



# British American Presbyterian.

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## Contributors & Correspondents.

### DAY OF THANKSGIVING—THURSDAY THE 14TH NOVEMBER.

Last year, as Convener to the Committee of the General Assembly of the Canadian Presbyterian Church, I was requested to communicate with all the Protestant denominations as to secure concerted action in the matter of a Day of Thanksgiving. The response given was very cordial, and the day recommended was unanimously observed. This year the same course was pursued. The season recommended is the same as last year, Thursday, the fourteenth day of November. The various denominations have through their supreme courts signified their approval, and it is to be hoped that the day will be observed in the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec as generally as before.

It would be very pleasant if all the members of our confederated family united on one day in such a solemn service. It would tend to draw closer those cords of love which should bind us together. The special Thanksgiving Day appointed by the Dominion Government on the recovery of the Prince of Wales, had a very happy influence. We doubt not that if the Government took similar action in the matter of an annual Thanksgiving Day, and made it one of our standing institutions, their course would meet with general approval.

Our Republican neighbours have greater diversity of creeds, and are more oppressed to State intervention in matters of religion than we, yet they find no difficulty on the subject.

We have reason to know that the esteemed Church of England Metropolitan has brought the subject under the notice of the Government, in the most earnest manner, and has been unwearied in his efforts to secure a public and united observance of the day. We have this year communicated with the Local Governments of the two Provinces as well as with the Dominion Government. We hope, even yet, a favourable response. At all events, that, in future, the authorities at Ottawa may take the initiative, by formally endorsing a day which has met with the general approbation of the Churches. It is not the best season for us or for some other sections of the Dominion, but no single day would in every respect, suit all. If the Government saw fit to select one a little earlier, or even later in the season. We presume no one would object, if only the notice be made sufficiently public and in time. To leave it to each Province to select its own day, besides losing the advantages of the union, would lead to confusion. Some Provinces (as was the case with our last year) might, from the want of concert, inadvertently select a different day, and Churches which stretch into more provinces than one, would have no uniform observance.

If our coming thanksgiving be observed as well as the last, it may influence the Dominion Government to move in the matter next year.

R. F. BURNS.

### THE ORGAN QUESTION.

Editor BRITISH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN.

SIR,—Your correspondent "B." has come forward with a criticism upon one of the answers to the dissent on the subject of Instrumental music. I must protest against his applications, and interpretations of Scripture. I am the more sorry for the necessity because I happen to be on the same side as he. When we bring against opponents arguments that are unsound, we give them the vantage ground; and when they have demolished our premises, it is readily assumed that, not only our polemics, but our principles are gone, and no escape left but to acknowledge theirs. There are several slips in the article. I only notice the following:

"If the ordinances of the Jewish Church are to be held as still binding where not expressly repealed like statutes of the realm, then has not the Gospel dispensation freed us from the bondage of the Law. This, we know however has been done, not by abrogating the several enactments, but by the enunciation of the general principles, Heb X. Acts XV."

"Ordinances, says Gardner—are institutions of Divine authority relating to the worship of God." "Though it be but a man's covenant," says Paul, "yet if it be ratified, no man can annul it or add thereto." It is bad logic and worse theology to say that ordinances of the

Jewish Church are not binding where not expressly repealed. If we admitted that doctrine, where would be our authority for infant baptism, or the enforced observance of the sabbath day? Mr. "B." commits a dangerous mistake when he assumes that the teaching of Heb X. and Ac. XV. abrogates, generally, the enactments of the Old Testament economy. There is no abrogation or repealing in these chapters. I presume Mr. "B." is conquered unregard to the different kinds of ordinances. Those that are typical are neither abrogated nor repealed, but fulfilled. E. G. The daily sacrifice was typical and is fulfilled in Christ, so that now "He that sacrificeth a lamb is as if he cut off a dog's neck." Circumcision and the passover were sealing ordinances, designed to help the faithful in their growth in the life of God. These are perpetuated, in a new dress, in Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Prayer, preaching and hearing the word, &c., are ordinances continued in the N. T. as in the time of the Jews. Mr. "B." will do well to keep a clear distinction between an ordinance of divine authority, and those services which were added with out any divine precept or sanction. Instrumental music probably belongs to the latter.

—CASALS.

Oct 23rd, 1872.

### A DENIAL WANTED.

Editor BRITISH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN.

DEAR SIR,—I see in the *Witness* a statement that a Presbyterian Church in Kingston, disposed of surplus goods by *Raffle* and *Lottery*. Can that be true? I hope not. In the name of Religion and morality, I trust it will be corrected.—PURITY.

### "B" AND THE ORGAN QUESTION.

Editor BRITISH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN.

