

SYDNEY PREACHER

Speaks of British Justice Gone Wrong.

Rev. Clarence McKinnon Denounces Recent Decision of the House of Lords.

SYDNEY, Aug. 29.—Rev. Clarence McKinnon, associate pastor of St. Andrew's church, and who has just returned from Scotland, preached last night upon the recent judgment of the house of lords in respect to the Scottish churches whereby fifty millions of property is handed over to twenty-four ministers, who claimed they were the rightful owners. Mr. McKinnon said it was the most startling and stupendous decision ever given in British law courts. That church property, including buildings, manse, records and archives, now held by eleven hundred ministers of the United Free Church of Scotland, should be given over to a few Highland congregations was intolerable, and in contravention to British sense of fair play and justice. He was in Scotland at the time the startling news reached there and he said that the effect was astounding. Never in the history of Scotland was the public mind roused to such a high tension as at present. He then went on to review the case, giving its salient features back as far as the founding of Presbyterianism in this country. The history of Presbyterianism is the history of a grand struggle for undying liberty. There was the secession in 1733 from the established church. In 1761 a relief church was founded, and in 1847 these two bodies united as the United Presbyterian church. In 1843 the Free church came into existence by the secession of four hundred and fifty ministers, led by Dr. Chalmers, from the Established church. In 1890 there was brought about the union of the Free church and the United, the fusion being chiefly due to the efforts of Dr. Hainy of Edinburgh. In the Free church there were twenty-four who protested against amalgamation and remained outside the new United Free church. They then began to re-proportion, and in 1900 there was a difference between the two bodies, and holding that the fusion involved a violation of trust with regard to the doctrine of election, the Free church men who still abide by the liberal interpretation of the confession of faith on this point were entitled to the vested interests of the church, founded in 1843. Mr. McKinnon, however, said there was no difference between the two churches; that there was no violation of trust, and so far as he could see there was only an assumption on the part of the law lords. The decision was intolerable. It was atrocious in this age and in a country dominated by British freedom and British institutions. "We can't stand it in the 20th century, and our prayers should go to those across the sea that are unrighteously shorn of their properties and possessions." Mr. McKinnon added that people in Canada could only gather the most faint idea from the cable news of the effects this judgment has had on the people of Scotland. Meetings are already being held throughout the country, and storms of protest are being made against the action of the house of lords.

GRAND CIRCUIT.

World's Pacing Record for Mares Lowered.

Fertel Went the Mile in 2.02 3-4, a Half Second Better Than Any Previous Mile.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Aug. 29.—About four thousand persons attended the opening of the grand circuit meeting at Narragansett Pier today. While all of the events were decided in their respective heats, yet several of them were extremely interesting. One of the world's record for mares, the handsome little mare owned by C. H. Chapin, Rochester, N. Y., and driven by Alta McDonald of Albany, N. Y., was the one which gained the additional honor, for she previously held the record 2.03 1-4. After a false score the word was given and she went to the quarter pole in 31 seconds. The next quarter she increased her speed, reaching the half in 1.01 1-4. At the three-quarter pole the watches clicked at 1.32 1-4. Many expected to see the mare falter through the home stretch, but without an apparent effort she maintained her speed to the wire, finishing in 2.02 3-4, a reduction of half a second of the previous record. One might well have called this New York day as all the races were won by horses from that state and three from that city. Three out of four favorites succeeded in heading the summaries, the only one to fall being Kent. James Butler's horses took the 213 and 215 trotting classes, Ariato and Monroe respectively. Driver D. B. Ryder had little trouble in landing both victories, though the struggle for second position was quite close. Morning three G. D. Sherman's pacing gelding from Port Henry, N. Y., had things all his own way in the 2.20 pacing event. Angus Pointer made the last quarter of the initial heat in 29 seconds. The 2.06 pacing race was won by Nathan Straus, Androsid barely got the place after desperately driving finishes three contending horses. New records were made by Nathan Straus of 2.04 3-4 and Monroe of 2.01 1-2.

ST. PETERSBURG HAS HEARD NOTHING FROM KUROPATKIN.

