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# The tamadian fudependemt. 

"ONE iS YOUR MASTER, EVEN CHRIST, ANI) All YE ARE BRETHREN."

Vol. as.
TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, Jan. 8, 1879.
New Scrica. No. I.

## THE CANADIAN INDEDENDENT.

## Published by the Congregational Publizhing Company

 REV. W. MANCHEE, Mfanaging Editor.tive JOIN WOOD.
$\left.\begin{array}{l}\text { it R. W. WALLACE, M.A., } \\ \text { it JOSERH GRIFEITH. }\end{array}\right\}$ Assciate Editors.
${ }_{i}{ }^{i}$ JOSERH GRIFFITH.
REV, J. B. SILCOX, Business Manager.

## EDITORIAL DEPARTAMENT.



## bUSINESS DEPARTMENT.



## 

"Dr. Howard Crosby's crusade in New York, against the rum-power, has resulted in the closing of 1739 groggeries in one year. The Doctor also says one of the results of his work has been "the vertrebrating of officers and judges," who were weak-backed before. This good work is not yet finished.

Mormonism is just now being more thought about and discussed than for many years. Right thinking people in the United States begin to look upon the state of things in Utah as somewhat disgraceful. It is a good sign that the leaders of the Mormon Church berin to feel uneasy. Probably they see the doum of the iniquity approaching.

A correspondent tells us that the Congregational Comeles in the West, which fell to his lot to visut, are nif maing an advance in their gifts to our missionary trensun!. That is good. There is need of planting in ario our populous centres, just such simpic, spirituai, hb. eralchurches as we believe in ; and ther planung costs, money:: Let there be an adsance all along the line fromisarnia to Margaree.

By somer of those artful c-rasions of ecclesiastical law, for thich Dean Stanley, in his broad charity, is so roted, Principal Tulloch, a Presbyteran, has beer ymaching in Westminster Abbey. His theme watidnsonal Christ the central fact of the GosWh, the source of Christian enthusiasm." A good | themerinied well treated; but the preacher could not occupy thit pulpit, and delivered his sermon from the lectera.
The London Spectator has been discussing in ats coturas the subject "Will progress diminish joy?" The positive and negative aspects are both given. Onewiter maintains that the sorrows of the world are browint to us by the telegraph and press, and that science is directly setting towards despair-that joy is meriously threatened. The other maintains that the miftering of people far away will not affect our gladneps dismencuasly; and that even now, science is -rincing signs of returning to the faith in the supermatural and Divine. It is a big question.

Pós. ROBERTSON SMITH, of Aberdeen, suspended frim oliceton account of his theological views, has sumeto Aribia. A correspondent of the New York "Observer" writes of him from Scolland: "He is going to study Arabic for the benefit of the Aberdeen studenti, whom he still hopes to be permitted to teach. That he will find an outlet for his learning, ido not doubt. The Established Chúrch has been put in great fear by the Liberationists. Its leaders seem
now to believe that the batle is at the gates; and one or two of them have lost their heads in consequence."

TuE tendency in the markets on which the great manufacturing industries of I3ritian depend is still downward. A reduction of wages has taken place in |almost'every branch of trade. Some large establishments have stopped work entirely; others are working short time; and on the whole the out-look of the British workman is more discouraging than it has been for many years Tidings of distress also reach us from Switzerland and other mamfacturing countries.

Ligrom Drinkinf, Sculamd has been told a blunt truth by the Lnord. Provout of Glasgon that the loss of $\mathcal{L} 5, \infty \infty, 000$ which has fallen on the sharchoiders of the City of Glasgow Bank represents but its stx months' expenditure for strong drink. He then indtcates to his countrymen who are devising means to relieve the calamit that they could wipe it off by reducing their liguor bills one-half fur a year. What if they should make a clean sweep, and with herooc self sacrifice give 'p the other half!
" Economy is the order of the day in England,' writes a London correspondent of the New York " Times." "If you go to the great co-operative stores of London you find that the provision departments are the chief quarters of busincss. Among the upper middle classes extravagant dinner parties are uropping out of fashion. Men who a few years ago would nut have been seen on the salnay in anydung but a firstclass carriage, nuw ride in a second, men who used to ride second now ride third. We are all economizing."

The Christian U'inon lately had a letter from Edwin Booth, the great tragedian, contanung rather disparaging statements of the theatre, as generally conducted. Mr. Booth dues not sanution his wife's attendance at any play until he has satisfied humself as to the character of the plas and players. The theatre, in his estimation, cannot be healthy and helpful to sound morals, so long as it is controlled by speculators. These gentemen will place on the stage "immoral gimeracks." Wurds like these, from such a scarce, wite worth considering. Did not Macready leave the stage because of its general unmoral iendency?

A STRIKING illustration of the value of hittles is in the following facts. The United States Government issucd a fractional currency-"stamps," from five cents to fifty. The little bits of paper have been so carelessly handled that about $\$ 15,000,000$ worth have been destroyed! A five lost here, a ten there-and the aggregate of many millions is reached. The loss is so much gain to the treasury. The Halifax "Witress" wishes the lesson of the "power of littles" implied in this fact would be borne in mind. "We are individually far too careless about fractions of money, of time, of property. Our Church finance recuires to be re-organized on the basis of caring for and gathering carefully the minutest gift of the poor as well as the large offerings of the rich."

The commercial crisis abroad is much more serious than it is in this country. Here over-production is charged as one of the cautes of hard times, which have been aggravated by unemployed labor. In Europe political economists are tracing hard times to the immense standing armics, which are sustained mainly through the millitary influence of Germany. It is estimated that the European aations hiave now
ducers and are taken from their legitimate spheres of dally toll. These mer cost on an average \$2co per annum, or about four million dollars cach day, or a: total of fifteen hundred millions of dollars per annum, expended for the services of men who do not add one penny to the productions of the country. The United States maintains no such army and the people do not have taxes to pay to support it, for which they should be truly thankful.

What a sight this is! Johnsobi, ars. Gilen, in the Court ef Chancery. The Enghsh church at Ushans: was varant. The appointment of the incumbent las in the 'ands of the Bishop, atter consultation whth the churchavardens and lay representatives of the ramath. The Oshawa vestry submitted the name of a Ker. Mr. Fortin, of Sorel. The Bishop appomted the Rev. C . C. Johnson. The Oshawa offictals locked the dours against the Bishop's nominee, and now he sues for the keys of the closed doors. Some interesting de-. velopments will be made by the tral. Both parties are deturmined-the Oshawa churchmen, not to have Mr. Juhnson; the Bishop, that they shall liave no other than Johnson. The Bishop, speakit, g with some dignity, maintains that the people have no right to suggest a name to him, but he has the right to suggest a name to them. The fuss naust end some way, but how, whether on the side of popular rights. or episcopal dumination, no one can tell. Meanwhife, we are spectators.