SIR,—Your paper last week had a letter from a correspondent on that exciting question, the organ. With your permission, I should like to ask B if he has read and tried to understand the passage he quoted from Amos. If he is not college bred, and professional, I hope he has common sense and Christian honesty. I hope he has read the last verses of the first chapter of II Peter. Now, Mr. B., if you are pronounced against instruments of music, it is also pronounced against the items mentioned in the previous verses. Let us look at the 4th verse:—"Woe to them that have fine, soft beds, that eat lambs and calves." You press your argument upon the organ men—by incense, &c. Now, sir, what kind of a bed have you? If not ivory, is it black walnut? Further, have you the luxury of a fine, soft, feather pillow? Poor Amos knew neither the one nor the other, but stretched himself on the hard ground, like a simple herdsman, and drew his sheepskin or rough coverlet over him. Have you ever eaten any lamb? Do you like it? And calf? If so, woe unto you when the day of battle comes, and destruction in the land.

Now Mr. B. don't console yourself by supposing I am one of the brawlers of our Zion with the organ, I prefer the violin, fiddle if you will, and the bag-pipes. I have enough of billious solemnity in me by nature. Further, I believe you have had the misfortune to be badly trained in the interpretation of Scripture—There has been there a miserable amount of spiritualizing of Scripture amongst us. Many very wrong, far-fetched applications of the old Testament. Why, sir, I have heard Isaiah 66, 15-16 applied to railways and cannon. I wish Professor Cavan would publish the outlines of his clear and pointed lecture, delivered a year ago on closing Knox College. Now, dear sir, if you nether sleep on a soft pillow, eat lamb or calf let me hear, then I shall leads you into another and stiffer lesson. If you see that you have misapplied, a passage of Scripture, say so like a man. There is the company of scorers—but there is also the company of stubborn men that will not retract—no not a hairbreadth.—C. to B.

### WONDERFUL CASE OF LONGEVITY.

A woman, called Ann Campbell, died in Kenyon, County of Glengarry, on the 18th day of September last, who arrived at the patriarchal age of 130 years. She was born in the Isle of Skye, in the parish of Braacadals, in the year 1742—two years before the defeat of Charles Stewart and his army on the famous field of Culloden-moor.

At the age of 30 years, she engaged as chief dairy maid with John Murray, Esq., Grishornish, and remained in his family for a period of 50 years. When her services

were no longer required by Capt. P. Murray, who succeeded his father to the estate of Grishornish, she left the family of Murray and engaged in the same employment with Mr. Nicolson, of Ardmore, father of Mrs. Dr. Bethune, of Toronto. She continued in his family for seven years. She was then in the 37th year of her age, but was as active and lively as most men and women are at the age of 30 years. At this advanced age she emigrated to Canada, where she lived for 43 years. This brings her to the age above mentioned, and these periods are given to enable the reader to see the correctness of the statement made respecting her more than marvellous long life. Of late years she became the wonder of all that knew her, and was visited by many, not only from the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, but by not a few from the United States of America. In Feb. 1872, she had a visit from Dr. Burns, of Montreal, who had a long and interesting conversation with her respecting the long gone by, also about her hope and views regarding eternity. She felt quite happy, and expressed much satisfaction with the Dr's visit, who, at his departure, offered her some money, (not that she wanted anything, for she lived quite comfortably) which she accepted, and in return she gave him a pair of stockings, which, we believe, shall be kept by him as an object of curiosity for many years to come. She was in full possession of her faculties to the last. She was never sick. She never tasted medicine of any description. She was quite active up to the last two days she was on earth. All this Summer and Autumn she was milking six cows every day; this was her favourite pursuit. Her illness was short, and seemingly without much pain. She lost her speech a day and a night previous to her death, and her friends knew that her end was near. She died without a struggle, Sept. 18th, 1871, in the 130th year of her age.—COM.

### THE LATE COLONEL KENNETH CAMERON, OF THORAH.

We clip the following brief biographical notice of a worthy man, well known to many of our readers in the counties of York, Ontario, and Victoria, from the October number of the *Presbyterian* :—

The death of this gentleman took place at his residence, situated on the shore of the beautiful lake Simcoe, on the 20th of last June, in the 85th year of his age. The Colonel had been ill for six months. His disease was in the chest. His friends were fondly hoping that, the severity of the weather once past, he might recruit; he himself thought otherwise. "If it be," he said, "the will of the Lord, I will recover, but I do not much expect it." He judged aright. With the return of the warm season, he sunk rapidly. He patiently bore his lingering illness.

Colonel Cameron was born in Lochaber, in the year 1787. He was descended, by both his parents from old and well connected Highland families. His father was a commissioned officer. He had four brothers, commissioned officers. The time devoted to his education could not have been very long, for he entered the army at an early age. He once remarked that the proficiency made by him in his studies was limited. If so, this defect was certainly remedied afterwards. The Colonel was a man of varied, accurate, and extensive knowledge. Few, indeed, were the subjects, in the discussion of which he could take no part.

