan poem on the Messiah, which he had discovered in a manuscript at Gotha. Internal evidence indicates this poem to be as old as the first century of the Christian era. The theological importance of the document, therefore, is evident, especially in its bearing on chapter four of John's Gospel, and on the age of this Gospel itself. Its speedy publication is greatly to be desired.

THE Young Men's Christian Associations of Great Britain and Ireland have sent a memorial to the President of the International Anti-Slavery Conference at Brussels urging the restriction of the traffic in alcoholic liquors and firearms with the

native races of Africa. The memorial is signed by Mr. George Williams, Mr. J. H. Tritton, Lords Aberdeen, Harrowby, and Kinnaird, and Mr. W. H. Mills on behalf of 560 associations and 61,000 members.

THE St. John's Wood congregation, London, Dr. Munro Gibson's, have enjoyed a year of still more marked prosperity. The membership, both at the parent church and at the Kilburn mission is larger than ever, the former being 790 and the latter 245. The year's income amounted to no less a sum than \$26,370. The report makes mention of the recent visit of Dr. and Mrs. Gibson to America, and describes fully the many Christian agencies so vigorously carried on by the St. John's Wood friends. The contributions to the Sustentation Fund exceed \$2,500.

IT is said that the trial of the Bishop of Lincoln is coincident with an unusual number of secessions to the Church of Rome. Since its commencement nearly a dozen clergymen have been rec'd—some by Cardinal Manning himself, others at the Brompton Oratory, and several in various parts of the country. Most of them are celibates, and are already studying with a view to entering the ranks of the priesthood. Among the laity there are two or three barristers, a former editor of a Ritualistic journal, and a number of members of the English Church Union, including an ex-organizing secretary.

AT the annual meeting of Camden Road Congregation, London, the Rev. R. M. Thornton, B.A., pastor, the report showed that ninety-two members had been received, fifty-three of whom were by profession of faith, so that the membership now stood at 471 as against 438, being a net increase of thirty-three. There are 615 Sunday school scholars and eighty-three teachers; five new elders and ten new deacons had been added to the staff of office-bearers. The debt on the church had been largely reduced. Special reference was made to a very successful series of ten days' mission, conducted by Mr. George Clarke.

THE New York *Independent* says: Dr. Charles S. Robinson, the able and successful hymn-book man, and Dr. Talmage each announce a newspaper to be edited by himself. We wish them success. Dr. Robinson could give all his time, and his prolific type-writer, to the work, while Dr. Talmage will have to divide his time with his pulpit. Dr. Talmage adds the inducement that the first hundred thousand subscriptions, at a dollar and a half, shall go to build his new Tabernacle. We think his numerous church members had better build their tabernacle themselves without trying patent methods or passing the hat.

A CURIOUS little correspondence has lately been published between Cardinal Manning and the chief Rabbi of England. The latter called the Cardinal's attention to the fact of the publication of a French book entitled "The Mystery of the Blood among the Jews," in which the monstrous fable is revived that the blood of Christian children is necessary for the performance of Jewish rites. The book professed to have received, through Cardinal Rampolla, the approval of the Pope. The Archbishop answered that he would communicate with Rome on the subject and that he had "neither sympathy nor credulity for such horrors." Later he received from Rome the information that no such approval had been given by the Pope, but simply the ordinary acknowledgment of the book when received.

THE Lutheran Church in Russia is about to be brought under the control of the State, as a part of the scheme for the more perfect Russification of the German elements of the Baltic provinces. The stubborn independence of the Lutheran pastors has been a great obstacle to the carrying out of this policy, therefore it is proposed that these pastors shall only be appointed or confirmed in their appointments after the consent of the secular authority at St. Petersburg has been obtained. A

similar rule applies to the Roman Catholic clergy in Russia. It is also proposed to remove the management of the Lutheran Church property from the pastor, and place it in the hands of a committee composed of parishioners and the Russian officials of the district.

A DEPUTATION from the Presbyterian Alliance met by an arrangement concluded between Lord Vivian, the British Minister, and Baron Lambert, to present a memorial from the Alliance praying for a certain action on the part of the Anti-Slavery Conference with regard to the slave trade and the reckless importation of firearms and alcoholic liquors into Africa. The deputation consisted of the Rev. W. S. Swanson, Chairman of the Missionary Committee; Count Lalaing; MM. Edouard Prisse and G. Brugmann; Pasteur Rochedieu, of Brussels; the Rev. Dr. G. D. Mathews, and others. The deputation was most courteously received by Baron Lambert, who expressed full sympathy with the prayer of the memorial, and the members expressed great satisfaction with the result of the interview.

A PRESBYTERIAN church is being formed at Pretoria, the capital of the Transvaal. The congregation which has been brought together by the action of the Presbytery of Natal, which deputed four of its ministers successively to preach there, has now called the Rev. James Gray, at present of Harrismith, Orange Free State, and formerly of Wooler, Northumberland, to be their first minister. Mr. Gray has accepted the call, and was to be inducted about the end of February. The cause has every prospect of success. Pretoria, which, during the British occupation, had only about 3,000 white inhabitants, has now about 10,000. It is not only the seat of government, but it stands in the centre of the gold-mining area of South Africa, and whatever the fluctuations of the mining industry may be, Pretoria is bound to prosper.

THE Free Presbytery of Dundee, after a long discussion, has resolved not to transmit an overture to the General Assembly expressing concern in regard to the writings of Dr. Dods. The resolution was carried by twenty votes against eighteen in favour of such an overture being transmitted. The Rev. John Jenkins said that no greater blow could be inflicted on the Free Church than to let it go forth that she was a Church that had no room for a man like Dr. Dods, one of the most distinguished and loyal of her sons. One of the saddest things about the controversy was the way in which the statements in Dr. Dods' writings had been distorted, torn, and dislocated from the context. No more unfounded charge had ever been brought against a minister in their own or any other Church than that which had been brought against Dr. Dods, that he was unfaithful to the creed of the Church.

IN speaking of a motion for the adoption of the report on Indian missions in Edinburgh Presbytery Dr. Scott declared that to be thoroughly successful an evangelistic mission must be an educational mission. To estimate the success of their missions by direct conversions merely was to proceed upon an entirely false assumption, for while no intelligent Christian would under-estimate the value of direct conversions to Christianity, the indirect influence of Christianity upon the world had been far more powerful than its direct influence. Socially, intellectually, and religiously India to-day presented a widely different spectacle from that which it presented fifty years ago. He did not say that change was entirely due to the Christian Churches, or to the educational system of missions, but he did say that a great deal of it was to be laid to their credit. Dr. Norman Macleod, in seconding the motion, said that whether the results of their educational missions were great or small, no other method ever tried had been more successful among the same class, and to give up the only means now at their disposal for reaching the Hindus simply meant that they abandoned those Hindus altogether, and handed their higher education over to the Roman Catholics, or to the Government, which recognized no religious teaching. Dr. Scott's motion was adopted.