

LONDON NOTES.

At the quarterly meeting of the Presbytery of London held on the 7th instant, arrangements were made for the induction of Rev. Isaac Hall Woods, of Tavistock, into Alma street church, St. Thomas, on the evening of the 23rd instant; the Moderator, Mr. S. D. Jamieson, to preside; Mr. Burnett to preach, Mr. Inkster to address the minister, and Mr. Atkinson the congregation. The resignation by Rev. J. C. McConachie of his pastoral charge of Knox Church, Aylmer, and Chalmers, Springfield, was tabled and accepted to take effect on January 3rd, 1910. Rev. E. L. Pidgeon to serve as interim moderator during the vacancy. Rev. Geo. Gilmore, Fingal, was made convener of Presbytery's S. School Committee. Reports on Church Life and Work and Moral and Social Reform were called for, but were not forthcoming on account of conveners not having received the Assembly's questions or forms in time to obtain returns from sessions. Rev. Prof. Pidgeon addressed the Presbytery on Moral and Social Reform work. Presbytery expressed its appreciation of his address, and of the work, its being in full sympathy with the bill now before Parliament to make professional gambling illegal, and pledged its moral support to the local option campaign now to be waged within the bounds of the Presbytery. The clerk was instructed to write to Mayor Beattie, M.P., calling attention to his statement appearing in Hansard, to wit, "I have not received one petition from the city of London on this subject," and to inform him that petitions largely signed in London and forwarded to Dr. Shearer, Toronto, had been forwarded to him by Dr. Shearer.

Rev. Dr. E. D. McLaren and Dr. Grant addressed the Presbytery on Home Mission claims, and urged special contributions for the liquidation of the \$14,000 deficit of last year.

Presbytery approved the Assembly remit on the appendix to Presbytery rolls, and also on the amalgamation of Y.P.S. and S.S. committees. Approved also of the recommendation of the Committee on Statistical Forms, but as to the forms themselves recommended that contributions for colleges be given in one column only, under that general heading, and thereby give space for reporting annually. Stipend from other sources, Total from all Organizations, &c., Assembly, Synod and Presbytery Funds, and Other Missionary, Benevolent and Educational work, thus giving Presbyteries a full view of the whole congregation during each year. Presbytery, by a majority, also recommended that Duties of Ordination and Induction be omitted from the Blue Book.

On the Supply and Settlement of Vacancies, Presbytery approved of names of all ministers without charge, licentiates, and settled ministers desiring to preach in vacancies for call be sent with a list of all vacancies to the senior clerk of Assembly; but not names of settled ministers desiring a hearing in special vacancies selected by themselves. Approved of appointment of a Presbyterial Committee on Supply of Vacancies, to co-operate with each congregation's committee on supply in selecting the supply of pulpits during the vacancy; the committee to consist of elders, managers and such other communicants as the congregation may appoint. Presbytery disapproved of having any restriction placed upon them as to when they may deem it proper to dissolve a pastoral tie for resignation, translation or any other cause. Presbytery approves of the appointment of a minister to temporary charge of a vacancy after six months from date of declaration of the vacancy, but disapproves of requiring said temporary supply to be fixed for one year or longer, or depriving the congregation of the privilege of hearing and calling some other minister during this temporary incumbency, on

placing the name of the temporary supply on the Presbytery Roll.

The Mission at Knollwood Park, London, was reported by Rev. T. H. Mitchell as in a prosperous state, and authority was given the session of New St. James to make up a communion roll and organize a congregation when they deem it opportune to do so. Next meeting of Presbytery to be held in Glencoe on Monday evening, February 25th, 1910.

A. HENDERSON.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

Mrs. Eddy, founder of Christian Science, settled \$290,000 on her relatives in consideration of the relinquishment of all claims on her estate.

Dr. Thomas Jonnesco, who claims to be the discoverer of a new stovaine-strychnine anaesthetic, is in New York City, and will lecture on his discovery.

Dr. William H. Leslie, a returned missionary, declared in New York that King Leopold was responsible for the Congo atrocities; that he used native soldiers to "punish" natives, and that these soldiers ate their victims.

Whole of North Sea European coast line was swept by furious storm, many smaller vessels being destroyed, accompanied by loss of life.

The trying climate of Potosi has again broken down the health of one of the young and promising missionaries of the Presbyterian Church in England. Rev. A. E. Davies, B.A., who was ordained, after a brilliant career at Cambridge, to the foreign field in November, 1907, has had to resign, being unable to stand the climate of the island.

