

grace. Elohim is the general term for God in His relation to the world at large and to all mankind. Hence in describing the creation of the world, i. 1-ii. 3, Elohim is the name proper to be used. In ii. 4-chap. iv. Jehovah is appropriate because the theme is the establishment of God's kingdom among men, as shown first in the primeval estate of man, then in the promise of redemption after the fall, and His dealings with Cain until he went out from the presence of the Lord, the seat of God's revelation. After this God was Jehovah to him no longer, any more than to the tempter, iii. 1-5, to whom Cain had now completely surrendered himself. The different diction of chaps. i. and ii. is due, not to diversity of authorship, but to a difference in the subject treated and in the thought to be expressed, as can be clearly shown.

"Th discrepancies alleged are not discrepancies at all. It is affirmed that the order of creation as described in the two chapters differs materially; that in chap. i. man was made after the vegetable creation and the lower animals, whereas in chap. ii. he was made before them. But this is a mistake. Chap. ii. says nothing of the general vegetation of the globe, but only of the production of trees in the Garden of Eden. Moreover, chap. ii. pursues the order of thought, not of time, as chap. i. . . . To insist that the order of narration must in all cases be the order of time is plainly absurd in very many passages. And it can not be insisted upon here. And if not, there is no semblance of an inconsistency with the statements of chap. i. And then there is no reason whatever for assuming that chap. ii. was written by any other than the author of chap. i."

#### PRISON REFORM.

The Prisoners' Aid Association is asking the County Councillors, who meet next week for the first time under the New Municipal Act, to take up the cause of prison reform. As about nine tenths of all prisoners in the Province of Ontario are confined within the walls of County Jails, and as all prisoners whether in the penitentiary or in the Central Prison are first of all county gaol prisoners, it is all important that County jails should be so constructed and so managed that contamination from association should be reduced to a minimum.

The friends of this movement wish just now the co-operation of the County Councils in order to promote the welfare of prisoners and destitute persons in the county jails. 1. For each county to either establish a county house of refuge, or to unite with one or more counties in establishing a district workhouse. 2. To make efficient provision in the county jail for the absolute separation of the young and comparatively innocent from old offenders. 3. To provide the prisoners every working day with industrial employment. 4. To keep the jail supplied with good books. 5. To keep a small sum of money in the hands of the jailor to give temporary aid to discharged prisoners. 6. A small annual grant in aid of county prisoners on being discharged from the Central Prison or Mercer Reformatory at Toronto.

The establishment of county houses of refuge is without doubt the cheapest, most wholesome and morally beneficial way of dealing with the destitute poor of each county. It takes away from the county jail the tramps and the simply destitute poor, thereby preventing overcrowding in the jails and facilitating a better classification of prisoners. Of the great good which would result if the young and comparatively innocent prisoners were separated from the older and more hardened offenders in the county jails, it is necessary only to make emphatic mention. We earnestly

hope that our ministers and members, in whatever part of Ontario the opportunity to do good in this matter may present itself, will bring the most urgent influence to bear upon the County Councils in order to effect these changes.

**Armenian Fund.** The PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW has received through Dr. J. C. Henderson, Chilliwack, B. C., \$2.00 from Mrs. Farr for the Armenian Fund, making a total of \$25.50 received from Chilliwack for this Fund.

**Church Statistics.** In a valuable compilation of Church Statistics made by the *Independent* we learn that the twelve Presbyterian Churches in the United States aggregate a membership of 1,400,346 communicants as against 1,458,999 in 1895. To these 11,154 pastors minister and there are 14,559 churches.

**Ministry of Reconciliation.** The work of the minister of reconciliation is based upon man's relation to God. Created in the divine image, there is that in the soul of man which responds to the divine. Because he has a nature and life which the divine can enter, reconciliation is possible. The reconciliation can be only as the soul perceives the approach of God, and hears His voice of love.

**Continental Reputation.** The wide spread reputation of the PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW and the ability of the Canada Post Office officials is well illustrated from the fact that a communication addressed to "The Editor, PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW, Canada," posted in London Eng., on December 30th, reached our office on the morning of January 9th. This is another evidence of the prominent position THE PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW has gained and holds among the leading journals of Canada.

**Free Church Moderatorship.** While there was general regret that Rev. Prof. A. B. Davidson had, on account of ill-health, to decline the Moderatorship of the Free Church, the nomination of Rev. Hugh Macmillan, LL. D., D. D., Greenock, for that high office has met with general approval. The procedure followed in the election of moderator differs from the Canadian practice. In Scotland the Standing Committees of the Church receive a recommendation from the ex-moderators, and the nomination is forwarded to the General Assembly to be confirmed by that body. Thus the moderator-elect is known several months in advance of the meeting of the Assembly and he comes prepared with an address outlining the course, on some given subject, which he thinks the Church ought to follow, during his term. Rev. Dr. Macmillan is a Gaelic-speaking Highlander, who has won distinction as a literateur. A graceful writer on Biblical, literary, and scientific subjects, his many books have been for years popular in Scotland, while as a poet, and student of his native tongue he occupies a high place among his contemporaries. That he will add lustre to the roll of moderators may be safely predicted.

**Rome's Weapons.** The editor of the *Converted Catholic*, Mr. James A. O'Connor, has been advised to institute legal proceedings against Father Phelan, editor of the *Western Watchman*, a Roman Catholic paper which wantonly published a slanderous paragraph respecting Mr. O'Connor in these terms: "O'Connor, who has maintained a refuge for apostate priests in New York for years, has been adjudged insane and is now in an asylum in Ohio. We said fifteen years ago that the poor man was out of his head. Most of his unhappy wards are doing penance in monasteries in different parts of the country. Will Protestants ever learn that an educated Catholic is inconvertible?" "O'Connor" is in his right mind and is conducting a vigorous and successful mission in New York, a feature of which is the number of priests and others of standing in the Roman church who have been converted and cared for.