

Dominion Presbyterian

\$1.50 Per Annum.

OTTAWA, MONTREAL, AND WINNIPEG.

Single Copies 5 Cents.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The British authorities estimate that 500,000,000 picture post cards will pass through the post office of the United Kingdom this year. A good many people must receive more picture post cards than they really care for.

The Home Mission Board of the Presbyterian Church, New York, is having a church constructed for Panama. The building will be shipped in sections. A parish house will also be sent. The church structure is to cost \$10,000.

President Roosevelt has given the "toughs" of San Francisco, who have been assaulting the Japanese in that city that if the police are not able to protect the persons and property of Japanese, he will use all the forces of the United States, both civil and military, which he can lawfully employ to fulfil treaty obligations.

Dr. W. T. Grenfell, whose work in Labrador has attracted so much attention in recent years, has received from King Edward the decoration of St. Michael and St. George, an honor given only to those who distinguish themselves in the life of the British colonies. It is an honor well bestowed, and particularly notable in that it is ordinarily given for work of so different a character.

A despatch announces the death in London on Sunday of Baroness Burdett-Coutts, the richest woman in England, and one of the most noted of British philanthropists. She had been ill since Christmas. The Baroness was born April 26th, 1814. She was the only peeress who received her title in recognition of her services and as a mark of esteem from the late Queen. King Edward described her once as, "after my mother the most remarkable woman in England." Her remains will be interred in Westminster Abbey.

According to Bradstreet's report published in New York on Thursday the cost of living as represented by the price of leading and essential articles of food has made the astonishing advance of twenty per cent. in the last year. According to these remarkable figures, the cost of foods, clothing and building material has gone up one-fifth since Dec. 1905. Flour is the only commodity that has shown an actual decline, and even that has meant nothing to the consumer, for the price of bread has remained the same.

In response to a request for a message for each of the provinces sent out by the Montreal Star, Hon. D. C. Fraser, Lt. Governor of Nova Scotia, gave the following:

"Let every Canadian join in heartfelt thanksgiving for our mercies, our successes, and the favor bestowed by Providence in the year closing. Let the goodness of the past make us feel our dependence while nerving us to greater efforts for ourselves and our country in the coming year. We ought to stand on the firm ground of moderate attainments in wealth, wide advancement in knowledge and sure aim in character building. Let not our growth awaken a wild plunging into speculation, nor the curse of wanting to get rich quickly. May our failures teach us wisdom and our success modesty, but above all let us never forget that the man who lives for himself, forgetful of his neighbors and his country, will fail as man and be forgotten as a Canadian."

Christian Missions started with 120 despised Galileans. Now there are 120,000,000 of Protestants, who have in their power all the resources of the world.

A peculiar revival work is carried on in the trains of the Great Eastern Railroad in England. A band of workmen from Edmonton Station, once the most turbulent on the road, enter the compartments in the morning train on which the workmen come into London, and talk with their fellow workmen, sing praises and give testimony. The results are remarkable and appear in the better lives of the men.

The glucose trust in the United States has been compelled to pay fines to the amount of half a million dollars for selling candies containing glucose. It may be that glucose is a healthful article of diet, but the citizens of the Republic think they should know what they are eating. If glucose is bad for the citizens of our great southern neighbor, can it be good for us? Overy? How much glucose have Canadian children consumed during the Christmas festivities? Whose business is it to see about this? Is he looking after his business?

There is evidently an almost world-wide religious movement. Sweden is greatly awakened. The prayer meetings are crowded; the largest halls are filled with earnest worshippers. In the capital and in the smaller cities there is a remarkable interest. Reports of the spiritual awakening in China continue to come. In some places where there was formerly the most bitter opposition there are many converts and at the meetings there is an almost ecumenical descent of the Spirit. One college with two hundred students reports that all but four are now avowed Christians.