A good observer of human character, were he intimate with the Colonel, would, we are persuaded, say of him that, as a soldier, his watchword would be *duty*, that he would be calm at the approach of danger, and a hero in the hottest of the battle. Our observer, in making this statement, would in effect say that the Colonel was a soldier after the mould of his mighty Captain "The Iron Duke," and our observer would say right. In a company of superior officers, one of whom was General Lord Hill, some remarks were passed on the Colonel. "That is an officer," said his lordship, "of distinguished merit." This is no trivial praise, when it is considered that the personage who uttered it was not apt to bestow undeserved encomiums; while he was, perhaps, as competent a judge of a good soldier as any man of his time.

After the Colonel had retired from the service, he was for a short time Sheriff of Niagara, and for a short time Surveyor General. These periods excepted, he made Thorah his home from his leaving the army to his death. He took interest in the affairs

of the Township. He was prepared to advance whatever he considered to be for the benefit of the Township. He was able to give sound advice in almost any matter. That advice asked, it was always freely given. He would labor to help a person out of difficulties. His deeds of kindness to the poor were many; while all of them were performed on the principle that the one hand was not to know what the other did. He had a friendly eye towards the young. Himself without either wife or child, he evinced more concern for the intellectual and moral training of the rising generation, than scores whom God had blessed with large families. The Colonel was a man of strong will, ready to pay deference to the views of others, he claimed the right of thinking for himself. He could be a formidable opponent. He feared no human being. Few indeed, however, were they of whom he had nothing good to say. Often was he observed to throw in a kind word for the individual whose conduct he had felt it his duty, the moment before, to censure.

The attachment of Colonel Cameron to the Church of Scotland was very strong. That attachment was as free from narrow-mindedness and prejudice as it was strong. One who knew him intimately, and knew him long, cannot this moment tax his memory with his having ever heard him utter a disrespectful sentence of a single denomination of the Christian Church—of a single Minister of the Christian Church. The Colonel was a mainstay in the congregation to which he belonged—he stood by it in trying times. The Congregation honoured him; but the place of honor he never sought—the farthest from it possible. One evening, during his illness, a certain friend was by his bedside. Among other things he made remarks to the Colonel on those precious words of our Lord: "I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. And whosoever liveth and believeth in Me, shall never die. Believest thou this?" Observing that the patient was exhausted, he said—"Am I engaging your attention too long, sir?" With difficulty, but with solemnity, he answered, "By no means." In a few moments the friend left the sick chamber and returned home; sadly suspecting that he had seen the last of him whom he loved so well. Nor was he mistaken. A little longer, and the noble heart ceased to beat.

A number of years ago, Colonel Cameron, Miss Cameron, and Mrs. Bethune, his sisters and Robert Bethune, Esq., his brother-in-law, all lived under the same roof. A virtuous and elegant little circle this was. Alas! the last enemy has made wide roads on it now. Mr. Bethune died in 1864. He was the youngest son of the Rev. John Bethune, D.D., once minister of Dornoch. Miss Cameron died in 1867; and now the Colonel, a few weeks since. Thus Mrs. Bethune alone survives. They are not the few who deeply sympathize with her. By faith in her compassionate Redeemer, may it be hers to say:—"It is good for me that I have been afflicted!" May the Lord long spare her to go in and out in a neighbourhood, in which she is so very highly and deservedly esteemed!

### ARCHBISHOP MANNING ON THE PERMISSIVE BILL.

On the 25th of September Archbishop Manning spoke in Glasgow on the Permissive Bill. In the course of his remarks he said:—

It was quite true that they could not make men sober by Act of Parliament. Within the circle of those moral and religious duties which attached to each one of them by the deepest convictions of their hearts and minds, they were compelled to act as conscience dictated; but outside of that circle, in all things which related to the social and political welfare of the commonwealth, he held that the man deserted his duty who was not ready to unite with all his fellow-citizens in working for the welfare of his country. Having laid down this principle, the Archbishop proceeded to argue that Parliament was the chief culprit in the creation of this evil of drunkenness, and he protested that moral and religious efforts to save men from it would be unavailing so long as the Legislature year by year profusely multiplied the temptations to drink. Already, he feared, the drink traffic was beyond the control of Parliament. While the cotton and iron trade of Great Britain might be represented by eighty millions sterling, there were no fewer than a hundred and ten millions sterling directly

