

# Dominion Presbyterian

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## Note and Comment.

A one-cent restaurant has been opened in New York, where for a cent one can buy enough food adequately to nourish the body.

Austria has given her adhesion to the Imperial penny postage system. She had held aloof hitherto, on the plea that adhering to the system would result in loss of revenue.

The Rev. David Miller Kay, B. D., Church of Scotland Mission, Constantinople, has been appointed to the Chair of Hebrew and Oriental Languages at St. Andrews, in succession to the late Professor Birrell.

In 1854 Livingstone discovered the Zambesi Falls in Africa, and made an estimate for bridging the Zambesi River, and was within 20 feet of the exact measurement of the place as shown on plans now on view in London.

Last week the papers announced that St. Paul's Church of New York had refused an offer of \$5,000,000 for their site, and St. Paul's Church of Boston an offer of \$1,705,000. St. Paul was a hard man to push out of the way.

At the recent meeting of the Synod of Glasgow it was agreed to nominate Dr. Orr and Dr. Lindsay for the Principalship of Glasgow College, and Dr. Stalker for the Professorship of Church History in Aberdeen College.

Dr. Thomas Dunn English, the author of "Ben Bolt," has died at the age of 83. He wrote many books and poems, but his simple little song, of which he was half ashamed when he sent it to N. P. Willis, the editor, will outlive them all.

Sir Charles Dilke thinks that peace will be re-established in South Africa by Coronation Day. The fulfilment of such a prophecy would be the happiest thing about an event which many regard as the most auspicious of a lifetime.

Dr. Russell, Moderator-elect of the Church of Scotland General Assembly, has intimated his grateful acceptance of the Moderator's robes subscribed for by the Highland congregation, Campbelltown, of which he is senior minister.

An act will probably be passed before Parliament prorogues for the observance of the sovereign's birthday on May 24th, which has already been made a statutory holiday in commemoration of Queen Victoria's reign. The holiday in England will be May 30.

Lord Mount Stephen, who recently gave £25,000 to wipe off the debt on Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, has given further proof of his interest in and his munificence towards the institution, in which in his youth he was for a time an inmate, by making a donation of £1000 a year.

The German military authorities are endeavoring to stop the excessive drinking of intoxicating liquors in the army. The sale of brandy has been prohibited in all the canteens in Lorain and Hesse-Nassau. In the thirty soldiers' homes and similar institutions for sailors no alcoholic drinks are served.

The Cape to Cairo telegraph line is now completed to Ujiji, on Lake Tanganyika, a distance of 2,500 miles. Half as many more miles will bring it to Fashoda, where it will connect with the Egyptian system to form the complete north and south line through Africa. A lateral branch will be built from Ujiji east to the coast of Zanzibar.

It is calculated that the scholarships to be founded under the Will of the late Mr. Cecil Rhodes number 175 in all, and are of the total yearly value of £51,750. It is estimated that the capital sum required for all the benefactions is £2,098,000, which according to some authorities, represents just a third of Mr. Rhode's fortune.

The British Government has never yet failed to get a loan when one was wanted, and the new war loan of £32,000,000 has been obtained with marked ease. Half of the loan was taken promptly by a syndicate of bankers. The other half offered to the general public, has with equal promptness been subscribed some thirty or forty times over.

A Southern brewer, not long ago, bribed a member of a college graduating class to deliver a commencement oration favorable to the use of beer and advocating "personal liberty" in regard to drink. Thousands of copies of the address were printed by the brewer and circulated broadcast as representing the progressive young college men of the times.

The following is from a Scotch exchange: "There are no less than 105 applicants for the vacancy in Dairy Church, Galloway, caused by the resignation of the Rev. Thos. Walker. Dairy is one of the best livings in the Kirkcudbright Presbytery." It is often said that there are a large number of candidates for English vacancies in the Presbyterian Church in Canada; but it would be difficult to parallel the above case in this country.

A very large majority of his countrymen, says the Montreal Witness, will heartily applaud the speech of Sir Wilfrid Laurier upon the Charlton-Bourassa resolution. While no doubt meaning very well, Mr. Charlton's activities have led him of late years into many strange and diverse passes, but into none, perhaps, where he found the temperature lower than that in the House of Commons yesterday. So far as treating the Boers generously is concerned Mr. Charlton may safely leave that to the Imperial Government, but Sir Wilfrid pointed out that his resolution advising a universal amnesty would probably rather hinder the conclusion of peace than forward it.

The statement has been made that wolves are on the increase in Ontario, Quebec and the Lower Provinces. There appears to have been a fresh invasion in New Brunswick. In Ontario the bounty fixed by the government is fifteen dollars; in Quebec, it is five. The wolf is incredibly cunning, and he can rarely be caught. The Indian is now and then successful, but he knows how to avoid the most cunningly devised trap, and he continues in considerable numbers in Ontario, in large numbers in Quebec (particularly in the Gatineau region) and in the Lower Provinces.

A scheme is being promoted for the purpose of constructing a railway upon the monorail system between Edinburgh and Glasgow. The plans have been prepared and the route mapped out, and these have as a preliminary been submitted to the Board of Trade. The distance between the two cities is 49 miles by the most direct route possible, and the distance will be covered in 29 minutes, or at a relative speed of 117 miles per hour. A service of six trains per hour both ways will be inaugurated. At present the two cities are connected by the North British and Caledonian system, and the service is about hourly each way, the fastest train covering the distance in 65 minutes. An immense traffic passes between the two cities.

A Scotch woman used to lay aside a penny a day for visitors. A visitor, incidentally learning that the poor woman had been for many days without meat, gave her a sixpence to buy some. But she said: "I have long done very well on my porridge, so I will give the sixpence also to God." This fact was narrated at a missionary breakfast, and the host and his guests were profoundly impressed. The host said: "I have never denied myself so much as a chop for God." A very large sum (£2,200) was immediately subscribed as a result of that touching incident. Ought it not to make a similar impression upon our hearts? What have we ever denied ourselves for the advancement of Christ's kingdom? Has it ever cost us the necessities of life to show our love for our Savior?

The capabilities of electricity as a motive force for automobiles was recently satisfactorily established by the accomplishment of a run from London to Reading and back, a distance of 94 3/4 miles, on one battery charge. The distance was covered in eight hours. The battery utilized was of the Leitner type, devised about one year ago for this purpose by Mr. Harry Leitner. This record was only one of a number of remarkable runs that were undertaken to prove the efficiency of the battery. On other occasions the car accomplished 70, 80 and 85 miles on one charge. During the course of the trials a total of 1,837 miles was covered by this one car, the units consumed for the purpose amounting to 954 8. and the cost on the average amounted to about three cents per mile. The car on every occasion carried four and sometimes five passengers.