Says Mr. Moody. "If I see a Salbbath school teacher five minutes late, he falls fifty per cent. in my estimation at once. If he doesn't shake hands with his scholars, I take off the other fifty. He isn't worth anything at all There's a good deal of guspul in shaking hands. Get acquainted with the childicn. Ask little Mary how they are at home. Gectin! tu Sabbath schonl or church late is simply a habit. Appoint the hour at ten o'clock, and some will gre five minutes late. Appoint it at half-past ten oclock, and at twenty-five minutes before eleven these same persons will reach their places. Their besetting sin is to fall that much behind, and nothing but grace wall expel and cure it." The most important part of Mr. Moody's remark is the fact that it sugsests so much vigor and enterprise. He says in effect "If sou are not earnest, cordial, prompt, you are not doing your duty. Be filled with the Spirit." And it is good rounsel for Sabbath school teachers and other Christ. ians.

Tue weck of praycr for iS79 will commence orit Sabbath, January 5 th, and will be observed by most Protestant denominations throughout the country. The following is the schedule of the subjects agreed upon by the Evangelical Alliance, which have tive arrangements in charge: For Sabbati, Janwary 5th, as a subject for the pulpit:-"Christian Union." Monday, January 6th-Thanksgiving for the blesangs of the year past, and prayer for their contimance. ruesday, January 7th-l Prayer for the Church of Christ : its ministers, its growth in grace, and us enlargement. Wednesday, January Sth-Christian education: the family, the young, colleges, seminaries of learning, Sabbath and other schools: Christian Associations of Young Men and Young Women. Thursday, January 9th-For nations: rulcrs, and people; for peace and religious liberty in the earth. Friday, January roth-The press: for a blessing on publishcrs, editors and authors; the cause of temperance and other social reforms. Saturday, January inth-Home and Forcign Missions and the conversion of the world. On Sabbath evening, January 12 h -Puilic unson mectings will be held for prayer and praise.

## PUIIPT AND PRESS.

How the religious newspaper may aid the pulpit and benefit the home, is well stated in the following extract from Dr. Murphy's work on Pastoral Theology :--

In a previous chapter we sought to show that it is for the interests of pastors to keep themselves well informed, through religious joumals, of the progress of Christ's Aingdom; we would now strongly urge upon them that they should also use their influcice to introduce such journals into the famulies of their congregations. As alrowst all great enterprises of the day liave their newspaper to support them, so every denomination of Christians, and every important Christian undertaking lias its journal. There are papers adapted to every class of minds and to every drift of relinious thought. This subject the mmister should louk into, and endeavor to have his people benefited by the rich stores of instruction which are flowing out from the religious press.
" He mas draw much important aid in his work from thas source. The penodical religious press, when habitually perused, will undoubtedly make the people mere intalligent, and, consequently, more interested in the kingdom of Christ; it will supplement the teachings of the pastor, which must necessarily be limited in evtent; it will enforce by adding additional authorits, the truths which are uttered from the pulpit. Its assistance will make the work of the pastor easier. It will give the people fuller information than the pulpit possibly can, abowt the great enterprises of benevulence which the church is carrying on, and so will interest them in those enterprises, and make them more libetal in their support. If religious journals did nu more than take the place of, and so crowd out the permcious literature that is issuing from so many other presses, it would bean unspeakable blessing to the Church and the world. That pustur is negict leng a splendad ancraliary to hes work, wive is not ususg every effort to induce his people to takic and read papers which are devoted to the spread of the rightiousness of Christ in the sal:atton of souls, and fur:fyens; the tives of octecuers.
"We need to give contunued thought to the subject, in order to appreciate the value of a good religious newspaper, coming regularly into a family, and being sead by its various members. Weekly it preaches its timely sermons to the houschold. Some of the most able and prous munisters, and other writers, that are to be found in the land, are those who may be heard through us pages. And they send forth, in this way, the very best of their thoughts. The religivus newspaper keeps the people informed of what is going on in the Church and the whole kingdom of Christ. It says many things plainly to them which the pastor, from delicacy, or other causes, could not say. Many of the people will scarcely read anything else than newspapers; how deeply important it is that those papers be of the right kind ! The family which habitually reads a good religious journal, will undoubtedly have a higher and more intelligent tone of piety than that which neglects this method for growth in knowledge. They will have wider views and more gencrous impulses towards the truth, whether it is to be supported at home or extended abroad."

## U'HAT OUR YOUNG PEOPLE READ.

Tht: "Sunday School Times" pertinently remarks "Of books and periodicals unsuitable for young persons' reading, there are two great classes, the bad and the eulgar. A bad book is one which is positively injurious in tendency; one which, for instance, inculcates false notions of morals, and which, by example or precept, leads the reader to adopt or excuse wrong thoughts or cvil practices. A vulgar book is one whose whole character is commonplace and unrefined; which deals with low-not necessarily indecent-subjects in a manner lacking delicacy and gentleness. Sometimes a vulgar book, as thus defined, is not a bad one; just as a bad book may not be a vulgar one. The reading of cither is to be deplored. The guide of jwath should feel that his duty in aiding them to
choose good reading includes the selection of books both of a ligh literary grade, and of those not pernicious in moml teaching. Many of the trashy "story papers" are quite careful not to admit into their columns matter which violates propricty; and theatrical managers say that "moral plays" best suit their lorer-class patrons. But an intelligent parent would hardly wish his child to read sensational papers, or to witness plays in low theatres, on this account. On the other hand, some of the most eminent writers, of unquestioned merit as far as literiry ability is concerned, write books which, though printed in the most refined periodicals or issued by the most fastidious publistars, ought io be banished from the family. The evil work of the bad book is worse than that of the coarse-grained one; for the former slays, where the latter stupefies. Let the reader and the guide of reading see to it that his own books and those of his dependants be both rightenus and well-written."

## THE STREAMLET AND THE POOL.

A minister of Philadelphia in illustrating the bless. edness of cultivating a liberal spirit, uses this beauthful figure.
"Sce," he says, "that little fountain yonderaway yonder in the distam mountain, shining like a thread of silver through the thich cupse, and sparkling like a diamond in its healthful activity. It is hurrying on with tinkling fect to bear its tribute to the river. See ' it passes a stagnant pool, and the poul hails $1 t$.
"'Whither away, master streanlet?
"'I am going to the nver to bear this cup of water God has given me.'
"' Ah, you are very foolish for that fou'll need it before the summer is over. It has been a backward spring, and we shall have a hot summer to pay for it - you will dry up then.'
"' Well,' said the streamlet, 'if I am to die soon, I had better work while the day lasts. If I am likely to lose thir treasure from the heat I had better do good with '' while I have it.'
"So on it went, blessing and rejoicing in tts course. The pool smiled complacently at its own superior foresight, and husbanded all its resources, letting not a drop steal away. Soon the mid-summer heat came down, and it fell upon the little stream. But the trees crouded to its brink, and threw out their sheltering branches over it in the day of adversity, for it brought refrcshment and life to them; and the sun peeped through the branches and smiled pleasantly upon its dimpled face, and seemed to say, 'It's not in my heart to harm you,' the birds sipped its sulver tide, and sung its praises in the overhangeng branches; flowers gemmed its border, and breathed their perfume upon its bosom ; the beasts of the field loved to linger near its banks, and chewed the cud of content under its cool shadows, and the husloandman's eye always srarkled with joy as he looked upon the line of verdant beauty that marked its course through his fields and meadows; and so on it weut, blessing and blessed of all !
" And where was the prudent pool? Alas! in its inglorious inactivity it grew sickly and pestilential. Thic beasts of the field put their lips to it, but turned away without drinking; the brecze stopped and kissed it by mistake, but shrunk chilled away. It inhaled the malaria in the comact, and carned the aguc through the region, and tie inhabitants caught it and had to move away; and at last the very frogs cast their venom upon the pool and deserted it, and Heaven in mercy to man, senote it with a hotter breath and dried it up !
"But did not the little stream exhaust itself? O no: God saw to that. It emptied its full cup into the river, and the river bore it on to the sea, and the sea welcomed it, and the sun smiled upon the sea, and the sea sent up its incense to greet the sun, and the clouds caught in their capacious bosoms the incense from the sea, and the winds, like waiting steeds, caught the chariots of the clouds and bore :hem away-away to the very mountains that gave the little fountain birth, and there they tipped the brimming cup, and poured the grateful baptism down; and so God saw to
it that the little fountain, though it sive 56 filly and so frecly, never mindry. And if God so blessed the fountain will He not bless you, my friends, if 'as ye have freely received, ye also frcely give ?' Be assured He will."