A journalist from India, who is touring the world and has visited Canada, speaks to the Montreal Witness about the treatment accorded to East Indians who had come to British Columbia. He considered that these people had been maliciously and unmercifully treated in British Columbia. The charge against the Indians was that they were ignorant and criminal, which he says is a gross libel. They were good workers and most of them had served in the British army, while as to their physical fitness for Canada, "People here seem not to know that the mountains regions in India are colder than Canada," he said, "and that in India we have the highest mountain in the world." Discussing affairs in India, he remarked that there was a strong movement towards self-government similar to that possessed by Canada, but at the same time there was the greatest loyalty to England and particularly to the King, for the Indians hold the sovereign sacred. There are in India 321,000,000 of people and from twenty to thirty millions of these are highly educated.

The American Tract Society has received from the Rev. C. S. Lecheret, General Agent of the Religious Tract Society of Paris, France, a report relative to the critical condition now existing between church and state in the French Republic. The report says: "It is much to be desired that Christian friends in Europe and America would consider well the present religious situation in our country. Many sagacious men think that we are on the eve of great events. The Catholic Church is about to enter into a conflict with the Republican government. Millions of the French Catholics, who are only Catholics in name, openly condemn the pretensions of the Pope, and are ready to separate themselves from their church. Our Society should circulate 10,000 and 100,000 times more tracts. Many Catholics have lost their prejudices against Protestantism. They know us, and esteem us more highly and would come to us in throngs if a general movement was started. Evangelical Protestants rejoice in the separation of church and state and hope for great results from it."

The "American Hebrew" animadverting on Dowie's insanity remarks: "The fate of the prophet Dowie is certainly dramatically effective, though it was probably not unexpected by those who have watched the man's career. There was evidently a strain of insanity in the presumption with which this impostor dealt with the associations most sacred to Jew and Christian. The daring assumption of Elijah's mantle would by itself be enough to indicate this, but his whole career was a striking proof that vulgarity in religion is as unsubstantial as in other spheres of life. It may dazzle for the moment, but the ways of the Lord are steadfast."

Here is something from a Philadelphia paper which is worth reading at this season of the year:—"The cold, raw days of winter are particularly conducive to the spread of this disease, not because they are cold and raw, but because people insist upon shutting themselves up in superheated rooms without proper ventilation. It has been definitely proven beyond the slightest doubt that no single cause is so conducive to the spread of tuberculosis as overheated offices and overheated and ill-ventilated living and sleeping rooms. A "baked" atmosphere causes loss of vitality, weakens the resisting power to disease and brings all the physical forces to a condition where the slightest exposure to the chill outside air invites an attack of disease upon throat and lungs."

A "preacher in politics" in earnest is the Rev. Dr. Henry A. Buchtel, chancellor of the University of Denver and governor-elect of the state of Colorado, says the Cumberland Presbyterian which approves the choice in emphatic terms:—"His choice as chief magistrate of the state was one of the remarkable and, we believe, happy results of the recent elections. Why should a preacher not be in politics? The only reason we can discover is because he interferes somewhat with the plans of the people who make their living in ways which depend largely upon keeping good men out of politics and political offices. If a man is called to the service of God and his fellow men, we see no reason why he should not serve them in public office, if it becomes apparent that he is called there to. Nor can we see why election by a state is not as much of a call as election by a congregation. The preachers of Old Testament times had a way of meddling in politics, much to the chagrin of the political bosses of those days, and much to the benefit of the people."

As we grow older it seldom happens that we stop to think or name over the particular mistakes or shortcomings of the vanishing year, but a general feeling of dissatisfaction, a consciousness that the gifts and pleasures, the benefits and blessings of the year that is going out at the door, have not been duly appreciated, impels one to exclaim:—"Forgive me, ere you go."

With faltering tread across the glittering snow.

It is a sad but very human fact, that in thinking of time that is past, its thoughts, its motives and its deeds, it is regret, sorrow and a wish that things could have been otherwise, that mainly arise to the surface. Self-praise or gratulation rarely dominate such reflections.