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OVER LAND AND SEA.

One of the most picturesque personalities in the ministry of the Church of Scotland is the Rev. Dr. Smith of Cathcart, "father" of the Glasgow Presbytery, and an ex-moderator of the General Assembly. Although the rev. gentleman has reached his 92nd year, he still continues to manifest a living interest in all matters pertaining to his church and parish. Dr. Smith has just celebrated the 68th anniversary of his ordination to his pastoral charge—a record that would be difficult to match in any denomination in any country. In these days of frequent ministerial changes, when clergymen are even laying themselves open to the charge of being called "solicitors-general," it is refreshing to meet with such an instance of ministerial constancy as the incumbent of Cathcart affords.

The pleasing announcement was made on March 8th, that the debt of \$115,000 hitherto resting on the American Board of Foreign Missions was wiped out. The successful movement for the removal of the debt was started by a donation of \$25,000 from D. Willis James, of New York, and the Misses Mary and Margaret W. Leitch, whose missionary work in Ceylon is well known the world over, also collected a large proportion of the sum needed. It is now proposed to raise \$100,000 by Sept. 1st, 1896, as a reserve fund to prevent the Board falling into a similar predicament of debt in the future, and the Misses Leitch are devoting themselves to the completion of this undertaking.

Professor Filippo de Lorenzi, of Rome, has become a Protestant. He had been a priest and professor in Roman Catholic Colleges for many years. He has joined the Waldensians, and has published a letter, in which he says that for years his heart has not been at rest. He finds peace in the Evangelical Church, "whose faith is based solely and alone on the word of God."

The *London Independent* says that out of fifty thousand ministers to whom an appeal was recently made to preach sermons in favor of opening the museums on Sunday, only fifty-nine responded to the invitation, of whom thirty were Unitarians, and the rest of various affiliations, "ethical" and otherwise. On the other hand, 754 members of the dramatical and musical professions signed a memorial in favor of maintaining the present rules, on the ground that five hundred thousand persons employed in the "amusement industry" should be protected from the burden of Sunday labor.

The Rev. Sheldon Jackson, D.D., is known through out the United States as a tireless home missionary of the Presbyterian Church. He was a pioneer in the Mississippi Valley, in the Rocky Mountain district, and during the last few years has had a large part in the development of religious and educational affairs in Alaska. Wherever he has been he has proved himself to be a strong and influential leader. Home mission-

aries are not usually supposed to be possessed of wealth, and it is safe to say that Dr. Jackson has not been able to save what fortune he may possess from his salary. He has just given to the University of Utah the sum of \$50,000. The "Evangelist" well says: "This gift of our home missionary hero is the surest pledge that all other gifts wanted are sure to follow." Such an example cannot fail to be contagious. Dr. Jackson has performed a splendid service in the field; and this gift to an institution of whose claims he is personally well informed is not the least of his many noble deeds in behalf of the Church of his choice and county which he has served so long and so well.

During the past year \$500 has been contributed in Sitka, Alaska, for the maintenance of the Presbyterian Mission school located there. This money has been given to support five scholarships of \$100 each. Four of these scholarships has been given by as many different individuals, while the fifth is paid by the Christian Endeavor Society connected with the First Church (American) of Sitka.

Dr. John Sutton, a ruling elder of the Presbyterian Church of Midway, Ky., made provision in his will for generous aid to the work of the Presbyterian Church. He left a thousand dollars for the Kentucky Evangelistic work, five thousand for the Thornwell Orphanage, five thousand each to the Home Mission and the Foreign Mission Committees of our Church, five thousand to the Committee of Education, five thousand to the Invalid Fund, and three thousand and five hundred to the Presbyterian Church at Midway, and various sums to other charities, amounting in all to about \$40,000; the remainder, if any, to be divided among the benevolent causes of General Assembly. Of his surviving brothers and sisters, all save one concurred in this. An objection raised by one of them led to a suit over the validity of the will in the courts in Woodford county. The verdict in this matter was given last week, sustaining the will, and giving the money to the causes named in the will.

The Bulgarian Government have been officially notified from Constantinople that the Sultan has charged the Ottoman representatives abroad to ask the consent of the Powers to the recognition of Prince Ferdinand, as provided for in the Treaty of Berlin. The Bulgarian Exarch arrived at Sofia from Constantinople to officiate at the ceremony euphoni-ously called the "conversion" of the infant Prince Boris. M. Stoiloff has also reached Sofia. An impression appears to prevail in some quarters that possibly Prince Ferdinand himself will adopt the faith of the Greek Church. The Czar has consented to act, by proxy, at the ceremony of the young Prince's "reception," thus it may be taken for granted that Russia has recovered her hold of the Bulgarian State, a fact which, in the future, may be productive of important results in European politics.