

The Presbyterian Review

ISSUED EVERY THURSDAY, from the office of the Publishers, Rooms No. 20, 21, 22, 23, 25 Aberdeen Block, South-East corner Adelaide and Victoria Streets, Toronto.

TERMS, \$1.50 per annum.

All communications for either Business or Editorial Departments should be addressed PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW, Drawer 2464, Toronto, Ont.

ADVERTISING RATES.—Under 3 months, 15 cents per line per insertion; 3 months, \$1.00 per line; 6 months, \$1.75 per line 1 year, \$3.00. No advertisement charged at less than five lines. None others than unobjectionable advertisements taken.

Toronto March 11, 1897

THE FOREIGN MISSION APPEAL.

At the meeting of the Toronto Presbytery objection was taken to the title "Week of Prayer," as if it implied that we did not need to deny ourselves at other times. The objection seems hypercritical, no Presbyterian is so ignorant as to think that self-denial can be confined to one week. However let those who like it better call it a 'Week of special effort.' We do not quarrel with the name. Let it not be forgotten however that it begins on the 14th and ends on the 21st March. A united 'lift' will remove the foreign mission debt.

A Burning Appeal.

The Rev. J. McD. Duncan of Woodville has contributed through the *Lindsay Watchman* a strong appeal to the Church in behalf of Foreign Missions. In the name of all the blessings of Christian home and country, of all the millions dying without a knowledge of God and without hope, of the Head of the Church who wept over perishing Jerusalem, of the spirit of heroism that animated the martyrs and is not yet dead in the name of all these he admonishes the church for her apathy and summons her to self-denial and effort, that the Foreign Mission work of the church may not be hampered, but widened, as the doors open in the Providence of God. Such times as these are critical. They are testing times. If the church goes back, she may be withered by a blight from Heaven.

The Church will be eagerly watching the result of the appeal of the F. M. Com. Arrangements have been made by which the returns will be published in the *Globe* and *Mail and Empire* as they come into the Treasurer's hands.

Special envelopes for this special appeal have been prepared by the Foreign Mission Committee and can be had on application to the Secretary, a considerable number have been applied for. They should be distributed in every congregation.

CRETE AND ARMENIA.

The evident, unfeigned satisfaction with which the world has viewed the stand taken by Greece in the affair of Crete is an emphatic condemnation of Turkish rule, that rule has debased humanity and the outrages committed in its name and by its authority are dark stains on Europe's fame. The prospect of relief for Crete has been hailed by Christian men and women the world over, who mourn the atrocities of the Turk and the martyrdom at his hands of Armenian and other Subjects because of their Christian faith.

Gradually, not only the sufferings of the poor Armenians but the causes of those sufferings are coming to the light of day. In a detailed description by an American lady missionary at Kharput. We learn that creed lay at the root of some of the most horrible massacres, if not of the whole persecution which has shocked the Christian world. The sad narrative is prefaced by the words:

"It has long been in my mind to write you the story of some of our martyred pastors and preachers. I did not do so during the early part of the year because I could not endure the sorrow of the recital. Shall we ever reach a time when we shall cease to suffer for this blow to Christ's work? Protestant chapels and Gregorian Armenian churches are torn down to the ground. Those that are still standing are used as stables or barracks, or are wilfully and foully desecrated. At the time of the assaults all over the land, Bibles, Testaments and hymn-books were trodden under foot, torn into fragments, or thrown into the flames. The contents of our book-room were, on the memorable November the 11th, emptied into the streets, and, a week later, we gathered up precious bits of Scripture to save them from mud and dirt. This has been a nation of martyrs, but probably never has had in the past any who have so intelligently and gladly laid down their lives for Christ's sake as those at the end of this nineteenth century. Those in past centuries have been worshipped as saints in the Gregorian church; those of the present century will never receive such homage, I trust, but by their death will surely hasten on the longed-for day when every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Christ is God to the glory of His name."

Then follows details of bloodshed that are too horrible for description. What wonder is it that the Turk is detested and despised. How Europe could have stood idly by during the past year is one of the most problems of the day, but popular feeling has found a voice on the side of Crete from which the Turkish shackles, let us hope, have been for ever broken.

Great Britain has evinced a warm interest in the Grecian policy and however cautious the government may be in giving expression to its real views, it is expected that here Britain will be on the side of liberty. The independence of Armenia should be the next step in the dismemberment of the tottering Empire of the "unspeakable" Turk.

THE SUNDAY CAR CASE.

The judgment brought down in the Hamilton Sunday Street car case has put the Lord's Day Alliance on its mettle. The scope of the decision has opened the eyes of the public to the imperfections of the statutes and the Alliance has issued a ringing note which means fight. It is well that the ground for action and agitation has been cleared, and that plain people need not misunderstand the real condition of things. "Whether by the decision of a superior court, or by the amendment of legislation, the question will be set right" are the determined words of the Alliance. If they stand boldly and uncompromisingly on that ground they will succeed. We believe the public are with the Alliance, nevertheless, we believe the public must be aroused to a sense of duty, and the Alliance in mapping out for itself an aggressive campaign will do much to bring the Christian forces into line. The pulpit and platform are available and as engines of influencing the people are unequalled. There is also a powerful section of the press ready to second any well conceived, well-directed effort that may be made to preserve the sanctity and quiet of the Lord's Day. Let these be taken advantage of to the full. Too much cannot be said nor too much written on this subject, it being one of unsurpassed importance to Church and community.

As a beginning the Alliance will hold a meeting tomorrow and will prepare a manifesto to the people. We urge upon the Alliance to speak through that document in no uncertain sound. The whole case ought to be stated and placed so as to bring home to the reader the true meaning of the present unsatisfactory law. At five o'clock on the same day the government will re-