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Ottawa, Wednesday, Jan. 18 1905.

Ministers' rates to the Aged and In- firm Minister's Fund were payable on or before the 15th of January. It is desir- able that those who have not remitted should do so promptly. The rates to the Ministers' Wives & Orphans Fund were payable upon the 1st of November last. To retain interest in the fund it is nec- essary that the rates be annually paid on the date at which they fall due.

Over two per cent of the membership of the Presbyterian Church in Japan has gone to war. This is more than twice the proportion of enlistments from the general population. Sixty-one Presby- terians are officers in the army or navy, including Togo. "Christian patriotism" and "manly religion" are certainly not empty phrases in Japan.

THE INTER-NATION hails from Boston, that centre of light and advanced thought. It is an attractive looking periodical, published weekly at \$2.00 per year; and will be "devoted to the promotion of closer relations between the United States, Great Britain, and the British Col- onies." The object is a laudable one, and The Inter-Nation has our best wishes for a prosperous future.

The Rev. W. A. McKay, D. D., of Woodstock was the preacher at the open- ing of the beautiful new church at Mount Pleasant, the associate congregation of Cheltenham in Orangeville Presbytery. The congregations were large, and the pastor, Rev. J. H. Edmison, B. A. took part in the services. On Monday p.m. January 9th, a splendid social gathering was held and speeches congratulatory were given by various ministers. The chief feature of the event and that most worthy of note, was the fact that the cost of the new church \$6500.00 was not only subscribed but fully paid up, and the Treasurer had in hand \$1300.00 for which there was no need. The Cheltenham people gave Mr. & Mrs. Edmison a sur- prise party, presenting them with \$600.00, and at a congregational meeting agreed to give the Pastor \$750.00 increase in stipend.

GOOD LEADERSHIP.

Live men and women are needed at the head of the various departments of church work. A few live men in a Session can do much to keep things moving and out of ruts. A few live men on the Board of Managers often means the difference between a good financial showing and the opposite. A live head of a missionary society, whether it be the W.F.M.S., or the Mission Band, is a treasure. A handful of energetic women in the Ladies Aid Society will soon con- vert the remainder to enthusiasm. A Sabbath School superintendent intellectu- ally and spiritually alive, and properly supported by a few good officers and teachers, cannot fail, if he is resourceful and persevering. A person of determina- tion is capable of doing a great deal which at first sight might be thought im- possible.

No doubt it is often difficult to obtain just the right leaders, as it is often dif- ficult to make the exchange from lead- ership that is ineffective to that more desirable; but with patient waiting, and tactful handling of opportunities, much may be done. The personal feelings of the unfit, no one would desire to hurt; but if the worst came to the worst, it is not the interests of Christ's church should be allowed to suffer. In such cases, "do right, though the heavens fall." The heavens will not fall.

YOUNG MEN AND OPPORTUNITY.

Young men often talk of lack of opportunity. Such talk is by no means veined through with truth. Probably there are few young men who live up to the opportunities they ad- mittedly have. It may be set down as almost a self evident proposition that no young man of fair mental ability, average physical strength, and integrity, can be kept down by the world, if he has the de- termination to succeed. The world does not want to keep him down. A man of obvious integrity combined with or- dinary ability is inwardly respected by saint and sinner alike, no matter what they may say. A young man's greatest business possession is unbending upright- ness. He cannot be too strictly honest in even the smallest things, so that, by the grace of God, integrity may crystalize into adamant habit. Then he must fit himself for usefulness by seeking to know more about his work than his fellows. There is plenty of room in the upper reaches of the ladder. A young man must not be always looking at the clock. Something more than merely perfunctory interest in one's work is essential to any true getting on in life. But any talk of lack of opportunity is usually absurd. There is apparently some opportunity for many persons who are capable of doing things even moderately well. The abilities and energies of the person who can do things better than the average seldom go long begging.

SCIENTIFIC FAITH.*

This book, by Dr. Howard Agnew Johnston, discusses the essentials of the Christian Faith from the scientific point of view, thus presenting the truth in a way calculated to appeal most effectively to thinking people. In a convincing manner our author demonstrates the reasonableness and reality of the Chris- tian Faith. We make one extract, refer- ring to God's love in a world of suffering, as an example of Dr. Johnston's style:

"Just here is the difficulty with many in the matter of believing in God. Very few doubt the evidence of a Creator and Ruler of the world; but they are slow to believe in His love as the Divine father of men * * Consider the difference. George Eliot was a brilliant novelist, but her unbelief created an atmosphere chill and unhealthy. She declared she could not believe in a God of love who would allow such sin and misery in the world. But what kind of concern did she show? None. A selfish heart blinded the intel- lect, and the vision of God could not be seen. George Macdonald was just as brilliant a novelist as George Eliot. He too saw the sin and suffering of men, but his heart leaped in a great love to win them from their sins, and relieve their suffering. One thing George Macdonald preached to the world as being the thing of which he was certain, whatever else he might doubt: that was the love of God. It was this message which brought hope and comfort and a mighty power to save the men to whom he ministered amidst their pitiful conditions of weakness and sorrow and sin.

No man took upon his heart the sin and sorrow of a suffering world as did Jesus Christ. He gave His life to heal and help it. Yet no man saw the love of God so fully as did Jesus Christ. We have said the only hope of the world is a Teacher whose philosophy of life is broad enough to include both of these facts. Both are evident. God's love is proved in God's law. We must see love in the world as surely as we see sin and suffering. He who would exclude either in his attempt has failed."

This book is a clear, sane and scientific presentation of the essential truths of Christianity, and cannot fail to be appreciated at the present time. We heartily wish it a large circle of read- ers, especially among those it is designed to benefit.

The January Cosmopolitan, (Irvington, New York) opens with an editorial on "What You Can Do For Your Children." In the main part of the magazine perhaps the most interesting article is that on "The Jefferson Bible," in which is de- scribed the little volumes compiled by Jefferson which contained, according to his view, the essence of the moral teach- ings of the New Testament. There are several good short stories, five in all.

*Scientific Faith, by Howard Agnew Johnston, Chicago: The Winona Publishing Company, Price \$1.50.