## SUNDAY SCHOOL INSTITUTE.

For the many Sunday School worl:ers who were not privileged to attend the Institute lately held in Toronto, we give a few foints made and emphasized b) the several speakers.

Rev. D. J. McDonnell, on "Some characteristics of Christ as a teacher," noted the following :-(t.) Authorative and dogmatic-"I am the truth," etc. (2) Illustrative-" Without a parable spake He not.' "The Kingdom is $/ i k e$," ctc. Unged teachers to learn to make analogies: get illustrations from nature, home-lifc, history, cverywhere. (3.) Paradoxicalfull of apparently contradictory statements. "My peace," and " I came not to send peace," etc. (4) Sug-gestive--Dropped seed thoughts, which the disciples afterwards thought over. So should the teacher in the Sabbath School. (5.) Reticent-Did not attempt to explain all mysterics. The silence of Christ is suggestive. (6.) Discriminating-Christ has no cut-and-dried method of dealing with men; no uniform plon in His approach to men; e.g., Nicodemusyoung Ruler-Zacchcus-Woman at well, ctc. The wise teacher will study human nature. (7.) About Himself - He was his own theme, "I am the truth." Let Christ be the Alpha and Omega of the eacher.

Mr. H. r. Clark, superintendent of the Northern Congregationa! Charch Sunday School, on "How to ronduct a Sunday School Session," gave prominence to the fact that this was a teathing service, and that the larger part of the time should be devoted exclusively to teaching. Would give one quarter of an hnur to opening, one quarter to close, and threequarters to teaching. He allowe:- no interruption to teachers while teaching. Punctuality and order were imperatively necessary. Opening prayer by superintendent to be brief, earnest, devout. Few words at close, emphasizing the golden thought of the lesson.

Rev. I. B. Silcox, on "What the pastor can do for the Stinday School," urged the following :-(1.) That as pastor of the School, he should be in the School as regular as in his pulpit. (2.) Give the Sunday School its true place in the Church. It is the teaching department of the Church, and as important as the preaching. (3.) Assist the superintendent in the selection of teachers. (4.) Conduct the teachars mecting (5.) Aid in the choice of the literature of the Sunda. School. He argued that the Church is responsible to God for the religious education of the children. "Let the children first be fed."

Rev. Dr. Castlc, on "What the home can do for the Sunday School," made these points:-(1.) Punc-tuality-send the child in time. (2.) Home study of the lesson. (3.) Review lesson taught at School. (4) Parents should know the teachers, take them into confidence, and so both together work for the child's spiritual good. (5.) Teach child to respect the teacher ; let the teacher be held in high esteem in the home. (6.) Should visit the School often, and manifest their appreciation of its work. (7.) Supply the School with plenty of money. The teachers give their time : the parents should not allow them to be compelled to raise the money.

The Institute was conducted by Rev. Jesse Hurlbut, of New York. His last address was on "The Trained Workman." This is the great necessity of the Sunday School to-day; more attention should be given on how to teach. It is not the man who knows most, but the man who knows best how to make the most of what he knows, that succeeds as a teacher.

Rev. R. W. McAr.l, who has done so much in establishing evangelical missions for the workligmen ol Paris, hes introduced similar efforts is Lyons, since the close of the Paris Exposition. He has already secured four rooms in densely-populated districts of the city, and the opening meeting, on November 17, was crowded. Lyons, with its 350,000 inhabitants, is not only the headquarters of ultra. Romanism, but is as well the hotbed of seepticism and atheism.

## 

INTERNATIONAL LESSONS.
LESSON II.

Golden Text.. - "The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, salth the LORD of hosts; and in this place will I give peace, saith the LORD of hoste."-Hag. ii. 9.
home studies.

| 11. Ezra iv. 1-24. |  |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | Hag. i. 1.15. |
|  | Ezra v. 1-17 |
| Thi. Ezra vi. |  |
| F . ling. ii. 1 |  |
| S. Zech. iv. 1-t |  |
|  | Ezra vi. 14-22. |

The work hindered. The prophet's reproof. Tatnai's letter.
The new decree.
The people encous
The people encour
Sucess foretold.
The dedication.

## IIELPS TO STUDY.

1. The Building of the Temile-Vers. 14, 15.

In our last lesson, we saw the real and eagerness with which the returned jews began the great work of the restoration of God's house. isut they were not allowed to proceed in peace. As soon as the bamaritaus heard of th, they de.
sired to take part in the wurk, and thus denter shemselves sired to take part in the wurk, and thus dentify themselves religiously and nationally with the Jews. They asserted that they sought God, even as did Itis people. This was plauside, but completely untruc. For their religion was in reality idolatry, with a whitewash of Judaism, znd Kings, the Promised Seed, must be preserved from all admixture. The Jews, therefore, with just indignation repelled their proffers of assistance. This repulse made the Samartans bitter enemies. In every way they endeavored to trouble the workers and to thwart the work. They wrote letters to the king of Persia to excite his suspicions and jealousy. But as long as Cyrus and his son, who were in sympathy with the Jews, reigned, their efforts were in vain. As soon,
however, as the usurper, Artaxerxes sat upon the throne, the Samaritans obtained from him a decree pruhiliting the work al Jerusalem. (Note 1). But Artaxerxes was overthrown by Darius, who, like Cyrus and Cambyses, was a disciple of Zoroaster, and in sympathy with the monothersm of the jews. These, thercfore, took courage, and sturred up by the appeals of the prophets (Note 2), sesumed the work.
But opposition again arose, this time it was from the lersian satraps, or governors, over Syria and Palestine (Ezra v. 3), but they were not so bitter, and morecandid, than the sam. aritans. When they demanded of the elders the authority for rebuilding, they were referred to the decree of Cyrus. Accordingly, the leter of complaint which the governors of the reign of Cyrus were examined, and the decree found. Darius, therefore, commanded the governurs not only to desist from thindering the Jews, but to assist them in every way, both with money and supples.
Thus encouraged, the jews builded and finished the house, which was completed on the third of Adar, just 70 years, after the destruction of tae first temple, in the sixth
year of Darius, and therefore in the spring of B.C. 515 . twenty years after it was commena:d.