But it is Thought That He May Successfully Avoid Being Beaten if a Heavy Rain Should Prevent the Japanese from Catching Him—More About the Captured Ships.

LIAO YANG, Aug. 28, 7.20 p. m.—The Russian forces have been disappointed by another unexpected withdrawal. The whole eastern division and the troops on the Anshanhan position have been ordered to fall back to a position near Liao Yang just as the Japanese were executing another advance. The explanation is given that the tenth corps, especially Henschelmann's division on the extreme left, was confronted by a greatly superior force of Japanese. Though the Russians fought bravely and held all their positions they had lost an immense number of officers. Most probably the retirement from the Anshanhan position arose from the same reason for the whole mountain division as well as the eastern troops retired apparently not from the pressure of the Japanese but for strategic reasons. The rains had made a thick and binding mud which almost paralyzed wagon traffic and made the movement of the guns even more difficult. Though the Japanese witnessed the slow retirement of the eastern division they made no attempt to follow the Russians, being apparently exhausted by the duel of Aug. 24 and Aug. 25 and the desperate and unsuccessful all day attack of Aug. 26. Today the sound of cannoning is heard plainly in Liao Yang. It is more to the south than the southeast. The Japanese seem to be advancing along the entire front, particularly moving with a large force up the valley of the Liao River.

ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 28.—The general staff has received the following telegram from Lieut. General Sakharoff, dated Aug. 27: "Our advance guards and advanced troops on the southern front yesterday retired slowly towards the fortified position at Anshanhan. "The fire was general along the whole front. "The Japanese artillery canonaded our positions at different points. "Our guns poured a heavy fire into the columns of the Japanese as they advanced and by their works and entrenchments eventually compelled them to move their vast camp from Fannaha to the village of Balizhe. "At 6 o'clock in the evening there was a lull in the fighting. "The hottest fighting occurred on our left flank on the south front, where our losses amounted to two hundred. "During the night our advance guards retired to the principal position. "Five divisions of the enemy took the offensive against our south front. Our troops repelled towards the south-east all attacks of the Japanese directed against their front, while our troops on the right flank, taking the offensive towards evening, drove the Japanese back to Tounsinpu. "On our losses on the southeast front were about four hundred. "On the right flank our infantry, though unsupported by artillery and though the Japanese were at all points superior numerically, firmly and courageously repulsed the attacks begun during the night by the enemy on the advanced positions of Tsegow and Anping. This affair culminated in sharp bayonet fighting and some of our regimental officers received sword, bayonet and revolver wounds. "After desperate fighting on the advanced positions of Tsegow and Anping our troops retired to the main position, supported by artillery. "The Tamboff regiment on the left flank at Tsegow defended an advanced position from one o'clock in the morning until 4 o'clock in the afternoon, repelling all the enemy's attacks at the point of the bayonet. "A turning movement by the enemy against the left flank of the Tsegow position and the enfilading fire of their batteries on Khasout heights forced the Tamboff regiment to retire and the retreat was effected in good order. Six guns were abandoned, but they were broken and rendered useless. "The Japanese attacked like fanatics and their losses must have been very great. "Our losses on this front have not been definitely ascertained, but they exceed 1,500 killed or wounded. "On Aug. 27 the enemy had not assumed any definite offensive movement at any point along the whole front and our troops retired gradually to new positions. "At about 2 o'clock in the afternoon it was discovered that the Japanese were moving on Taempine by way of Youdoukoukai. "CHE FOO, Aug. 25, 7 p. m.—Information which to a very great extent confirms the reports of the conditions at Port Arthur, was received here today by junks which left there Aug. 24 and Aug. 26. "The most important statement agreed to by passengers of these junks who were interviewed by the correspondent of the Associated Press, confirms the reports that the Russians have been driven from the fort immediately east of the railroad. This fort is named Rihlungshan, and is located on the Tail of the Dragon Hills along the summits of which the eastern defenses of Port Arthur are built. When the Russian forces retired from Fort Itashan they entered Fort No. 1 to the north of Chaochanko. During the nights of Aug. 18 and 19, while it was raining the Japanese attempted to storm Fort Antashan, which is a strong position adjoining Itashan to

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A SCRAP OF FLESH

Accidentally Picked up by a Little Girl, May Lead to the Discovery of the Murderer of Frank Burns.

