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Note and Comment.

Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, is busy at work on the memorial which is to be erected in St. Paul's Cathedral, London, to commemorate the heroes of the Colonial forces who fell in South Africa.

Though there are millions of acres of lands in Canada as yet untouched, it becomes manifest that the Ontario Government is taking an early and wise precaution against the extinction of forests in that province.

Bethany Church, Philadelphia, now has five associate pastors. Two of them are from our own Church. The membership of this church is now 3,110 with a Sabbath School membership of 5,585.

An authority estimates that among the half million of French Canadians in the New England States there are 40,000 Presbyterians. This fact affords encouragement in connection with the prosecution of our French Evangelization work.

The Presbyterians and other evangelical denominations of the United States are doing effective evangelistic work in Porto Rico. The success which is attending their efforts is compelling the Roman Catholic clergy to reform their methods.

Owing to British occupation Darkest Africa can now be penetrated without discomfort as the steamers which ply on the Nile are equal to the floating palaces on the Hudson or St. Lawrence; while the trains have cars like the Grand Trunk and a service quite as good otherwise.

The Christian Observer states that out of the 1,437 institutions of higher education in Canada and the United States, 294 contributed last year to the cause of foreign missions the sum of \$40,561. The faculty and other friends of the students swelled the amount to \$57,600.

Dr. Delbruck, of Bremen, Germany, does not think that beer is a good temperance drink or a drink to be used as a substitute for strong spirits. He says that of 140 patients who were treated in a North German asylum for drunkards, 41 had been alcoholized by drinking spirits, 38 by wine drinking and 78 or one-half, by the excessive use of beer.

A young man in an inquiry meeting said to Rev. Dr. Cuyler: "My besetting sin is to swear." The minister's answer to him was: "Confess your sin to God and stop swearing." That would be genuine repentance. Oh, how many young men in these days need to confess their besetting sin of profane swearing and then stop the practice.

According to Zion's Herald, twenty or thirty men practically control the trade, and therefore indirectly the wealth, of the United States. One twelfth of the whole estimated wealth of the great republic is said to be re-

presented when all the directors of the United States Steel Corporation are in attendance at the board meeting. This is a serious state of affairs for that country and her people. Canada should take warning.

Two of the most prominent Congregational ministers in Boston Drs. Gordon and McKenzie, says the Presbyterian Journal, recently exchanged pulpits with Unitarians. This is an innovation that could not have occurred a few years ago. One of the Congregationalists, Dr. Gordon, was brought up as a Presbyterian, as was also one of the Unitarians, Dr. Eells. The latter held at least two pastorates in the Presbyterian church.

The London Presbyterian says that General Booth, that veteran of travel, is said to contemplate another voyage to South Africa in March. It will be his third visit to that country, and he has also been four times to the United States and Canada, and twice to Australia and India. It was Sir Henry Stanley's book on "Darkest Africa" that made the title of General Booth's book, "In Darkest England and the Way Out," so striking and brought the scheme so rapidly into prominence. General Booth will be seventy five in April.

"There are four reasons why the United States does not establish a parcel post," once said one of the ablest men who ever served Uncle Sam as Postmaster General. "One reason is the Adams Express Company, another is the American Express Company, another the Wells-Fargo Express Company." The establishment of a parcel post would deprive these greedy corporations of the monopoly they enjoy. American legislators, apparently, are afraid to tackle them.

The Rev. R. A. Torrey, evangelist, has been making some interesting comparisons as to religious conditions on this continent, and in the Old Land. One thing has impressed him very much, as stated in the following: "I think that at the present time there are in Great Britain and Ireland more leaders in commercial and political life who are men of deep spirituality and intense aggressiveness in soul-winning work than in America. The humility and love for their Master and the activity in his service on the part of many members of the nobility in Great Britain are occasions for abundant thanksgiving to God." The Christian Guardian thinks Mr. Torrey is right, and that to some extent Canada will rank with the United States in this matter.

Dr. Torrey, evangelist, and his singing companion, Mr. Alexander, have been holding immense revival meetings in Birmingham, England, some of them attended by upwards of 8,000 people. Of the unity which prevailed the Birmingham correspondent of the Glasgow Leader wrote: "Here, as in the North, gulfs divide the various religious denominations, and the recent Education Bill has widened the breach between Churchmen and Nonconformists. But for the time being there is no dividing line in Birmingham. The Churches are one.

The unity is remarkable. One of the most earnest and enthusiastic workers is the Rev. J. John Hunt, vicar of St. Barnabas church; and side by side with him on the platform, one may see such a stalwart of Nonconformity as the Rev. J. H. Jowett, of Carr's Lane Chapel. That is typical of what is going on."

"Friends, believers in God and in the word of God, how shall we convince and convert our opponents," was the question asked at a Sabbath afternoon Gospel service in Manchester, E., by an Anglican clergyman. He answered it by saying: "Never by arguments to prove that they are wrong; never by contempt to prove that they are fools; never by denunciation to prove that they are wicked. Partly by sympathetic and truthful statements of our own faith; but most of all by creating round us, each in his little circle, a spirit of great human love for men for the sake of Christ. . . . The test of Christianity is the resolve and the power of Christians to solve social problems. If the Bible inspires Christians with the zeal and the wisdom and the love needed for this task, no one will dispute its claim to be verily 'The Word of God'."

The Haddington public house census recently given in Mr. Stead's new London daily paper shows four times as many Sunday visitors to the drink-shops as there were worshippers at all the churches and chapels; ten times more men, almost twice as many women, and 3,689 more children. What would other congested districts show—in other great cities of Great Britain as well as in London? Is it any wonder that the Christian men and women of the United Kingdom are being thoroughly aroused to the imminence of the danger which threatens the nation from the development of the traffic in strong drink? What would a census of the attendance on Sunday at Ottawa drinking shops show?

The Irish temperance league of Belfast, at its annual meeting some weeks ago, had the statement embodied in its report that for a long time teetotal officers in the British army and navy had occasionally been subject to considerable annoyance owing to many at the messes attempting to coerce them into drinking intoxicants when his Majesty's health was proposed, representing that not to do so was disrespectful. Early last year it was privately circulated that his Majesty had expressed dissent from this view, and later a prominent lady member of the league being anxious to secure an authoritative statement on the subject, made inquiries, and was officially informed that "It is his Majesty's pleasure that total abstinents should drink his health in water." On his visit to Ireland later on the executive of the league presented him with an address and following this His Majesty conferred the honor of knighthood on the chairman of the executive committee of the league, Mr. Robert Anderson. This act must be regarded as a tacit acknowledgment on the part of King Edward of the good work being done by the Irish Temperance League. It is worthy of note that many titled ladies and gentlemen in Great Britain are heartily promoting the temperance campaign now going on in that country.