

AMONG OUR EXCHANGES.

RESULTS OF THE OKA TROUBLES. The Presbyterian Witness believes that one of the results of the Oka troubles will be to excite a warmer interest among Protestants in the poor down-trodden, disinherited children of the forest. A settlement of Algonquins in Argenteuil county has become Protestant. The story is this:—

About the middle of June, Mr. Laggo, of Winchester, Ont., a colporteur, in connection with the Montreal Auxiliary Bible Society, was invited by the chief, who on a tour through Arundel, to visit the settlement. He was cordially welcomed, and obtained permission to preach in several of the houses. As the result of his labors, he received the names of thirty-seven, who promised to renounce the Catholic religion. Fearing, however, lest they might be tempted to abandon their newly espoused faith, Mr. Laggo went to Hudson, and induced Mr. Napoleon Komadas, one of the Oka refugees, to return with him to Arundel. This gentleman did so, and in their own language expounded the great fundamental principles of our Protestant Christianity, namely: that there is remission of sins only through the precious Blood of Christ; that Christ is the only advocate of sinners before the throne, &c., to which they eagerly listened. The result was, that all the Indian families, amounting to fifty persons, abandoned the Roman Catholic Church.

PROTESTANTISM IN ROME.

In a recent letter to the New York Evangelist the Rev. Dr. Philip Schaff gives a very particular account of the work of Protestants in Rome. Aside from his detailed statement, he says that the general attitude of Protestantism there:

The Protestant population, native and foreign, is stated to amount to four thousand, the whole population to 245,000. All the leading evangelical denominations, except the Congregationalists, are at work there since 1870.—The Waldenses, the Free Italian Church, the Methodists, the Episcopalians, and the Baptists. It is an unavoidable evil growing out of the present condition of Protestantism, that these Churches cannot present a united front to Roman Catholics, who attach so much importance to outward unity as an essential mark of the true Church. But the evil will be overruled for greater activity, and it is corrected to some extent by the Evangelical Alliance, which affords a common platform for exhibiting unity in essentials, and liberty in non-essentials.

NORTH-WEST INDIANS.

It is very satisfactory to find that the policy adopted by the Canadian Government for the management and cultivation of the North-West Territories is proving very successful, and promises to be attended with the happiest results. There is peace among all the inhabitants; the Indian tribes are contented; the land is being cultivated; and by the Legislative Council which recently closed its sittings, several regulations were adopted for promoting the growth and prosperity of the whole region. Amongst these special importance is attached to the laws for the administration of justice, for the registration of deeds, for the protection of the buffalo, for the establishment of ferries, for the prevention of gambling, and for the promotion of other needed reforms. All these things will tend to develop the resources of the country, and to give security to the people, and will thus contribute to the future wealth and power, which the North-West is sure to attain.

MINISTERIAL TRAINING.

As a forerunner upon the subject of ministerial training, it is quite significant that some pastors are quitting their fields for theological seminaries. It has been so for twenty-five years past, though not to the same extent as now. The need of thorough preparation for the work of the ministry must at one time be felt by those who engage in it. But in many cases the consciousness is obtained late, and whatever special culture is secured thereafter is the fruit of extraordinary endeavor, but, forth, usual by ordinary means, and the embarrassment, experienced in consequence of fixed ministerial habits and imperfect attainments in the primary studies. For the same reasons, too, discouragement, and the anticipated course is abbreviated. We see in this an occasion for seeing and maintaining right views upon theological education on the part of pastors and churches. The disposition to resign its importance seems to us to be distinguished, in many instances; else why this seeking of the seminaries under such disadvantages? If it be true that all, or a majority of our uneducated ministers would be glad of the special advantages referred to, then all should advocate a course of study, and, as a rule, not consent to the ordination of young men who can, and yet will not take it.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE for August is a brilliant summer Number, containing one hundred and twenty-six engravings, and an unusual variety of novel and entertaining reading matter. The Number opens with a superbly illustrated paper on the White Mountains. Then from the mountains the reader is taken to the sea-side—to the beautiful old port of Castine and the Camden Hills. Under the title of "The Golden Treasury of Kasium," William C. Prime contributes a very entertaining paper on General Di Costello's recent discoveries in Cyprus, with forty-two illustrations. There is in the Easy Chair for this Number published for the first time, a short story written by the late John Lathrop Moly when he was seventeen years old. This Number contains three articles of special interest to sportsmen. There are three illustrated poems—Lay Larion's "Friend Brook," Thomas Davidson's "Scotch Ballads," "The Jack-Black Clown," with illustrations by Fredericks, and Mrs. Spofford's "Island of Plan Island," with three illustrations by Richter. Edward Everett Hyde contributes a poem on "The Meeting House," and Sidney Lanier one entitled "The Waving of the Corn."