Gou's temple in the heo.t and in u...: world is buit slowly in the midst of great opposition and discouragements

Nothing can linder the upbuilding of God's temple, and nothing, therefore, should discourage the bunlders.
In the upbuilding of onr own Christian character, and in carrying on the work of God against others, let us never weary. Faithful continuance in well-doing will be at last crowned with suceess.
The kingdoms of this world and therr rulers are used by God in the establishment of the kingdom not of this world. Every policy and decrec of men is overruled by the King of
kings, for the perfecting of this great purpose of love for men
If. The Dedichtion of the Temple-Vers. 15-18.
As soon as the temple was finished, they proceeded to solAun united in this heservice for which it had beca built. representatives of all the tribes. Many had in past times been attracted towatds Judah from Israel. These were no doubt increased, when Israel was laid waste; and shared the exile and return of Judah. Seven hundred victims were offered - a small number compared with those officred at the dedication of the first temple, and Chron. vii. 5. Twelve he-goats were offered for a sin-offering, one for cach tribe. The returned children of the captivity cvidently therefore considered themselves as representatives of all severil divisions and courses, Moses liad assimencir severa their various duties and privileges, Num. iii. 6.10; hemm their various duties and privicges, 9 ; although David had divided them into conrses, 2nd Chron. xxiii. 6-24, xxiv. 1-19.
The temple is consecrated, that is, separated from all that is profane, for God's service and presence. So the heart, which by a true divine indwelling, is made a temple of God, is to be censecrated from all sin and dedicated to the service of God. Every power, every faculty is to be consecrated. Dedication is grounded in sacrifice. The sin offering was typical of one great sacrifice which alone takes away sin. The heart apd life must be sprinkled with the blood of that shcritice before thoy can be accepted. Red

The otderly arrangements of the workers and tincir services is essential to all progress. There are manifold, $;$ ifts and powers in the Churcli. The One Spirit divideth to each man severally as in with Each has his own phece and
work, End it is inportant that he ascertain what it is, and occupy it faithfully.
111. The Feast of tife Passovkr-Vers. 19.22.

The delication of the second temple took place as soon as the lyuilding was finshed. The jews did not wait, as did the buiders of the lirst temple, for the great nutumn festival or taliernacles. Huwever, there was an app.opriateness in
the time, for it was just upon the eve of the national festival of the Passover, wilich was now celebrated.
The passover was held at the beginning of the saceed year. It commemorated the Exodus and the Birthday of Isracl as a nation, while it also foreshadowed the one event for the sake of which Israel had been chosen and called and made a nation, namely, the death of Jesus. There was, therefore, a pecular thtiess in the dedication of the second femple tak-
ing place upon this festival. The restoraton from lialoy was a second Exodus. All made ready kesp the feast. All legal and ceremonial defilements were put away. The priests and Levites killed the P'aschal lambs for the perple. Originally each heal of a houschuld performed this office, Nut
on account of the danger and frequency of legal defilenent, on account of the danger and requency of legal defilement,
it came in course of time to le delegated to the Levites, who acted, also, even for the priests.
With the returned Jews there unted in this solemn service ness of the heathen of themselves from the filthiants of Jews who had remained in the land when the rest of the nation had been carried away captive. They had no doubl, intermarred with the heathen and violatet the laws
uf Moses as to fued and puritications, and worse than legal defilenient would be the moral pollution which they could not fail to have contracted. But now, having separated themselves altogether from the heathen, they did eat the Passover with their brethren. For it was the feast of unt leavened bread. All leaven was furbiddden. This very impurity from the heart and life.-Exod. xii. $55 ;$ xiii. $6 ; 2$ Chron. xxx. 21; xxxv. 17; I Cor. v. 7, 9. For seven days, the allutted numbet, they kept the feast with joy. God had made them joyful by the dehverance which he
had wrought them. He curned towards them the heart of the King of Assyria, so that, instead of hindering, as did his predecessors, he had helped them in their work. Thus
the hearts uf kings and all rulers are in the hands of the Great King. - Prov. xxi. 1. Their hearts overfowed with joy, which gave utterance to itself in those glad psalms, the cxivi.-cl.

It is remarkable that during this festive season a deputa. ion from Bethe came to inquire whether the few days of fasting and mourning established during the captivity were
still to be observed-Zech. vii. 2-5. The prophet indig. nanily repudiates the observance of fast-days in a time o joy. Even during the exile, after the first burst of sorrow was over, except to a faithfu: few, they had possessed little reality. But now they would have been altogether meaning. less. The prophet, therefore, bade them make them holy feasts of joy and gladness.
There is a very weighty lesson here for us. A religious observance, a ceremony, a day of fasting, whose meaning and spirit are gone, is worse than useless. Let us beware of
unreality in religion. The outward act should correspond to the inward spirit. Our Lord taught the same truth to those who asked why his disciples did not fast.-Matt. ix. 14, ${ }^{15}$.
Christ our Passover is slain for us. We have teen redeemed from the bondage of $\sin$ and death, and are pilgrims rom the Egypt of worldiness and sin to the Canaan o love away all leaven, sepamating ourselves from all sin and selfishness. We should serve the Lord with gladness. Joy is a frut of the Spint and should characterze the Christian life. Rejoice in the Lord.

## explanatory notes.

1. For the better understanding of the place in Persian histnry of the present and several following lessons, the true ist of Persian kings is here given from William Sinith:Begianing of Length each reign, reign.
B.C.
yaxares king of asedia (Ahaskerus
Dan. ix. 1)..............................
(Darius the Mede)
63440 years.
CYRUS, son of his daughter and Cam-
bysez, 2 Persinn noble, founder of the
Persian Empire. (Rawlidson says 558).
Cryus begins to reign at Babylon, Jan. 5 , Casibyses, his son, (Ahasuerus: Lixraiv Gon

Jan. 3,
Gonates, a Magian usurper, who personated Smerdis, the younger son
Cyrus (Artaxerxes: Ezra iv. 7, etc.), about Jan. I..

5327 months
6. Darius, the son of Hystaspes. A Persian noble, raised to the throne on the overthrow of Gomates. Darius: Ezra
iv. $5-24$; chs. $5,6 \ldots \ldots . . . .$. jan I, iv. 5-24; chs. 5, $6 \ldots \ldots \ldots . .$. jan 1,
Xerxes, his son (Ahasherks: Esther),
8. Artaxerxes Longimanus, his Dec (Ay, taxcrxes: Erra vii., Nebemiah). End of his reign, Deci 17, 423). Dec. 7,... 46542 years.
2. Haggai. - With regard to his tribe and parentage, leoth history and tradition are alike silent. Accordeng to tradition he was born in Baliylon, was a young man when lie lirst came to Jerusalem, probally of priestly rank. He was an old man at this time, living long enough to see both the first and second temples.-Smith's Buble Dictionary. Zechatiali.
Son of Jlemehialh, and grav.dson of Iddo. Ile is called son because he was descendant of Iddo, as Jesus "nas Son of David; and because probably his father was dead, and he was the next representative of the fomuly atter his gramirather Iddo. Ite seems to have entered upon lis office when quite young \{Zech. ii. 4), and must have been bom in Babylon, and retumed with the lirst caravan of exiles under Zerubbabel.