or indirectly involved in the drink traffic, and he asked whether Parliament dared touch the great monopoly. In these circumstances, how were they to undo the evil that had been done? His answer was, let it be done by the local and popular vote of the people. (Loud applause.) He thought that to take the popular local vote on the question was most reasonable, for who knew the wants and evils and miseries of a particular locality so well as the people who lived in it? (Applause.) If a noisy and disorderly public-house were set up in one of the grand squares in Glasgow, a month would not be over before the wealthy people of the neighbourhood would have it suppressed as a nuisance, and he claimed for the working men that they should have the same power which the rich possessed of putting away this pestilence from their doors. No legislation on this question could be otherwise than permissive. They could only bring a measure into operation by the spontaneous acceptance of the people, they must proceed locally, and must allow that every locality which was sufficiently matured and sufficiently advanced should begin to use its freedom before other towns which were not in the same position. It was quite true, as some said, that the Permissive Bill was a violation of the liberty of men. Well, all he could say was that they were encompassed round about, behind and before, by legislation which interfered with personal liberty. By majorities, by a majority even of one, could be secured a measure which might seriously affect his liberty; but here it was asked that a majority of two-thirds should be necessary before such a measure could be passed. It was a principle of the British constitution that no man should be taxed who was not represented. Well, he said, the magistrates did not represent the ratepayers, upon whom the evils of the drink traffic fell as a most odious and onerous tax, and, therefore, the ratepayers had a right to speak on behalf of their own interest. As to the position of working men in regard to the question, he knew that class intimately, and he would make a fair proposal to those who said they were in favour of the traffic. Let them get their working-men together, and assemble meetings as numerous and as frequent as those which the friends of prohibition held. But they heard of nothing of the kind. Sometimes a meeting of those who desired to put down drunkenness was disturbed by half-a-dozen, who might perhaps be called working men, but whom he did not believe to be so. In conclusion, he advocated the suppression of the traffic on drink on the ground that it was paralysing the industry of the country and sapping and undermining the political foundation of the State. (Great applause.)

The Dublin papers state that the new Roman Catholic Association has already been formed, under the presidency of the Earl of Granard. It adds that the Association has no political party object of any kind, being purely Roman Catholic in its drift and design.

A series of Protestant lectures, on the doctrines and principles of Romanism and Ritualism, are being delivered at Bourne-mouth by Mr. T. G. Owens, of London, in connection with the Protestant Educational Institute.

The *Echo du Parlement* says that a new form of penance is now imposed upon Catholics going to confession in Germany. They are forced to subscribe to some clerical journal in order to expiate their sins.

The *Westminster Gazette* says:—"Dr. Pusey has been seen at Amiens, on his way to Rome; and it is said that the Doctor is about to become a Catholic. May this report be true! The prayers of the Church are ever petitioning the mercy of God to restore strayed sheep to the fold of Christ."

Several new Methodist Societies have been organized in Sweden the past season, and fourteen new chapels have been built.

Father Gavazzi, the eloquent Italian evangelist, has returned to his native country, encouraged by the responses to his appeals for the enlargement of his enterprises for the diffusion of the truth among his countrymen.

The Rev. Dr. Guthrie is progressing slowly to convalescence. He is still weak, but no apprehensions as to his recovery are entertained.

The *New York Independent* says:—"We are not disposed to stickle for high art in ecclesiastical architecture; but we do prefer a church that can be distinguished without a label from a rink or a circus."

It was a candid and appreciative estimate of an Irish distiller who remarked to a strong temperance man, "I tell you, James Haughton, we'll put the folly of mankind against the wisdom of mankind, and we'll bat you teetotalers ten times over."

MISCHIEVOUS MISTAKES MADE BY YOUNG MEN.

The first of a course of lectures under the auspices and for the benefit of the Young Men's Christian Association of Liverpool...

After some introductory remarks, the lecturer proceeded to point out a mistake which many young men make in regard to Education. Young men are too apt to suppose that an education can be obtained in a college...

try something else." Remember it is a thousand times easier to start in the right way than to get out of it...

They need to be spoon-fed; for they have not out of twenty one; Education for them means "French and Latin, and German made easy; Living in a dining room at the family club, and if that fails, falling back on a bachelor's table, or rich maintenance...

lecturer then, at considerable length, discussed the various mistakes by commencing life in too expensive a style. He also showed what a fatal mistake it is for young men to commence business under the impression that honesty is not the best policy...

BE AGREEABLE. In journeying along the road of life it is a wise thing to make our fellow-travellers our friends. The way, rough as it may seem, may be pleasantly bequeathed with an interchange of kindly offices and words...

TO PARENTS. Parents run the risk of losing the love of their children who put aside their trivial questions as of no consequence. An interrogation point symbolizes the life of childhood...

TAKING HOLD AND LETTING GO. Peter's venture—I call it venture, and yet it was not venture, for that implies hazard, whereas there was no risk—was leaving a leaking, sinking boat, to go on board a noble ship...

SLEEPING FLOWERS. Almost all flowers sleep during the night. The marigold goes to bed with the sun, and when it rises weeping. Many plants are so sensitive that they close their leaves during the passage of a cloud...

WHAT AM I DOING? Be Faithful. Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. Be prayerful. Ask, and it shall be given you. Be Watchful. Watch, therefore, for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come...

A LESSON FOR BODILY WRITERS.

In Newport, R. I., a grocer who kept a shop was noted for his grasping disposition. One day he noted in a salt cod on one of the shelves of the shop, and underneath he wrote in chalk: "Codfish for sale cheap for cash here..."

HUGUENOTS.

The origin of the term Huguenots, which our dictionaries and encyclopaedias do not make clear, is traced by D'Aubigne to the year 1518, in the struggle for civil liberty in Geneva. After a long dispute from 1518 to 1520, the Duke's party prevailed...

COMFORT FOR WEARY MOTHERS.

