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Note and Comment.

The Lord Mayor of London's Fund for the national memorial to Queen Victoria amounts to £156,200.

A notoriety seeking woman strapped herself in a specially built barrel, last week, and allowed herself to float over Niagara Falls. Fortune was better to her than she deserved for she came out alive.

It is rumoured in Carnarvon that in all probability the proclamation of the Duke of Cornwall and York as the Prince of Wales will take place within the walls of Carnarvon Castle, the birthplace of the first Prince of Wales.

Austria is still trying to devise means of preventing American industrial competition. The best method of all would be to manufacture in Austria better articles than are imported from the United States. But this idea does not seem to occur to the manufacturers.

An autocrat is sometimes able to do things impossible in a republic. Some speculators were recently able to corner all the corn in Mexico, and placed their own price upon it. President Diaz at once removed the tariff on corn, urged the railroads to make a low rate on shipments from the United States, and the price went lower than ever before. This is arbitrary power, but wisely exercised.

Speaking at Stirling last week Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons, characterized as barbarous some of the methods of warfare which had been adopted by the British, and said the Government's object should be to bring about contentment in South Africa under the predominant power of Great Britain.

Froude, the historian, said that Calvinists were the only fighting Protestants in the Reformation days, and if to-day they valued civil rights and religious liberty, then let them hold fast to Presbyterianism. Even John Morley, the agnostic, and no particular friend of Presbyterianism, said: 'He who omits Calvin from the forces that go to make up western life, reads history with one eye shut.'

It is feared, in France, that the Waldeck-Rousseau cabinet will not survive the coming elections. It is the best government France has had for years, and came into power at a most critical period. It has lasted longer than was expected, maintained quiet and order, and given France the best government it is possible for it to have. Its defeat will be a severe blow to the republic.

Rev. Mr. MacGillivray is laboring in Soanghai, industriously translating books that will have an important influence on the China of the future. The last book translated by him was 'The Spirit of Christ,' by Dr. Andrew Murray. It is interesting to find repeated evidence that the converts continue faithfully to preach the Gospel, and in the absence of the missionary are aggressive

notwithstanding persecution. Regular meetings are held amongst themselves and they seek to publish the Gospel amongst their countrymen. Dr. Leslie is pursuing his studies in Great Britain, but expresses the wish that if any of the missionaries return this fall he be amongst the number. The missionaries are impatient with delay and are eager to return to the work that they manifestly love and in which they have been blessed.

The Buffalo Exposition has closed. It is reported to have been a failure financially, and there is even some doubt whether enough has been realized to pay off the first mortgage bonds. The holders of the second mortgage bonds seem to agree that no payment will be made to them. The unpaid contractors are clamoring to get the 70 per cent still due on their claims. The second mortgage bonds total \$500,000.

Correspondents in London would have us believe that society there is greatly disturbed by rumours regarding the present state of King Edward's health. An impression prevails that the King is suffering from some organic complaint—cancer, or Bright's disease or both. These rumours may possibly have some slight foundation, but we can place little reliance on statements by these correspondents, for their sources of information are generally unreliable, and they are given to exaggerate everything they hear.

In the first year of Queen Victoria's reign, 1837, the British and Foreign Bible Society issued 550,000 copies of the Scriptures. In the last year of her reign its circulation was nearly ten times greater—namely, 5,074,000 copies. In 1837 the society issued the last Scriptures in 135 languages. Last year its list included 373 languages. This shows that during Queen Victoria's reign in no less than 238 new languages at least some portion of the Scriptures has been prepared, and the work of revision and translation is still going on.

The Missionary Review of the World has the following: As a result of the Japanese Buddhist mission to this country, instituted a year or so ago, a church called the "Dharma-Sangha of Buddha" has been established in San Francisco, with 3 branches in other Californian towns. In the San Francisco temple there is a membership of 300 in the Young Men's Buddhist Association, mostly of Japanese. At an English service on Sundays, 20 or more Americans are present, of whom 11 have already been converted to Buddhism, and have openly professed that they "take their refuge in Buddha, in his gospel and in his order."

A strange minister was asked to speak at a Sunday-school soiree in Auchtermuchty. After he had spoken for some time, picturing the beauties of heaven, and contrasting them with the very ordinary landscape of a coal-producing district, he asked all who wished to go to a better world to stand up. All the children rose except one small boy at the end of one of the seats. The minister was pained, and he looked in a very reproachful way at the little fellow. "My child," he

said, very gently and solemnly, as befitted the occasion, "why don't you rise with the others?" "Because Auchtermuchty's guid enough for me," sang out the youngster, and the platform shed tears—but they were of laughter.

In September Miss Helen Gladstone, daughter of the great premier, took residence in the University Settlement, at Nelson Square, Southwark. She has given up her high educational work at Cambridge, in order to prosecute a practical social effort among the industrious poor of Blackfriars' Road and Borough. As warden she will be the head of a band consisting of 16 members and students, all of whom are earnest workers in the cause of social reform. Women and children are their chief concern, spending their time in visiting, nursing the sick, teaching cripples, providing country holidays, and generally striving to make the lives of the people happier and brighter. Miss Sewell, who now retires on account of ill health, has been warden for many years.

The great Free Churchman, Dr. Maclaren, recently uttered a bitter lament on the decadence of society. Like Isaiah, he believes "The land is full of silver and gold, neither is there any end of their treasures; the land also is full of idols." Dr. Maclaren thinks the growing wealth, the loosening bonds of religion, the growing luxury, the ungodliness of all classes, the synical lack of faith in Christianity, are enough to break the heart of workers for social regeneration. The social life of England, the corruptions of our municipalities, the public actions of the nation, the intemperance of the masses, call for a reunion of Christian people, who should forget their differences in face of the common foe.

The N. Y. Sun gives some figures to show what it cost Sir Thomas Lipton to contest for the America Cup. The last series of races cost him nearly half a million dollars. The yacht itself cost \$300,000, and the expenses of the races were upwards of \$250,000 more. He spent even more than this in his trial two years ago, and altogether it is estimated that he spent a million and a quarter of dollars in trying to lift the Cup. And yet he has not won it. There are some things that money cannot buy. That Cup is worth only a few hundred dollars, and Sir Thomas Lipton is worth millions, but he cannot get it: all his millions would not buy it. He is reported as saying that it was easy enough to raise \$500,000, or to find men that would put up almost any sum of money, but the difficulty is to find a designer, a man that can build a ship with speed enough to capture the Cup. Money can buy steel and spars and sails, but it cannot buy brains that will put them together into a winning boat. It is good for us in our materialistic age, when we are disposed to think that money can do everything, to run up against something that money cannot buy, and it would include the best things in the world, and these are the things that we can all get. "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favor rather than silver and gold."