## PROPEN USE UF IJME.

"Gather up the fragments" of time, "that nothing be ost. This can be alduressed only to those who are employing the greater portion of their tume in some earnest work.
He who floats aimlessly and lousely in sucicty, has no frag. ments of time as related to a whole. It is all fragments. ic himself is a fragment lying useless, and his whole life requires to be recast. But whatever the great business of a man may be, however engoossing, there will always be some iragments of time that will remain; and with most men these are so considerable that the disposition made of them will greatly modify the results of hife. The secret of doing much sto du a little at a ume, and to persevere in doing th Lalf an hour a day in the service of an earnest purpose has been sufficient for the acquisition of languages and the writ ing of books, and for laying the foundiation of a lasting fame Even the minute fragments required for drawing his waxen
ends was employed by Ruger sherman in luoking on his ends was employed by Ruger sherman in luoking on his
book before fim ; and it was thus he became a sage and a signer of the Declaration of Independence.
Let a professional man, or any man, when he starts inlife have a side study, be it histury, or a language, ot poetiy, or any branch of natural histury, or geulury, and let himgive to it the fragments of his time, and he will be surprised at his own acquisitions. The whole tone of his thoughts and life will be elevated; the change of subject will be his best recreation. And what is thus true in literature and science is more so in religion, and in all that relates su uals, Ihere is no time to brief for ejaculatory prayer. When the countenance of Nehemıah was sad for the desolations of Jerusalem,
and the king asked him, "What is thy request?" there was ime be men asked uestion and tae answer for him to pray to the "God of heaven." If the objects of this worhilhad been o furnish opportunities for doing good, it could hardly have been arranged better than it is; and whoever has a heart set upon that, will have no need that any fragments of tune he may gather up will be lost. - Mark Hopkijes.

## WHAT STANLEY DID FOR GEOGRAPHY.

Stanley gave nine months to the exploration of the Luarlaba, or rather to the Livingstone, as he called it, and as it rust be called for all time. Before he went out on this tmission we knew there were two rivers - the Congo and the Luabut its source was lost in entamcts. The Portuguese were content to scatter a few settlements about its mouth, and tmie for gums and ivory along its banks. But it was an unknown river beyond the cataracts. We knew there was a river in the middle of Africa called the Lualaba; we knew
it had a swift current, that it was a river of lange volume. But beyond that we knew nothing. Some had one theory, others had another. Livingstone was convinced that it ran into the Nile, was really the source of the Nile; and who would question even the theory of so great a master? What Stanley did was to show that the Congo and Lualaba were one and the same; that the Congo, instead of losing itself among the rapids, was to force itself intu the very heart of submitting to the usurping wat, instead of going north and submitting to the usurping waters of the Nile, was to turn to the west and force its way to the sea; that these two
nivers were to disappear from the map, and be known as one rivers were to disappear from the map, and be known as one
river-the Livingsone; that this river was to be 2 gco miles in length; that for nearly ten degrees of longitude inwas to be continuously navigable; that its volume was $1,800,000$ feet a second; that the entire area it drains is 800,000 square miles-inother words, that here wasanimmense waterway 3000 miles into th: centre of Africa, navigatle wish the exception of two breaks, which engineering science can easily sumnount, -a waterway into a tropical empire, nch in woods and
metals and gracious soil, in fruits and grams, the sure home of a civilized empire in the years to come. As Petermann, the eminent German geographer, puts it, Stanley's work was to unite the fragments of African exploration-the achseve ments of Livingstone, Burton, Speke, Du Chaillu, Baker, Cameron, of all the heroic men who had gone before himinto one consecutive whole, just as bismarck united the fragments of the German people, lying about under varrous princes and dukes, into one grand and harmonious empire. Even as Bismarck had creatcd imperial Germany, so Stan-
ley created geographical Africa. -fohn Ressell Young, in ley created geographical Arric
harper's Magazine for October.

At a recent Missionary Conference at Yankton, Dakota, connected with the missions of the American and Pres byterian Buands, 227 Indians were present from abroad, the majority coming 200 miles, and as many of the Yankton Indians. Some of the questions discussed by Indian minns ters and iaymen were, "How to promote sevivals," atid

## THE

CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.
TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY sth, 8878.
"RING OUT THE OLD; RING IN THE NEW."

THE long contemplated change in the form of the Independent, comes into force with this issue. It has passed from the monthly to an cight-page weckly. The last issue contained valedictory words; with this we bring salutation to all our many fricuds. "A happy New-year" to all; not only new in brighter hopes and broader success, but also new as regards our literary messenger to the churches. We hope our new-dressed friend may have as warm a grecting from its many patrons, as it sends to them in this time of pleasant wishes.
It is impossible to pass away from the old servant of our Canadian Churches without a grateful retrospect. For a quarter of a century, it has served us as well as its limited capacities would allow. It has defended our principles nobly, and has been on the side of what we deem right. Its columns havebeen repositoriesof thebrightest thoughts of our people-the thought both of our pulpits and our pews. It has brought its monthly burden of news ecclesiastic ; the doings and gatherings of our people at home and abroad. Nor can we forget the labours of the true-hearted brethren who have had its supervision and guidance. Their task was often difficult, and sometimes unremunerated ; but they fulfilled it for the sake of the churches they love, and they deserve and have the grateful remembrance of those they have served so long. Just as we do not part with the old year and greet the new without mingled feelings; so we do not see the old journal giving place to the new without conficting sensations.

The new paper will make a bold venfure for success. We shall endeavour to make it both spirited and spiritual. It will be racy and at the same time thorough. Wherever it sees the manifestation of the Christian spirit, it will not be slow to welcome it, and wherever it sees anything militating against the liberty and us-fulness of the Christian church, it will not be slow to dissent. While speaking right out in meeting, it will ever respect the rights of others, preferring to err on the side of charity, than severity.
No paper can expect to live in these days of wide-spread literature, unless it is live and sparkling. Everything that will make the Independent efficient, readable, and welcome, will be attempted by the publishers. But success does not alone depend upon the publisher-the recipient has some share in it. If the people are slow to help our new venture, and wait until it shall become a success, instead of helping it to become a success, its work will be up-hill ; but if every recipi-
ent takes a live interest in ii-takes it upseeks to increase its circle of patrons-it will be removed from even the shadow of appre. hersion. We are confident we have a place among the journals of our land. We have principles to enunciate which are worth enunciating; we inve plans to propose which are worth considering There are errors which we should have a hand in removing. There is a millennial brightiess which we should help to bring about. And if we all believe this, both at head-quarters, and out in the field, the best energies will not be grudged to make our venture a success. To all our churches, as well as to all other Christian churches, we send our kindly greeting.