A woman who does all her own work who has very little means at her command, and who, besides, is the mother of several small children, none of whom are able to help her in her duties, but, on the contrary, require constant attention, often has weary moments of utter discouragement...

And who ever was not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

LONGINGS

Thou longest, O Lord! for the land of rest, Land of the beautiful and the best... My soul is an ark of peace and love... Thy throne is the rock where thy feet have trod...

Nothing so much tests a man's real character as his bearing among his fellow-men... Many a man who passes for a respectable citizen before the church is the reverse as known to his family and companions...

usually set in beds where the summer flowers have bloomed and are best set wide enough to allow of the summer bedding plants being put between them... In selecting a very good show of bloom can be had from the moderate priced mixed kinds...

THE LAW OF KINDNESS, OR THE OLD WOMAN'S RAILWAY SIGNAL. BY ELLEN AUBRETT. The most effective working force in the world in which we live is the law of kindness...

APPRENTICES AND JOURNEYMEN. No more starting business fact has found recent publication, than that in Philadelphia there are only 3,500 apprentices among 92,112 journeymen, distributed in 8,000 establishments...

GOOD SORT OF MEN.

BY THE REV. WM COCHRANE, M.A., BRANTFORD.

There is no phrase made use of more frequently than that which stands at the head of this article. If all the "good sort of men" in the world were "good men," society would be very different from what it is...

Finally, a good man in the highest sense is a man of the sincerest piety. It is deep, earnest, heartfelt. It consists not only in the acceptance of doctrines, but in the practice of holiness...

In many parts of the Northern States, the leaves will have changed color previous to the incoming of winter, and the planting of trees and shrubs will commence as soon as the first fall showers shall have cooled the atmosphere...

In the wild month of March, the rain descended, and the mountains sent down their rolling torrents of melted snow and ice into this gorge near the woman's hut...

NOTES ABOUT RATS. A gentleman, who has passed many years of his life at St. Helena, told me lately several stories about rats, so curious that I thought them worthy of record...

When we come to examine the record which these "good sort of men" leave behind, we find it in many cases the reverse of what is honorable and virtuous. The language is used indiscriminately towards the most indifferent and unworthy characters...

There is an opinion too common among many professedly strong-minded and intelligent men that religion is childish—fitted for weak, effeminate and superstitious natures; but not for men of maturity and culture...

Before the summer flowers are gone, make notes for the best things to be had for the next year, and arrange now what you do to go in the beds then. There will then be time to get all together...

Not a moment was to be lost; and her thought was equal to the moment. She cut the cord of her side by itself, and shouldered the dry posts, one by one, and head-piece...

Two persons were born at the same place, at the same moment of time. After an age of fifty years they both died, also at the same place, and at the same instant...

"Good sort of men" have no positive virtues. Their character is a bundle of negatives. Where positive immorality cannot be charged against them, they are useless for all active labour on behalf of God and humanity...

"As death drew more and more nigh the one idea of his Saviour, and of his being speedily and eternally with Him, grew stronger and more absorbing. On one of these occasions he paused and seemed to gather up his strength to say, with a wonderful power of emphasis, 'I shall see Jesus—Jesus who created all things—Jesus who made the world, I shall see Him as He is.'"

The best way to propagate all the common kinds of bedding plants is to take a frame or hand glass and set it on a bed of very sandy soil made in a shady place in the open air...

Would they see it in time? They might not put on the brake soon enough. Awful thought! She tore her red flannel gown from her in a moment, and tying it to the end of a stick, ran up the track, waving it in both hands...

AN ASTRONOMICAL FACT. Two persons were born at the same place, at the same moment of time. After an age of fifty years they both died, also at the same place, and at the same instant...

On the other hand, what are some of the characteristics of a really good man? A good man, in the highest sense, is a man of the strictest integrity. His word is as good as his oath; his promise as reliable as his bond...

"I said to him that it had been given to him to show forth much of God's great and marvellous works; and he answered, 'Yes, and I have found them to be great and marvellous, and I have felt them to be His.' As a physician I have often watched by the dying, but I have never seen a death bed scene more full of pure love and faith than our late president's was...

Small growing things, of course, will take more buds to the one cutting. From one to three inches is, however, long enough for most cuttings. They should be inserted about one-third of their way under the sand, which latter should be pressed firmly against the row of cuttings with a flat piece of board...

Kindness is the music of good-will to men; and on this harp the smallest fingers may play heaven's sweetest tunes on earth. In one of his town Elder John Leland came up at night to a public house where he was acquainted, and where he proposed to pass the night...

Good, kind, true, holy words dropped in conversation may be little thought of; but they are like seeds of flowers or fruitful trees falling by the wayside borne by some bird afar, haptly thereafter to fructify with beauty some barren mountain-side, or make glad some lonely wilderness...

FLOWER GARDEN AND PLEASURE GROUND

The gardener's Monthly, a most excellent periodical, devoted to horticultural and rural affairs and published by Charles H. Mart, 814 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, gives, in the September number, the following timely hints on autumn gardening...

