

## British and Foreign

Rev. John M'Neill has begun a fortnight's mission at Nairn.

The gold output of Alaska, United States, is officially estimated at 1,788,000 dollars.

Nairn Free Church congregation, by a large majority, has decided to introduce hymns into public worship.

A great Presbyterian missionary demonstration, to be held in Newcastle on March 8th, is being arranged for.

The Free Church Sustentation Fund continues to advance. This month it has taken another step forward and shows an increase of \$27,240.

Rev. P. Carnegie Simpson, M.A., Wallington, is about to receive a call to Renfield Free Church, Glasgow (Dr. Marcus Dods' former charge).

Rev. Alexander Stuart Martin, M.A., B.D., parish minister of Seone, has been appointed as an Examiner in Divinity at the University of Edinburgh.

Rev. Mr. M'Morran, Edinburgh, son of the Free Church minister of Dunoon, has been appointed assistant to Rev. Dr. Henderson, in Crieff Free Church.

The late Miss Ann Sheriffs, Aberdeen, has bequeathed \$10,000 to the schemes of the Free Church, and \$7,000 to various Aberdeen charities and benevolent institutions.

Rev. Dr. Alexander Maclaren will complete his seventy-third year on the 11th of February. The wonderful energy and vigor he displays in his pulpit work at his age is truly remarkable.

The Indian Government has been offered by Mr. Jamestsji Tata the sum of \$1,250,000 for the establishment in India of a university for research on the model of the Johns Hopkins University.

The next course of Cunningham Lectures will commence on the 7th of next month in Edinburgh. The lecturer is Dr. Stalker, and his subject is "The Christology of Jesus; or, Christ's Teaching about Himself."

Rev. J. T. Middlemiss, of North Bridge Street Church, Sunderland, has been unanimously appointed president of the Sunderland Free Church Council. Mr. Middlemiss is also ex-president of the Sunday-school Union.

The Marquis of Huntley, Lord Rector of Aberdeen University, at the last meeting of the court, intimated that the offer by Mr. C. W. Mitchell, Newcastle-on-Tyne, of \$50,000 for the restoration of Greyfriars Church had been withdrawn.

The death is announced of Rev. Gavin Anderson, M.A., of High Church, Dundee, at the age of fifty-six. Mr. Anderson was born in Edinburgh, and attended Dr. Candlish's Church, for whose memory he cherished a lasting regard. He was ordained in 1872.

The order of "deaconesses" is being re-established in some sections of the Presbyterian Church in England, despite a protest that they might be associated with the idea of "nuns," as in the Roman Catholic Church.

A tax of 8s (10 fr.) a year has been placed on bicycles in Belgium. Official statistics show that 100,000 bicycles have been declared by their owners, whereby the State has been benefitted to the extent of 1,000,000 francs, or about £40,000.

The Rev. J. S. Moffat, son of the late Dr. Robert Moffat, sailed again for the Cape on Saturday, the 28th ult. He has spent forty years in Bechuanaland. During his stay in England he has been championing the cause of the native races of South Africa.

A Derry farmer (a sturdy Irish Presbyterian), having left nearly £1,000 to be spent in distributing the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon's sermons, his relatives contested the will; a compromise has been agreed to by which the relatives get two-thirds of the amount.

Dentists in Germany are using false teeth made of paper, instead of porcelain or mineral composition. These paper-teeth are said to be very satisfactory, as they do not break or chip, are not sensitive to heat or cold or to the action of the moisture of the mouth, and are very cheap.

It is perhaps not very generally known that Leo XIII. is the first Pope of Rome who has visited England since the historic visit of Pope Innocent, many hundreds of years ago. In 1843, the present Pope, while Papal Nuncio at Brussels, paid a short visit to London, and was presented to the Queen at Buckingham Palace.

The Rev. William Ross, of Cowcaddens Free Church, Glasgow, has just made the remarkable statement that during the last twenty-five years he has performed the marriage ceremony for no couple who have not previously undertaken to have no alcoholic liquors at the subsequent festivities. It is still more surprising that in only five or six cases out of about a thousand have the bride and bridegroom refused to agree to Mr. Ross' conditions.

The vacant canony at Westminster Abbey and the living of St. Margaret's, which is attached to it, are the objects of great interest, and, no doubt, of great expectations just now. Canon Wilberforce, the present chaplain of the House of Commons, is mentioned as the most probable appointment. It is said, however, that the Rev. Cosmo Gordon Lang, at present vicar of Portsea, son of Dr. Marshall Lang, of Glasgow, will have an influential support. Dean Farrar, and, before him, Dean Milman, occupied the pulpit of St. Margaret's, while to Presbyterians it is interesting to remember that Richard Baxter preached there for a time.

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