## STRENGTH.

$\mathrm{S}^{\mathrm{T}}$TRONG men are wanted everywhere today. But when were they not wanted? When were weaklings desired in Church or State, or anywhere clse? Men of steadfast will, of patient endurance, of unflinching perseverance, have alvays been in demand; but it secms as if they were in greater demand today than they ordinarily are.
Strong men are called for by the Churchthey are needed in the Church, and the Clurch is looking to every point of the com $_{4}$ pass for them. Will it find them? Where will it find them? How will is find them? It must find them! It must find them, or its work will not be done-the end of its existence will not be attained.
It must find them for its ministry. No pigmy has any business to occupy any position of responsibility and leadersinip; and, certainly, no pigmy has any business to be in the Claristian ministry. We may lay it down as a rule, that God never intended a small, puny man-mentally, morally, spirit-ually-to be the overseer, the guide, the director, the teacher, of his brethren. How can ignorance make men intelligent? How can dulness make men keen? How can lethargy make men active ?
Strong men are God's men in every hour of emergency; and they are God's men for every hour-emergency or no emergency. Luther, Wesley, Chalmers-men of that stamp, men of strong minds, of strong hearts, of strong characters and lives-such men are always His elect ones; such are the men whom He appoints to do every work of moment in the world. And such certainly are the men whom He owns in the Christian ministry in our generation.
The church must find strong men for itṣ membership. Of course there is room within its pale for weak men too. One of its designs is that it shall be a hospital, where the morally sick shall find healing. There must be provision for educating and eninobling men. There must be means employed for their advancement in all the Christian virtues and graces. The church welcomes broken, helpless, infirm men; but it will never do if'all
within its circcle are of that class. You must have whole men to care for, to nurse, those that are sick. You must have men of vitality and vigor, to deal with those that are worn out, cxhausted; and these must be found apart from what is called "the ministry." "The ministry," standing by itself, can accomplish but little for Christ and men. It must be supported by some portion at least of the membership. Ordinary Christians preach as effectively as do ministers. Office does not necessarily increase a man's power of rendering service to God. It is possible for the least known-the least conspicuous of Christ's brethren, to do better work for Hiṃ than the best known-the most conspicuous. Character, after all, decides a man's capacity of usefulness, and not position.
Strong men-men who have a great soul in them, will do good work, must do good work, wherever you put them, and no others can do good work. We need such men, then, as deacons, Sunday school teachers, to take part in our prayer-meetings, in all departments of authority. But where shall they be found? And how? The answer is ready. God must furnish them: God makes every man that appears in this world. God makes every " matt," we say; friends make some things that are called men. Society fashions some objects that pass occasionally for men. But we insist on this, that God produces every true man-every man of might; every man who has been a real power in his day, has come from God. Not that He furnishes them apart from ordinary agen ties and instrumentalities. He furnishes them, indeed, by means of these: There is no wiracle in all this. The Elijah, the Paul, came in a natural way; but it is a natural way that is supernatural, that is above the usual level, out of the beaten track. So it follows that we have something to do besides indolently waiting for them. We may help to secure themwhat can we do ?
The church should be a better school, a better training-institution than it has been as yet. It is doing a fair amount of pre-conversion work; but what about its past-conversion work? What is it trying to do is the way of educating, systematically and thoroughly educating, those whom it receives into its communion. We can accomplish a great deal, if we only set our hearts on making our people intelligent and thoughtful. It is not for us to say what machinery will best answer the purpose ; but the means will be discovered when the end is right. But the church must do something definite for the grounding of its members in the knowledge and faith of their religion. If it does not, it can never look for strength in its membership.
Then thère must be a constant looking upward to heaven. The rule for everything in this world is: Do your best yourself, but after all, lean upon God; use your own power, but trust in Divine power-and that
is the rule that applies in the present instance. If we would have strong men in our ministry and membership, we must labor that they be produced; but our labor must be the labo: of prayer, of desire for God, of confidence in Him. Our equipment of men will be of little avail, without the Divine endowment. "Be strong in the Lord." That expresses the whole philosophy of the thing. We are responsible for the possession of strength, and God is the source of strength.
Brethren, shall we not listen to the Divine injunction that is addressed to. us! At the beginning of this ycar, 1879 , shall we not seek more of spiritual strength for the service of the Master. We can do much for Him and for the good of sinners, if we be endued with power.

We hope that the rumours which have been going around about a contemplated removal of Lieutenant-Governor Letellier are not well-founded. We do not wish to discuss the conduct of the Lieutenant-Governor, in dismissing his Conservative advisers, when they were backed by large majorities in both branches of the Legislature. He may have acted constitutionally, or he may have acted unconstitutionally. He may have been wise, or he may have been unwise. We only insist onthis-that he should not be removed, except for the most weighty and serious reasons. If he is removed at present, his removal will sure!y furnish a precedent for all time to come. And it will be a vicious and mischievous' one. Party spirit is bad enough in Canada now; political life is cmrrupt enough here now. But what will party spirit be in its bitterness, and what will po $\circ$. tical life in its filthiness, if with every change of administration, every office in the gift of the Government is counted practically vacant. Sir John Macdonald will have to face a storm, if he deals with M. Letellier as M. Angers and his following would have him do.

The Indian and the Negro cannot be eliminated from American politics. The black man is all the while on the boards, the red man appears pretty frequently. He is very well dissussed now. General Sheridan has lately been criticising unfavourably the management of Indian affairs, and his remarks have brought out Mr. Schurz, the Secretary of the Interior, under whose control the Indian Bureau is at present. There is a desire on the part of some to transfer that Bureau to the War Department; but the Christian sentiment of the land resists that proposal. It is thought that the Indian can be governed without the sword, and musket, and bayonet. It is thought that there is a better way of dealing with them than slaughtering them. One thing is certain, no policy has ever been so successful with those wild men as General Grant's "Quaker Policy," as it was termed. Do our neighbours across
the lines believe cither in law or in Gospel? There is a Golden Rule somewhere in the Bible. There is a commandment of love somewhere there. We wonder if the Indian cannot be managed in the way of equity and charity.