So soon as the leaves begin to fall, and the hot dry summer weather passes away, people begin to think of planting Dutch bulbous roots. Of all fertilizers, well rotted cow manure has been found best for them, and especially if mixed with a portion of fine sand...

The roses of pleasure seldom last long enough to adorn the brow of him who plucks them, and they are the only roses which do not retain their sweetness after they have lost their beauty. I should desire never to outlive the ability to expound something from the Word of God, something from the unsearchable riches of Christ, more fresh, more clear, more instructive, as the result of personal experience of the power, the excellence, and the glory of this divine revelation...

Good, kind, true, holy words dropped in conversation may be little thought of; but they are like seeds of flowers or fruitful trees falling by the wayside borne by some bird afar, haptly thereafter to fructify with beauty some barren mountain-side, or make glad some lonely wilderness. The only way to meet affliction is to pass through it solemnly, slowly, with humility and faith, as the Israelites passed through the sea. Then its very waves of misery will divide, and become to us a wall on the right side and on the left, until the gall of sorrow and narrowness before our eyes, and the land safe on the opposite shore...

Good, kind, true, holy words dropped in conversation may be little thought of; but they are like seeds of flowers or fruitful trees falling by the wayside borne by some bird afar, haptly thereafter to fructify with beauty some barren mountain-side, or make glad some lonely wilderness. The only way to meet affliction is to pass through it solemnly, slowly, with humility and faith, as the Israelites passed through the sea. Then its very waves of misery will divide, and become to us a wall on the right side and on the left, until the gall of sorrow and narrowness before our eyes, and the land safe on the opposite shore...

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A DENOMINATIONAL ORGAN.

An overture on this subject from the London Synod was supported by Dr. Proudfoot, who thought that such a medium as a weekly newspaper would greatly advance many interests of the Church. He could not withdraw the overture, but he would recommend the Assembly to vote it down, and hoped that all the members of it would extend their hearty support to the British American Presbyterian, published by private enterprise. Had that paper been in existence a year ago, his overture would never have been introduced.

On motion of Mr. McMullen, after some discussion, it was resolved that the overture be rejected, AND THAT THE ABOVE-MENTIONED PAPER BE RECOMMENDED TO THE MEMBERS AND MEMBERS OF THE C. P. CHURCH AS WORTHY OF THEIR HEARTY SUPPORT.—From Proceedings of General Assembly.

LIBERAL OFFER.

New Subscribers can have the British American Presbyterian from this date up to the end of 1873 for \$2.00. The time of the usual campaign for securing new subscribers is approaching. Our old agents are requested to be ready for work, and we are prepared to engage any number of new ones. It is our wish to employ some one in every congregation to solicit new subscribers, or what is still better, to have every one of our present readers act as an agent. Our Premium List, which will be a very attractive one, will be ready in a short time. All who send us new subscribers now, will have the benefit of it.

British American Presbyterian

TORONTO, FRIDAY, NOV. 1, 1872.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

The paper on "the place of prizes in the Sabbath School," published, two weeks ago and attributed to the Rev. R. Rodgers of Collingwood should have been credited to Mr. John Black head master of the Public School Barrie.

Schisms are multiplying in the once united Roman Catholic Church. The patriarch of Babylon has published a protest against Papal infallibility, and his suffragans are following his example. The Catholic Maronites of Syria are also separating the themselves from the church of Rome.

Winnipeg is evidently a growing place, and we are glad to hear it. The *Manitoba Liberal* says that in the last three months the town has tripled itself in size. Upwards of two hundred buildings have been erected during the summer. The sound of the hammer is now heard in every part of the town, and cellars are being excavated and foundations laid for new buildings. The amount of capital invested during the season in building must exceed half a million of dollars. As a sign of the prosperity of the town and its future prospects of becoming a large city ere many years, property in some of the central parts has doubled itself in value during the past eighteen months and keeps still going up. The population ere this time next year will reach 4000.

It may not now seem to be specially notable that a serious conflict has arisen between the Canton of Ge-

nova and the Roman Catholic Church. But important and influential results have often grown out of such complications. At any rate, the Swiss Federal Government has already signified an intention of making the case of M. Mermillod an occasion for a general movement against the pretensions of the Holy See. According to the letter from a *Tribune* correspondent, the Council of State is sustained in its attitude by the majority of the Swiss people, who are, it should be said, intensely Protestant.

The Germans slowly loosen their hold on France. The statement that they were about to leave the departments of the Marne is not strictly true. Most of their soldiers there will depart, but enough will remain to hold important points.

The formation of the new Ontario Ministry, under the leadership of the Hon O. Mowat, has given very general satisfaction. With the exception of Mr. Gow, who retires, the old members retain their places.

The decision of the Emperor of Germany in favour of the American view of the San Juan difficulty has caused considerable annoyance both in England and Canada. In case of war it is said the States will hold the key of the Pacific waters. It is to be hoped it will be long before the truth of this is put to a practical test.