Dr. John W. Draper contributes a paper with fifteen illustrations, on the Difficult Spectacles showing a new kind of light, heat, and actinism are in the last scientific analysis. Very timely now, though it would be exceedingly interesting at any time, is Eugene Lawrence's thrilling story of Mahomet's career.

THINGS IN SHORT METRE.

The estimated value of the Jewish Synagogues in the United States is set down at \$5,897,400. The Newfoundland seal fishery for the season has resulted in a catch of 413,000 seals. The recent General Presbyterian Assembly in Chicago, voted against the use of unforgotten wine in communion. If you have religion you need not tell people about it; they will find it out after trading with you for a little while.—Es. A new Church has been opened at Fresno, Italy, under the auspices of the Free Church of Scotland. A quart of Peaches for every man, woman, and child in the country, is the estimated crop from Delaware alone this season. The Presbyterian Church in the city of Mexico, has during the last year, received more than 500 converts into its communion. Be what you are. Ape no greatness. Be content to pass for what you are worth. A good nickle is better than a counterfeit dollar. A Moravian Missionary named Balfe, with his two daughters and son, have been murdered at their station at Lance, in Labrador. The murderers were drunken Esquimaux.

A resolution in favor of disestablishment has been carried by 460 to 78 votes in the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland. There has been for some time a want of harmony in the Anglican Synod of Toronto, owing to the too common difference between the "High" and "Low" churches. The division has lately become more marked and the prospect is that a rupture will take place. Joseph Greenbrough died recently at Kirkdale jail, Scotland, aged 81, and leaving property valued at \$1,250,000. He was, at the time of his death, undergoing a sentence of a year's imprisonment for disorderly and riotous conduct. It has been calculated that for every pound sterling England expends in missions she receives ten in trade, and the same ratio will hold in the United States. The oldest Christian Church in the world is probably one in Algeria, in the pavement of which is a stone with an inscription stating that it was built in 328 A. D., soon after the conversion of Constantine. Several portions of the building are still in good repair. We are happy to hear of a church in Chicago which is building itself a new meeting-house to cost the considerable sum of \$25,000. And it is to seat 800 persons, too. Name, Jefferson Park Presbyterian; pastor, Rev. F. L. Patton; motive, Romans 13:8.—Congregationalist.

The second part of Luther's Old Testament translation, in the reformer's own hand-writing, dating as far back as 1523, has been discovered by the director of the Ducal Archives at Zerbst, Anhalt. The friends of England, are not numerous—there is less than 15,000 of them; but they are very active. They intend to send two missionaries to the United States, and one is to start shortly on a Gospel journey through South Africa, Madagascar, Australia, and California. Dr. Montford says Glasgow has more Presbyterian churches than any other city in the world. There are in all 185, of which the established Church has 49; Free Church, 70; United Presbyterian, 52; Covenanters, 1; United Original Seceders, 3; Moravians, 10. Besides these, there are 35 churches of other evangelical denominations. The city has a population of over half a million. A man by the name of Henry Adams, who was recently hung at Dayton, Ohio, is reported as having been so drunk at the time that he scarcely knew what was transpiring. If his prison keepers had done their duty, such would not have been his state at the time of his execution. The law refuses to hang a man if he is insane, and does not contemplate that the culprit shall be drunk at the time. Of the six missionaries of the English General Baptist Missionary Society who are laboring in the Orissa district in India, three went out 31, 32, and 35 years ago, respectively. The society calls for young men to be ready for the positions which these veterans must soon make vacant. Says the Independent: "When a Unitarian becomes 'liberal' he loses his Church; then he preaches awhile in a hall; then he loses his hearers; then he takes to writing for the magazines or lecturing on Spenser; and meanwhile the rest of us go to church and send our children to Sunday-school as though nothing had happened. The Dublin Daily Express states that, since 1801, while the Roman Catholics in Great Britain and Ireland have increased at the rate of twenty-eight per cent., the Protestants have increased at the rate of one hundred and twenty per cent. Protestantism has, therefore, been advancing nearly five times faster than Romanism since the beginning of the present century. It is reported, we hope untrue, that in one large church in Brooklyn the minister smokes the sexton smokes, the Sunday-school superintendent smokes, and the boys smoke. If so, is all this done for the glory of God and the advancement of Christ's kingdom? The sooner all denominations adopt an iron-clad rule that no smoker can be admitted as a student for the ministry unless he abandon the habit the better; and the same rule for Sabbath school teachers would be singularly advantageous for the boys under them.—N. Y. Times.