## TReligious Lrews.

Mr. W. Ewing, student, is to supply the Garafraxa Churches for a Sabbath or two in January.
Personal-Rev. hi. J. Colwell is about leaving his Alton and North Erin charge. His address is Alton. :
The Rev. R. W. Wallace is to deliver Leetures for the Home Missionary Society, at Southwold, Tilbury, and Stratford.
THE Doughas church held their annual tea-meeting on New Year's Day, on which occasion Mr. Griffith bade farewell to his former parishioners.
Personal-Rev. J. I. Hindley, M. A., of Owen Sound, has received a unanimous call to the pastorate of the churches of Oro, Rugby, and Vespra.
The installation of the Rev. Joseph Griffiths as pastor of the Church in Hamilton, will be held on the 3rd inst. Mr. Griffiths begins his ministry there on the 5 th inst.
The friends of the Congregational Church at Scotland, met at the residence of their pastor, the Rev William Hay, on December 4th, and presented him with a donation of $\$ 7$ r. They also preseated a purse of $\$ 25$ to Miss Hay, for her services as organist.
Mr. E. H. Arms, the much respected superintendent of the Norfolk Street Congrigational Sunday School; was presented with 2 very handsome silver tea and coffee service, on the occasion of his removal to Toronto. The service was accompanied by a purse of money, and a beautifully engrossed address.
The students of C. C. B. N. A., have organized an Association for literary culture, for gaining knowledge of Canadian Congregationalism, and for the adoption of whatever means may seem practicable for enlarging the College library, and furthering the interests of the College in general.
A correspondent informs us that the pastor of Sarnia church has been preaching some straight sermons on practical godliness to the people. The people witnessed their appreciation of their pastor's great plainness of speech by coming out in larger and larger numbers.
Don Mount.-Mount Zion Congregational Temperance Socicty, assisted by some friends from Toronto, gave a live Christmas entertainment in their school-room on the evening of December 18th. The attendance was large, and the articles on the Christmas tree found ready purchasers. The room was tastefully decorated with evergreens, Chinese lanterns, fags, etc. This mission is doing good work in the east.
On December-3rd, the residence of Henry Cox, Esq., of Eurford, was the scene of a very pleasing surprise. After a sumptuous repast had been served, the friends were regaled with choice selections of vocal and instrumental music. These were interspersed with congratulatory addresses by the Revs. Howell, of Guelph, Walker, of Scotland, Barker, of Brantford, and the pastor. During the evening, Mr. Charles presented Mr. Hay with a donation amounting to over $\$ 50$.
TORONTO.-Anniversary services of the Northern Church Sunday School, were held on Sunday, December 22nd. Sermons were preached in the morning by Rev. J. B. Silcox, and in the evening by Rev. Dr. Potts. In the afternoon, the children with their teachers and friends met in their becutiful schoolroom, when addresses were delivered by the pastor, Rev. J. A. R. Dickson, Dr. Hodgins, and the Rev. J. B. Silcox. The superintendent, Mr. H. J. Clark, is one of the most efficient Sunday School workers in the city. He has, indeor, the-5jenker. School-IVe know
of no better in the country.-The Bazaar of Bond St. Church was a success. Over $\$ 2,000$ was received during the "hree days' sale. The "Bataar Journal," was published daily, and had 7 wide circulation.-The penny-a-week subscription started two years ago by the Yorkville Congregational Zhurch, to reduce their debt, now amounts to nearly $\$, 00$. This fact is suggestive.
Lanark.-The Congregasional Sabbath School in Lanark Village, on Cluistmas eve, enjoyed an excellent Christmas-tree entertainment. All the scholars (84) received gifts; the total value of which was about \$15. Collections at the door anmounted to $\$ 14.60$, which will be devoted to the purchase of papers for the School, during the forthcoming year. besides the gints of the School, many very valuable or s were bestowed by friends. Mr. W. A. Hanna ceacher of the advanced class, was presented vith two fine volumes, Tennyson's and Longfellow's Poems, by those of his class. Mrs. Brown, the wife of the pastor, received a sine parlour lamp fron a young friend: while the pastor was made the happy recipient of a beautiful fur cap, with $\$ 12$. The programme of the evening consisted of singing, readings and dialogues, which were all executed in first class style. The Middleville pastor and his wife were present, and took part in some of the exercises.
B.

## 世hristian Fintelligence.

Josepa Cook is now lecturing with marked success in New York city.
IT is rumored that Rev. W. H. H. Murray, late of Boston, Mass., is likely to be called by a church in Meriden, Conn.
WE see that our old friend, Rev. John Fraser, once of Montreal, is engaged to supply in Bronnington, Vermont, for six months.
The First Church, Chicago, Dr. E. P. Goodwin, pastor, reports a membership of 3,197 . There have bcen connected with it 2,375 persons.

Dr. Talmage has concluded his series of sermons on the Dark Side of City Life, but announces 2 new series, which he calls the "National Series."
A statue of Admiral Coligny is to be erected by subscription in the Louvre Quadrangle, in Paris, near the spot where he was assasinated in the St. Bartholomew massacre.
The Chicago papers say that Rev. Edward Sullivan, of that city, is about to accept a call from St. George's Church, Montreal, to become the successor of Bishop Bond in the pastorate.
The Ceniral CongregationalChurch, Brooklyn,N.Y., Dr. Henry Martyn Scudder, general pastor, has a membership of 1,049 , and an average congregation off 5,600 During the past year it has paid off a debt of $\$ 64,000$.
At Zion Chapel, Attercliffe, recently, the minister prayed that the English armies might not be successful in the unjust and cruel war which they were now waging against a weak and almost defenceless heathen country.
The pope has sent ten Jesuits to Central Africa, to evangelize the countries traversed by Stanley and Livingstone. The mission will cost $\$ 40,000$ and the missionaries will take with them 500 porters, servants, etc., who will be unarmed.
Mr. Spurgeon this year completes the twenty-fifth of his pastorate, and his congregation and friends have determined to celebrate the occasion by presenting him with 2 worthy testimonial. Tise intention is to raise a very large sum of money by the familiar agency of a bazaar.
Dr. Rudington has been compelied by reason of ill health, to resign the pastorate of Ciinton Avenue Congregational Chureh, Drouklyn. He has been for several years afflicted with a cancer on his chin. The Doctor is over sixty years of age, and has been pastor of Clinton Avenue Church for more than 23 years.
The ministers of 2 town in New York State, have agreed an follows concerning funesal occasions:

First-That burial services be limited, so far as practicable, to Scripture reading, singing and prayer. Second-That we deprecate the appointment of funcral services for Sunday. Third-That we also depre cate the public exposure of remains. Fourth-That before the arrangements are made as to time and place of burial service, the cofivenience of the officiating elergyman should be consulted.

The late secession of the Rev. Orby Shipley; from the English National Church to Romanism, has occasioned no little consroveraj. Evangelicals are blaming Ritualism for Shipley's change of base, while the Ritualists assert that "it has nothing whatever to do with Ritualism, but is the fault of the archbishops and bishops who have failed to vindicate the catholic character of the Church of England." The seceder himself lays it to the fact that he has discovered that " private judgment is a wrong principle." The controversalists continue their word-battle, and Rome smiles at the whole scene, having secured the person of the seceder.
Dr. Parker, of the City Temple, is very indignant at the Nouconformist for saying he "preaches the holy gospel of puffery." He calls it "an offence against truth, decency and honour." Let us see: Dr. Parker issued a circular, offering to business anen an advertisement in the Fountain for ten guineas, and promised that "attention to your business" will be drawn "in a very telling way." As a further inducement, "The Fountain gocs into thousands upon thousands of families every week, and is given avoly in thousands at the door of the City Temple, every Sunday." In view of these facts, the Nonconformist may easily be excused for alluding to "the gospel of puffers:"

## YORKVILLE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

On Thursday, November 2ist, a large gathering of the membership of this Church and congregation, was held, for social intercourse. The ladies (as is usual on such occasions,) took the initiative by providing a sumptuous refreshment table, that would have been" a pretty sight to set before a king." A programme of music and recitation, with an interval for talk, followed.

In view of the pastor's approaching marriage, Deacon Yarker, on behalf of the Church and congregation, presented him with a purse containing $\$ 100$ in gold; and in making the presentation, spoke feelingly and eloquently of the love that had subsisted between pastor and peoplo, since Mr. Warrimer had ministered to them, and of the continued presence of the " Head of the Church," with them.

The pastor, in thanking his people for this additional token of their affection for him, expressed his hope and belief that as the months and years went by, their union would become stronger, and that by a more complete devotion to the work of soul-winning for Christ, they would rejoice together in the prosperity of the Church and its interests.
Mr. and Mirs. Cornell, with cornet and organ, then led the company in singing the good old hymn :
"Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love."
On Sabbath, November 17th, the annual sermons on behalf of the Sunday School were preached to large congregations, by the Revs. W. J. Hunter, D.D., T. W. Handford, and the pastor.
-Communicated.
Economty is Wealth-Read the adverfisement of the Parker Dye Worís, in another column.

