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lament her fate. The cause of human freedom is endangered by any continuance of her power. The Gazette speaks of the church, as the guardian of the spiritual interests of mankind, and the Church of Rome for such as adhere to it. But its own words condemn it. Speaking of the Church of Rome in Spain it says:—"Spain alone now remains faithful to the Holy See; and, perhaps, it is not too much to say that the amount of credit which that nation brings to the church is not very great."

Poor Spain! See the misstatement of facts in that clause. It is not Spain, but the Church of Rome, that does the irreparable wrong; vide Ireland, Portugal, South America, France, and lastly, the province and city of Quebec. Rome saps the sources of vitality in every land where her sway is permitted,—where are to be seen any evidences of her enlightenment. She is conscious that her pretensions once fairly attacked must fall, and therefore stifles free discussion, though even the ancient Greeks and Romans never hesitated to hear both sides of questions; nay, indeed, sought to know the most that could be said for each.

THE DEAF AND DUMB.

(To the Editor of the Daily Witness.)

Sir,—In the August part of the *New Dominion Monthly*, I read an excellent article on the "Deaf and Dumb," by one of that class, which will be read by the friends and relations of the hundreds of uneducated deaf and dumb in the Province of Quebec with great interest. I am also glad to see that the writer intends to review the philanthropic labors on behalf of the deaf and dumb of Canada in the next article. No doubt many will look out for it with anxiety and great interest. But, sir, from what I know of the deaf and dumb in Canada and in the States, I can hardly believe such an article could be produced by a deaf-mute, unless he be of extraordinary intellectual ability, and of superior education. If the mental capabilities of the deaf and dumb can be brought to such a respectable niche of fame, it would be well for the parents and friends, and, also, our Provincial Government to do their utmost to educate all the deaf and dumb of proper school age in Canada, who, I believe, number several hundreds.

The great difficulty the public experience in this matter is, that they know so very little about the means of education of this peculiarly unfortunate class that many believe they can never be educated at all. I understand there is a deaf and dumb school in Montreal, under the supervision of priests and nuns, but can you, Mr. Editor, or the writer in the *New Dominion Monthly*, inform the many friends of the deaf-mutes if there is a Protestant deaf-and-dumb institution in Montreal or in the Province of Quebec?

There are many Protestant deaf-and-dumb children of school age, and their friends appear to know so little about this delicate subject, that it would be of great importance to enlighten them, if possible, through the medium of your widely-circulated paper before the school duties of the Roman-Catholic institution recommence, so as to enable the Protestant deaf-mutes to be sent to a proper place. Hoping you will find space for this in your valuable paper,

A FRIEND OF DEAF-MUTES.

[The writer of the article in the *New Dominion Monthly* is a compositor in our printing-office, and any one who doubts his ability to write it can bring a slate and converse with him on this subject.—Rd. Wit.]

DOMINION RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

(To the Editor of the Daily Witness.)

Sir,—Permit me through your valuable paper to draw attention to the prizes offered in the prize list of the Dominion Rifle Association. I see that nearly all the prizes are to be shot for with fancy rifles. This is a great injustice to our Volunteers, and contrary to the object for which the money was raised. Our Volunteers are not all men of money that are able to pay £40 for a small-bore rifle. I think that all the matches should be shot for with the Snider rifle, and so give all the same chance. If private parties choose to give prizes to be shot for with the small-bore rifles, well and good; but I think that all the prizes offered by the Association should be within the reach of every Volunteer.

I am, &c., A VOLUNTEER.

Montreal, August 1st, 1868.

RELIGIOUS NEWS.

—The largest Congregational Church in America is Plymouth Church, Brooklyn,—the Rev. H. W. Beecher's,—which has over 1,700 members; and next in size is the First Church of Oberlin, with about 1,400 members.

DEAN ALFORD AT CHESHURT.—We have little doubt that not a few, both among Churchmen and Dissenters, have been startled by the announcement that Dean Alford was to preside at the Centenary Festival of Cheshunt College. Here, at least, is a new thing in the earth, a veritable Dean of Canterbury presiding at a meeting of a Nonconformist College! What is "up" now? Is the College going over to the Church, or is the Dean going over to Dissent? The same announcement informs us that Mr. Binney is to preach the sermon; so it does not look as though the College were about to be

will the curates say? Will they be prepared to go and do likewise when occasion offers?—*London paper*