King Edward withholds his consent to the marriage of Princess Alexandra of the royal house to King Manuel of Portugal. The English people have never forgiven Princess Ena for giving up her Protestant faith in order to marry Alfonso, King of Spain, and it is thought there would be a really dangerous outcry if the same thing should occur again.

There were more than 50,000 English-speaking Jews at the close of the eighteenth century. There are approximately 3,000,000 to-day, probably one-fourth of all the Jews in the world.

Lord Rosebery has presented his beautiful villa at Posilipo, near Naples, to the British Embassy at Rome as a summer residence. Lord Rosebery has been in the habit for many years of spending some time at this quiet retreat.

At York recently the Archbishop of York, referring to the Bishops' privilege of sitting in the House of Lords, said they would welcome the suggestion that leading representatives of other religious bodies should also sit there.

At Tenerife explosions from the Peak are occurring frequently, and enormous quantities of lava are running down from four craters. There has as yet been no loss of life.

Dr. J. H. Wells, a young medical man, has lost his life at St. Mary's Hospital, London, while investigating the treatment of glanders. His investigations resulted in the saving of a life of a patient.

The Italian Cabinet resigned after Chamber of Deputies refused to pass the government bill for fiscal reform, which would reduce indirect taxation of necessities.

A judge in Sacramento, Cal., sentenced a reckless chauffeur to ten years in prison for running over and killing a man with a family, ordering at the same time that the commitment be withheld and the driver placed on probation and compelled to pay \$25 per month to the support of the family. The defendant will be taken to prison if he fails to live up to the terms of his probation.

The minister of Justice in Russia, because of the great number of Jews who have entered the legal profession since 1905, has further limited the percentage of Jewish students who may be eligible for admission to the bar. Hereafter but 35 per cent. of those living within the pale will be admitted, and 20 per cent. of those outside the pale. The percentages were 50 and 30, respectively, heretofore.

CHRISTIAN HEROISM.

By C. H. Wetherbe.

There are very many Christian heroes who are unknown to the people around them. Their heroic acts have no record in the newspapers. But very few of their intimate friends know of the true heroism which secretly dominates their lives. It is, therefore, a mistake to suppose that heroism consists solely in outward manifestations. Many a Christian is pursuing a highly heroic course in the most quiet and humble manner. He is standing bravely to his convictions of duty, under the stress of temptation to do otherwise. He is holding fast to his faith in God when many others would abandon all faith in Him. Even opposition in his own family does not cause him to relinquish his purpose to do just what he is convinced that God requires of him. That is true heroism.

The celebrated Frederick W. Robertson, of England, has left these words on record: "To stand with a smile upon your face against a stake from which you cannot get away—that, no doubt, is heroic. But true glory is not resignation to the inevitable. To stand unchained, with perfect liberty to go away, held only by the higher claims of duty, and let the fire creep up to the heart—this is heroism."

I am acquainted with a Christian man who has been living in a certain place quite a good many years, and who, long ago, wanted to go from there. He had expected to leave the place a long time ago, for he did not wish to remain. His children urged him to move away. His wife wanted to leave. But he had committed the whole question to God, seeking earnestly to do His will; and that will, as the man believed, and still believes, was that he should continue to remain in the place until God should direct him to go elsewhere. This man says that it has required a great deal of courage and firmness to abide by his convictions of duty. He could have moved away a long time ago, had he determined to indulge in his own will; but that would not have been heroic.

"PLEASE STOP MY"—WHAT!

It frequently happens that the church treasurer receives a note from a church member saying: "Please stop my"—what!

That man is known as a hard smoker, spending from 50 to 75 cents per day on cigars. But he writes: "Please stop my"—what!

That man has been known to spend \$25 a week for seats at the opera and occasionally box parties costing several times this amount. But he writes: "Please stop my"—what!

That man pays \$2,000 a year for carriages, horses and coachmen. Does he ask that his cigars shall be stopped? No. Does he ask that theatre parties be stopped? No. He asks that his subscription to the church be stopped because of shortage in his finances.

The church is the first to suffer. He cuts his church subscription before he cuts other things. He does not feel the moral obligation resting upon him to pay to the Lord what rightly is His. When a man once realizes that he is a steward, and that what is his is only loaned to him for a few years, then he will give cheerfully to the work of the church and as God has prospered him. "There is no benefit," says Sereneca, "in a benefit that sticks to the finger. It so often happens that men who have money possess every other gift than the gift to use that money to the best purposes. The manner of the giving and the cause which is helped shows the character of the giver more than the gift itself. The esteem in which a man holds his church is seen in the liberality he shows toward it."

"Defer not till to-morrow to be wise; to-morrow's sun to thee may never rise."