The Presidential contest is still the one great matter of interest in the States. Though during the past week the lectures by Froude, Tyndal and others have somewhat drawn off a good number from thinking exclusively of the political situation. The curious and wide spread horse disease has also afforded a subject for discussion as well as created a large amount of very practical inconvenience.

Froude's course of lectures in New York has been successfully brought to a close. The great historian has been invited to lecture in Toronto, but his charges, we believe, are thought too high to justify who invited him risking the venture.

Every thing has been very quiet during the week on the other side of the Atlantic. There have been frequent meetings of the British Cabinet; the matter discussed, being it is understood, a new commercial treaty with France. It was expected that the Queen would remain at Balmore, till about this date. The Anti-Union meetings in the Free Church of Scotland, still continue to be held, and a good deal of bitterness of feeling is still evinced.

The Japanese Ambassadors have been "doing" Scotland lately, and were on the 10th of Oct., entertained by the authorities in Glasgow.

Mr. Froude, the historian, Prof. Tyndall, the scientist, and George MacDonald, the favorite novelist and poet, are now lecturing in the United States. Mr. MacDonald, wears like a true Highlander, the Scotch bonnet decorated with the insignia of his clan.

Foreign news remains without matter of moment. The Spanish trouble at Ferrol died of itself, the rebels running away as soon as they saw forces arriving to attack them. It was a silly piece of business the revolt at Ferrol,—but not much more silly than nine-tenths of the outbreaks in Spain, a country in which political pursuits are attended with more than the usual amount of folly and stupidity.

An early meeting of the British Parliament has been spoken of, but it is announced that that body will not assemble for almost two months, or on the 19th of December. As that date is just before the beginning of

the Christmas holidays,—England's chief festive time,—it is not probable that anything will be done for some weeks after the opening of the session. The chief subject for discussion will be the Geneva settlement of the Alabama claims business, That is likely to be vigorously talked over, for though the money will be paid, the policy of the government is open to the criticism of the opposition, and they are sure to say all they can against it. There is a prospect of warm work, but it will be nothing but wordy warfare, and the ministry will stand.

Prince Napoleon is said to have brought an action against the French Minister of the Interior, because that functionary expelled him from France. Should the case ever come to trial, it will be an interesting business, and settle the question whether the members of an overthrown dynasty necessarily lose all rights of citizenship; but that such a question should be brought up for legal settlement indicates a wonderful change in men's minds.

THANKSGIVING DAY.

It seems that there has been some difficulty met with in arranging for the appointment of a Day of Thanksgiving. It will be far best, all things considered, to adhere to the day fixed by the General Assembly, viz: the 14th of November, and we hope that this will be done universally throughout the church, the more especially as the same day has been fixed on by other churches.

ANOTHER MISSIONARY FOR MANITOBA.

The Rev. Alexander Mathison, of Osnabruck, in the Presbytery of Brockville, has accepted the appointment of the Home Mission Committee to Manitoba, and leaves for his field of labour early in November. Mr. Mathison is to occupy the district left vacant by Mr. Fletcher, who returns to Ontario, on account of ill health. It is hoped that the Members of our Church will increase their contributions to the Home Mission Funds during this present year, and send them in without delay. At present the fund is more than exhausted.

DR. MERLE D'AUBIGNE.

Our readers are already aware that Dr. Merle D'Aubigne, the historian of the Reformation, died a short time ago in Geneva. He was born in that city, Aug. 16, 1704, and descended from a family who were driven from France by the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. He was educated in his native town, and after his collegiate course there, went to Berlin to attend the lectures of Neander. In 1817 he entered the evangelical ministry, and was for several years pastor of a French church at Hamburg, and afterward the favourite Court preacher of the King of Holland. In 1830 he returned to Geneva, and when the Evangelical Society of that city founded their theological school, he was appointed to the chair of ecclesiastical history. He wrote there his great work, the "History of the Reformation of the Sixteenth Century," of which three editions have been sold in France, and 200,000 copies issued of the English translation. He was also the author of several other works, including "Recollections of a Swiss Minister," and an account of Cromwell's Protectorate. In his last visit to Scotland (1856) he was presented with the freedom of the city of Edinburgh. Dr. Merle D'Aubigne was a man of enlarged and liberal views, and evinced in his writings a spirit of earnest devotion united with a strong adherence to the Protestant faith. He made historical researches with great earnestness, having devoted more than 30 years to the History of the Reformation alone.

MANITOBA COLLEGE.

We are glad to receive two little pamphlets from Manitoba, of a very interesting character; one of them is the "Calendar of Manitoba College at Kildonan"—a neatly printed, nicely got up brochure of fifteen pages, giving all information about the College that would be interesting or necessary to students and friends. We rather think this young institution has in this matter got the start of Knox College in this city. At least we have not seen any College Calendar emanating from the latter institution. We are glad to learn that suitable and substantial buildings have been erected, and that the Rev. Mr. Hart, who went out from the "Kirk" Synod of Canada, is one of the Professors in the Institution, and is acting in hearty accord with the brethren there. This is as it ought to be, so that whatever has taken place in the older provinces, the union in the newer has already been practically consummated. A library has been commenced, and donations from friends are earnestly solicited. We are pleased to notice that already several Bursaries have been established for the encouragement of deserving pupils.