The temperance reformers of Scotland are active and energetic, always on the alert for an opportunity to promote their cause, and always vigorous in asserting their claims. The other day they sent a strong deputation to the moderators and other members of the General Assemblies of the Church of Scotland and the Free Church. All the well-known arguments were urged, and not without effect. Each Assembly is committed to the discussion of the subject; and each will thus tend its moral influence in promoting the reformation. Mr. Wm. E. Dodge, of New York, recently resigned his membership in the Union League Club of New York, because that institution makes a profit on the sale of liquors in its building. We fear this brave and earnest man was left to take this step alone. When all Christians become as jealous over personal consistency, and as fearless in obeying their convictions, they will control society. It is not greater numbers we chiefly need, but more conscience and courage. The tenacity with which some men of one idea endeavor to impose their hobby on others is well illustrated in the case of Dr. LeMoine, the crematist, of Pennsylvania, who, it is stated, to make sure that all his children shall follow his example and be cremated, has made a will providing that his heirs shall, before receiving their legacies, make a formal promise to be burned after death. Our brightly contemporary, the Methodist, speaking of the death in this city of a brother eminent for his piety says that "he died with the happy assurance which is characteristic of Wesleyan experience." This is the finest-drawn bit of denominational humor we have met with in a long time. It now only remains for some Presbyterian contemporary to match it by saying of another brother that "he died with that happy assurance which is characteristic of Calvinistic experience." And why not? Happy assurance at death is not, we trust, the exclusive property of any denomination. The N. Y. Independent is authority for the statement that "the New York Chief of Police has declared that three-fourths, at least, of the abandoned young women of the city were first approached through the round dances by the rillians who effected their ruin. Have you ever reflected on hideous facts like that? The old magicians were thought to carry demons in the soles of their finger-rings. There may be more devils than fingers in the grasp with which some whickered scoundrel presses a fair young girl to his bosom in the delirious reel of a waltz." Bull-fights are still the rage in Spain, and barbed arrows are still thrown in the bulls' necks where they occasion a series of explosions of hissing and torturing which drives the poor brutes mad, while the other brutes, with his Catholic Majesty Alfonso, look on and applaud. Since Spain is the very focus of Romish teaching, and should therefore present a model of good government, might not Cardinal Manning address a word of counsel to the king? Or if this is impracticable might not some deluded Protestant form an Association and do something toward showing Alfonso and the priests that bull-fighting is not the noblest method for royalty and the priesthood? The London Times publishes an account of an "electric candle," invented by a Russian ex-officer, M. Paul Jablockoff, now in Paris. This gentleman uses a "candle" of some compound which is his secret, but into which "kaolin," the clay from which hard china is made, largely enters, and with one battery can produce some fifty lights. They are so powerful that it is necessary to soften the light by using opaline burners, and six of them gave, in the Marigny Hall, Paris, a light equal to that from one hundred argand gas burners. It is believed that this light can be used for churches and all other large buildings, and further improvements are expected, but as yet nothing is said either of its cost or of the amount of trouble involved. The main cause as yet is that M. Jablockoff has succeeded in dividing the electric light so that one battery would light fifty electric candles placed, say, along Broadway. This is an ominous fact for gas companies to think over, that is if gas companies ever do think.

News of the Week.

NEW BRUNSWICK.—The Moncton Times says the Light House and Pier at Hillsboro, erected by the Dominion Government at a cost of \$200,000, is going to destruction in consequence of immense quantities of plaster being allowed to be deposited on the pier. The train on Western Extension Railway will be altered in the first week in September from five feet six inches to four feet eight and a half inches. Arrangements are now being made for rolling stock and everything necessary to make the change effective. On Thursday, a young man, aged 17 years, fell from a boat near the railway wharf, Dorchester, and was drowned. It would appear he had taken the boat with the intention of running away. The death is announced of John Henry Thomas Manners-Sutton, Viscount, Canterbury, formerly Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick. The Globe says the wharves present a scene of activity. Gangs of men are at work repairing the burnt portions, and other gangs are employed in loading and unloading the large number of vessels that are in port. In a very short time the wharves will be in good condition as ever, and traffic will thus be enabled to be resumed. The potato bug has made its appearance at McAdam Junction, destroying the tops of a field of potatoes owned by Mr. James Clark. The ground was literally covered with them. The Gazette announces George H. Maxwell, Joseph Leaver, Michael Reed, David Maxwell, Andrew McGee and James Kinney, Esquires, to be Justices of the Peace for the County of Charlotte. John Buryash, A. M., to be Provincial Assessor.

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A telegram from the same place states a Russian column is marching upon the Balkans via Benier-Eaker. The Russians yesterday occupied the heights commanding Nicopolis. To-day the Turks abandoned the heights, and the Russians occupied the place. It is officially announced in St. Petersburg, that the advance guard of the Russian army passed the Balkans on the evening of the 15th, without firing a shot. On the afternoon of the 14th, Gen. Gourke surprised 300 Nizairs, at Manake, 15 miles north-west of Yezil Saghra, at the southern debouchment of a difficult and unfrequented road known as Twarditka Pass. The Russian loss was one killed and five wounded. A telegram from Constantinople confirms the report that the Russians who number 15, not 12, battalions, have crossed the mountains through Twarditka Pass. This pass is supposed to be a faint to withdraw the Turks from Schipka Pass.

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