TRAINING MINISTERS.—An experiment has been going on in Nottinghamshire for the last eight years concerning the training of evangelists. For three years the labor had been carried on in a private way, and five years ago a conference held at Derby decided that the work should be continued, fixed upon Nottingham as the place, and took measures to found there the Congregational Institute for Theological and Missionary training. At the end of the first year the house which had been occupied had to be exchanged for larger premises, and now a new building has been erected in the Forest Road, and inaugurated for the uses of the future of the enterprise. It was stated that during about five years no fewer than 300 applications had been made for the privileges of the Institute; resulting in the reception of 101 on probation. Of this number, eight were advised, during or at the close of their probation, to withdraw, and eight others, for various and sufficient reasons, withdrew. Of these 85 probationers, 14 have been transferred, or are in process of transfer to other institutions, 34 still remain, and 43 have gone out to their work. Of these, 21 have settled in pastorates, while 22 have gone to evangelistic labor. Within ten months no fewer than 129 applications have been made for men trained there. The total cost of the building without the land has been £5,400. During the first three years there was a balance in favor of running expenses. In the fourth, ending in August last, the balance was on the wrong side, to the extent of £280, 16s. 9d. The new accommodations can receive and train 100 students at once.—*Letter from England.*

SUCCESSOR OF DR. HAMILTON.—A determined effort was made by the congregation of Regent-square Presbyterian Church (late of Dr. Hamilton's), at the meeting of the Free Church Presbytery of Edinburgh on the 9th inst., to obtain the Rev. J. H. Wilson, of Barclay Church, Edinburgh, as their pastor. They were ably supported by the representatives of the London Presbytery; and the deputation that appeared was one of the most influential that has been seen for many a day in any of the Church courts of the north. The commissioners from Mr. Wilson's present congregation were as intent upon retaining him in his present charge as were the London deputies to secure his removal; and when we state that the rev. gentleman himself declared in the most unequivocal terms that he did not see his way to accept the call, and had made up his mind that he ought to remain in Edinburgh, our readers may form some idea of the difficulty which the members of the Presbytery must have had in making up their minds. On, however, taking into consideration all the circumstances of the case, and especially the importance of strengthening the Presbyterian cause in London, the Presbytery resolved, by a majority of sixteen to six, to translate Mr. Wilson to the southern metropolis. This is a strong step to take, but it is one which the Free Church has taken more than once when she considers that the greater good of the Church is promoted by setting aside the wishes of the individual minister, and casting his lot in another part of the country. Effect, however, cannot as yet be given to the Presbytery's decision in this case, seeing that Mr. Wilson's congregation in Edinburgh have taken an appeal to the Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale, the body which has supervision of the proceedings of the inferior court. The congregation of Regent-square have, we may state, agreed to give a stipend of £800.—*London paper.*

FUNERAL SERMON.—The funeral sermon of the late Miss Mathieson was preached on Sunday morning, the 2nd instant, in St. Andrew's church, by the Rev. Dr. Cook. The text was Exodus, 1st chap., 6th verse:—"And Joseph died, and all his brethren, and all that generation." The preacher dwelt at considerable length upon the continued work of death upon succeeding generations, from the generation which beheld Joseph down to the present time. After pointing out the certainty of a future life, and showing that man's errand here was to prepare himself to be the inheritor of a blessed hereafter, he enforced the necessity of being always prepared for the change; and, in so doing, adduced the sad instance of the late Miss Mathieson, who had been unexpectedly snatched away from her relatives and her friends, by whom she was so dearly beloved. He spoke highly of her many virtues, that would long keep her memory fresh in the minds of all who knew her, and concluded by exhorting all who heard him to be ready for the approach of the last enemy—Death.

MONTREAL METEOROLOGY OF JULY.—From the records of the Montreal Observatory for July, made by Dr. Smallwood, M.D. LL.D., D.O.L., it appears that the highest reading of the barometer was on the 6th day, and indicated 29.902 inches, and the lowest reading was on the 31st day and was 29.446 inches, showing a small monthly range of 0.456 of an inch. Rain fell on seven days, amounting to 2.124 inches, there was an interval of 16 days during the month on which no rain in appreciable quantity fell. The mean temperature of the month was 76°, which exceeds by three degrees the *Isothermal* for Montreal deduced from observations continued during a long series of years. The greatest heat attained was 98.7 degrees on the 13th day; but the hottest day of the month was the 14th day. There were during the month two distinct hot terms, the first including the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th days, when the daily mean temperature was 82° 3, 84° 7, 84° 4 and 83° 1, respectively; the thermometer never indicating less than 72° 7 during the 24 hours. The second hot term in-