The other little pamphlet is the prospectus of the "Winnipeg Ladies' School." This school has been organized by a number of gentlemen, who felt that there was special need for making some provision for the "higher education" of ladies in Manitoba, and that it would be an additional inducement to those who proposed removing to the West, to know that their daughters could get a first-class education there at moderate rates. It is a joint stock enterprise, and, under the able and energetic management of Professor and Mrs. Bryce, promises to be quite a success. There is no doubt but that a large number of persons will every year go to make homes for themselves in the Canadian Northwest, and it is a wise and politic movement to have such educational institutions in vigorous operation almost from the very first. The school, while conducted on Protestant and Christian principles, is not sectarian, and anything like proselytism will not, we are sure, be ever thought of. We, in this quarter of Canada, seem to be allowing the extreme East and West to have the start of us in the matter of a higher education for ladies. In spite of all that may be said to the contrary, there is abundant room for such an institution in Toronto, and we hope to see it started at no distant day for Presbyterians.

PERSONAL.

Our readers will excuse us if we this week say one or two things of a personal nature.

We have taken the building lately occupied by the proprietors of the *Telegraph* newspaper, and for a week or two past have been fitting it up with all that is necessary to constitute a thoroughly equipped printing office. Things have not yet been brought into thorough working order, and the appearance and general get up of the PRESBYTERIAN are not what we wish them to be, and what we expect to make them in a short time. A great deal of care, labour and expense are necessarily involved in such an undertaking, and our subscribers must have patience with us.

We are now in a position to do job printing at very reasonable rates; and while we do not expect that the fact of our establishing the PRESBYTERIAN should be taken as a reason why any one should submit to bad printing and high charges, yet if we can do the work as well as others or better, and at equally low rates or lower, we do think that those who sympathize with us in our newspaper enterprise should give us an opportunity of showing what we can do in miscellaneous printing. Their doing this is one

way, and a very effective one of supporting the PRESBYTERIAN. We are pleased to state that already a very encouraging amount of job printing has been ordered, and we merely add that in this, as in much else, they do twice, who do quickly.

Another point calls for a word or two. In many cases we are not with the excuse for not subscribing to the PRESBYTERIAN, that other papers of a similar character were started and failed, and that some persons lost more or less of their subscription money by those undertakings. They wish to see first whether our paper is going to die or live, before they risk two dollars or one dollar on its patronage. We have merely to say that such conduct is doing all that lies in the power of these individuals to make good what they profess to fear. We frankly add that we will not continue to publish year after year, the PRESBYTERIAN at a loss. That we could not afford, and though we could, such a course would not be desirable. We are willing to give it a fair chance at even a considerable pecuniary sacrifice for a year or two; but if the great body of the Presbyterians declare by their coldness and indifference that they do not wish such a paper, eventually we shall make our bow and withdraw. Should we, however, be obliged to take this course we have further to say, that we shall take good care that our subscribers have either their paper to the expiry of the term of subscription, or the proportionate part of their money returned. At the same time we cannot but add that if we risk, as we do, thousands of dollars and if we lose them, as in the event of stoppage of the paper in our endeavour to establish a Presbyterian newspaper, we shall, the possibility of losing a dollar or some fractional part of one need not be any very strong reason for not subscribing to an undertaking which professedly is approved of and acknowledged to be greatly needed. We say all this in perfect frankness. We have no wish to see the PRESBYTERIAN lingering on in a puny, sickly, dying condition. If it live, it must live in vigour. If it die, it will die by a very summary process.

We say all this not from any fear or prospect of such a result, but for the benefit of those who have never quite got over the fact that they lost from twenty-five cents to a dollar by the stoppage of denominational papers that had short and not very prosperous lives.

The establishment of a newspaper necessarily involves a heavy outlay. We have made that outlay, and have established a paper that meets general approval. We have no doubt, not as yet come up to our ideal either in matter or size. When our support increases we hope to be able to show great changes and improvements in both these respects. In the meantime we have but to reiterate our request to the many warm, kind friends, who have stood by us hitherto and encouraged us in the undertaking, that they get as many subscribers and advertisements for us as they possibly can.

CONCERNING LYING.

We are not going to write an article *a la* the Country Parson on what some rather pompous personage would call "persistent deviations from strict accuracy." We wish simply to call attention once more to the very potent fact that there is a wonderfully large amount of lying almost everywhere, and that it is not by any means confined to the outside world. The old Scotchman of whom we have all heard said that though David had said *in his haste* that all men were liars, had he been in certain localities, he would have said it at his leisure. It is surely to be regretted that there is so much truth in the remark. Of course in politics lying seems to be taken as a matter of course. In the









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