# The Presbyterian Review.

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"I am in the place where i am demanded of Conscience to speak she truth, and therefore the truth i speak, impugn it whoso list."—Jonn Knox.

## Toronto, November 16, 1893.

#### Conversion of the World.

IME attention of our numerous readers, one and all, is called to the fact that the week beginning on the 28th inst., and ending on December 4th, has been set apart by the Churches of the Presbyterian Alliance as a time in which these Churches should unite in special intercession for the conversion of the world. suggestions in connection with the event will, it is hoped, be found helpful. On Sabbath, November 26th, or at an earlier date, let ministers endeavour in whatever way seems to them most suitable to awaken the interest of their congregations, and to secure their co-operation in the service of united prayer; intimating at the same time any special arrangements that have been made. Let meetings for united prayer be held during the week, or on the evening of the Sabbath, December 3rd, either in each congregation, or in united meetings of neighbouring congregations. On Sabbath, December 3rd, let special reference be made to the great work of evangelizing the world in the sermons that are preached, and in the prayers offered, at the stated services of public worship. In order to secure as much uniformity as possible, a Scottish contemporary refers to the following topics which will be found both definite and comprehensive. How much we have to praise God for! The openings and facilities for the extension of the Gospel, the growth of missionary principle and enterprise, the triumphs of the Gospel, the conversions in our different mission fields, the progress of the native churches there, the tokens of Divine favour towards our Church in calling us to still larger service are not these so many calls to thanksgiving? Then is there not an immense work of supplication to keep us constant and earnest at the footstool of the Throne? We have to pray for the Holy Spirit to quicken throughout the whole Church the sense of responsibility and obligation for the evangelization of the nations-for more enlightened interest, prayerfulness and liberality, as the fruits of His working-for wisdom is to be given in the administration of our missions-for a blessing on the work of Foreign Mission Deputies, on our missionary periodicals, and other means used to feed and deepen the springs of missionary enthusiasm. We have to pray, too, and very specially, for more labourers to be given at once, and many more to be prepared,-for the preservation and strengthening of all our missionaries,-and for the confirmation and upbuilding of the converts from heathenism. Have-we not also to pray for the removal of all the various hindrances to the

reception and influence of the Gospel, some common to all fields, some belonging to particular fields? Neither let us forget to pray for the co-operation and brotherly love among the Churches in the work of discipling the nations. And while we specially ask for immediate and greatly multiplied conversions among all those among whom our missionaries are working, let our prayers culminate in the final petition of Holy Writ, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

## A Romeward Tendency.

HACTS, the interest and importance of which are worldwide, have been disclosed during the proceedings of the National Protestant Congress which has just closed at Bath, England. Some of the statements made by unquestionable authorities contain startling information. Especially is this the case in the matter of the growth of ritualism and the tendency Romewards. Witness the following: Rev. J. Patterson stated that in Scotland, twenty years ago, there were forty-six ritualistic schools, while now there were seventy-four, and the Roman Catholic schools had increased from twenty-two to 174 in the same periods Government grants to ritualistic schools had increased from £4,400 to £16,000, and to Roman Catholic schools from £4,431 to £62,523. Rev. Dr. Potter (Exmouth) expressed the opinion that England was going fast back to Rome, while on the Continent the reverse was Rev. B. Senior. (late of Surrey Chapel, London) said that it had been stated that three-fourths of the reporters in the House of Commons were Roman Catholics, that Roman Catholics were to be found on the staff of almost every London newspaper, and that some of the editors were Roman Catholics. He protested against that statement. Still, he seemed to think that Roman Catholicism was progressing in this country. Dr. Kerr (Glasgow,) stated that Rome was very anxious to get education into her own hands, but he did not take an alarmist view of the situation. Britain is the very citadel of toleration, and while no one would dream of undue alarm at the growth of Romanism there, it will be seen from these opinions that the situation is calling for the serious thoughts from enlightened and broad-minded men.

## Our Symposium.

THE second article in the series on how to interest the young in the work of the Church, appears to day. The writer is Rev. J. M. Cameron, whose record as a successful pastor for over twenty years in Toronto is known to the Church at large. His thoughts are commended to the serious consideration of the Church. Next week the subject will be dealt with by Rev. Alfred Gandier, B.D., recently of Brampton, now of Fort Massey church, Halifax, N.S.

### Applies to Canada.

A N address made lately by Mr. John Wannamaker to the Philadelphia Presbyterian Union, has attracted much attention in the United States press and is likely to be fruitful of good results. As most of the points taken apply to Canada and to many churches everywhere, they may be summarized:

1. The ministry in general are underpaid. The cases to which that does not apply are the exceptions. 2. The masses of the members are idle in the vineyard. Is it not the case that in almost every congregation the whole work is done by a few. 3. The burden of the expense is also borne by a few—one man pays the deficit. Some congregations unfairly get credit for liberality, because they