LItTElL's LIving Age for 1879.-The extra offer to new subscribers for 1879 , and the reduced clubbing rates, are worthy of note in the prospectus of this standard periodical published in another column. The remarkable success of The Living Age, is well attested bv the fact that on the ist of January next, it begins its one fiundred and fortieth volume. It affords the only satisfactorily completc compendium of a current literature which is now richer than ever before in the work of the ablest writers, upon all
topics of interest. It merits careful attention in making a selection of reading matter for the new year. The more numerous the periodicals, indeed, the more valuable becomes a work like this, which, in convenient form, and at small expense, gives the best of all. No other single periodical enables one, as does this, to keep well informed in the best thought and li crature of the time, and fairly abreast "ith the work of the most eminent living writers.

## (2)fficial Lrotices.

Western District.-Missionary mectings will be held at:-Sarnia, Monday, Jan. 13th; Forest, Tuesday, Jan. 14th; Ebenezer, Wednesday, Jan. 15th; \%on, Thursday, Jan. 16th; Watford, Friday, Jan. 17th.

Central District Missionary Meetings. Mectings were held at Pinegrove, Bolton village, Alton, and North Erin. The attendance at these was good, especially so at North Erin. The deputation, consisting ot Revs. Joseph Unsworth, J. I. Hindley, and James Davis, were on hand, and addressed all the meefings. At Bolton village they were assisted by the Rev. C. Duff. Notwithstanding the difficulty of locomotion, on account of the bad state of the roads, the brethren greatly enjoyed the meetings, and hope satisfactory pecuniary results will soon follow their labors.

## स्य子hildren's erorner.

## WA CCI YOUR WORDS.

Keep a watch on your words, my darlings, For words are wonderful things;
They are sweet, like the bees' fresh honey,
Ifike the bees they have terrible stings. Zike the bees they have terrible stings. They can bless, like the warm, glad sunshine, And brighten a lonely life;
They can cut, in the strife of anger,
Like an open two edged knife.

- Let them pass through your lips unchallenged If their crrand is true and kind; If they come to support the weary, To comfort and help the blind; It a bitter, revengeful spirit Prompts the words, let then be unsaid; They may flash through a brain like lightning, Or fall on a heart like lead.

Keep them back, if they're cold and cruel, Under bar, and lock, and seal;
The wounds they make, my darlings, Are always slow to heal. May pence guard your lives, and ever, From this time of your early youth, May the words that you daily utter Be the beautiful words of truth.

## NEVER DO IT.

NEVER reply to father or mother saucily. Never speak to mother unkindly.
Never act ugly to brother or sister.
Never correct father or mother when they are telling anything in public.

Never steal anything, ar tell an untruth, or speak ugly words, or circulate scandal.

Never seek play when you can be more usefully employed.

Never say, "I can't," or "Let jim," or "I don't wantto," when youaretold todoanything.

Never go to sleep without prayer, as it may be the last chance you will have.

## POWER OF A SWEET VOICE.

THERE is no power of love so hard to get and kecp as a kind voice. A kind hand is deaf and dumb. It may be rough in flesh and blood, yet do the work of a soft heari, and do it with a soft touch. But there is no one thing that love so much needs as a swect voice to tell what it means and feels; and it is hard to get and keep it in the right tone.

One must start in youth, and be on the watch night and day, at work and play, to get and keep a voice that shall speak at all times the thoughts of a kind heart. But this is the time when a sharp voice is most apt to be got. Youl often hear boys and girls say words at play with a quick, sharp tonc, as if it were the snap of a whip. When one of them gets vesed you "ill hear a voice that sounds as if it were made up of a snarl, a whinc, and a bark. Such a voice often speaks worse than the heart feels. It shows more ill-will in the tone than in the words. It is often in mirth that one gete a voice or a tone that is sharp, and sticks to him through life, and stirs up ill-will and grief, and falls like a drop of gall on the sweet joys of home. Such as these get a sharp home-voice for use, and keep their best voice for those they meet elsewhore, just as they would save their best cakes and pies for guests, and all their sour food for their own board. I would say to all boys and girls, "Use your guest-voice at homc." Watch it day by day as a pearl of great price, for it will be worth more to you in days to come than the best pearl hid in the sea. A kind voice is a lark's song to a hearth and homa It is to the heart what light is to the cye. It is a light that sings as well as shinos. Train it to sweet tones now and it will keep in tune through life.

## CHILDREN'S WINTER CLOTHIAG.

It is a favorite maxim with city mothers that chilitren are warmer-blooded, and need less clothing than adults. Especially is this held true of babies and girls. IBoys are warmly protected by cloth leggings, hilt suits and stout warmly protecred by cloth leggings, whe winter wind in bare
shoes, while their litte sisters defy the wis knees and embroidered skirts. There is a poctic fancy, too, that girls should be kept in white up to a certain age. A dozen little girls, of from three to five, were assembled the other day, and the unversal dress was an under vest and drawers of merino, a single embroidered flannel petticcaat, and an incumbent airy mass of muslin, riblons, and lace. Neanwhile, their mothers, women of culture and ordinary inelligence, were w.apped in heavy woollens, silks and furs. In consequence of this underdressing, the children are kept housed, except on warm days, or when they are driven housed, except on warm days, or when they are driven
out in close carriages, and therefore a chanse cold wind brings to these tender hot-house fowers, instead of healsh, disease and death. It is absolute folly to try to make a child hardy by crucl exposure, or to protect it from croup or pneumonia by a string of amber beads, or by shutting it up in furnace-heated houses. Lay away its muslin frills until Jume ; put weollen stockings on its legs, finnnel (not halfcotton woven vests) on its body, and velvet, silk, merinowhatever you choose, or can afford-on top of that; tic on a snug little hood, and turn the liahy out cvery wiuter's day (unless the wind be from the northeast and the air foggy), and before spring its bright eyes and rosy cheeks will give it a different beauly from any pure robes of white. -Seribuer's Afouthly.

Hon. Bayard Taylor, Únited States Minister to Germany, the popular traveller, poct, lecturer, journalist, and author, ded at Berlin, December 19.

Tuy Old Testament Company of the British Bible Revision Conmittee, concluded a ten days' sesslon-the fiftyfourth session-on the 29th of November. They completed the first revision of the Book of Esther and that of Danjel to chapter xi : $3^{8}$.

## Bixtus, athartages aud gratus.

## MARRIED.

At the residence of the bride's father, Linden street, Toronto, Dec. 26 th, by the Rev. J. A. R. Dickson, sussisted hy the Re\%. I. B. Silcox, Rev. W. H. Warriner, B.A., 1 astor of Yorkville Congregational Chutch, to Miss Jennie ta, daughiter oi Octavius Thompson, Esq.

DIED.
At Lanark, of croup, on Dec. 19th, 1878, Charles, youngest son of Deacon John Mcllwraith, aged two yeans aud nite est son of
monthe.

## PUBLISHERS＇NOTICE．

The Dircetors of the Congrega－ tional Publishing Company have resolved to issue the Canadian Independiast as a Weckly．The regular weekly issue will begin January 8th， 1879.

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