ATHOL, Mass., Aug. 29.—The accidental discovery of a piece of flesh in the sawdust pile at the Southland saw mill by a little girl and the subsequent finding of another bit of flesh four inches square by detectives, has furnished a new clue to the supposed murder of Frank Burns, the Worcester jewelry salesman, who disappeared on the night of Dec. 27th last. On the night of his disappearance Burns in the company of a woman, E. Smith, drove to the vicinity of the Southland mill with the expectation of disposing of jewelry to the men employed there. So far as known Smith was the last one to see Burns alive. Smith was arrested in Boston on June 23, charged with the larceny of jewelry from Burns and at that time property supposed to belong to the jewelry firm represented by Burns was found on him. At the time Smith said that by agreement he left Burns near the saw mill and afterwards by accident discovered a grip formerly carried by Burns and containing jewelry. Smith was later indicted for larceny and is now held in the Worcester jail for trial.

CHURCH UNION.

Rev. Dr. Moore of Ottawa Gives His Opinion. He Has Been a Minister for Forty Years and Was at One Time Moderator of Presbyterian General Assembly.

Rev. Dr. Moore of Ottawa, who is now in the city lecturing on tuberculosis, was asked last Sunday for his views on church union. Dr. Moore has been in the ministry for forty years and in 1877 was moderator of the General Assembly. Dr. Moore said: "Respecting the movement for the union of the negotiating churches, I am a very warm advocate of the scheme and have been for the greater part of my life. Interviews on this subject have been published at times when very few qualified men were prepared to consider the matter as within the region of practicability. "The union, when consummated, will do a great amount of good by removing unseemly rivalry among Protestants by enabling the churches to make a more effective use of their means and to put forth the utmost wisdom of their funds for the preaching of the Gospel both at home and in foreign lands. "At the same time I cannot conceal, nor anybody else for that matter, the fact that there are very many very delicate points of difference that will require extremely careful handling, and that the systems of finance and the methods of carrying on Christian work will call for the utmost wisdom of the negotiating parties in order to bring about a satisfactory adjustment of the interests at stake. "And yet I believe that the union of these churches is feasible and that it has come recently within the range of a practical issue. My hope for the future is due to the fact that the leaders of the present movement are not young rash and inexperienced men, but the wisest and most experienced in all the church, the men who have borne the heat and burden of the day, and who know as well, if not better, than most the difficulties of the situation. "The fact that such men have committed themselves to the movement affords a guarantee to all right-minded people that the movement will finally result in the desired union. "And yet because these very men are leading, the course of negotiations will not necessarily be somewhat prolonged, so much so as to possibly cause some impatience among the more ardent advocates of union. Still the delay thus interposed will serve the purpose of giving the motives of those who are impatient, and at the same time dissipating the fears of those who regard the movement with some measure of apprehension, because the long drawn out negotiations will eventually create in their minds the conviction that Divine Truth is being conserved and that no interest worth preservation will in any degree be hazarded."

MRS. T. G. CURRIE DEAD.

Was the Mother of Mrs. Israel Smith of St. John. FREDERICTON, Aug. 29.—A telegram was received yesterday from Cambridge, Mass., announcing the death at that place of the widow of Thomas G. Currie, formerly of this city. Mrs. Currie had reached the age of 83, and leaves surviving a number of children, including Mrs. J. B. Gunter of this city, Mrs. Israel Smith of St. John, Mrs. Leek, Abram Currie, Dr. J. Z. Currie and Dr. W. A. Currie, all of Cambridge. The deceased was a daughter of Major Yerxa, formerly of Keswick, and was well known in this city, where she resided for a number of years. The remains are to be brought here for burial, the funeral taking place on Wednesday afternoon from the residence of J. B. Gunter.

TO ASSIST CANON ROBERTS.

FREDERICTON, Aug. 29.—It is quite generally understood that the corporation of Christ church in this city has decided to appoint a curate to assist Canon Roberts in his parish work, and at the next meeting of the vestry of that church a selection will be made, probably by ballot or steps taken towards that end. The rector of Fredericton has discharged his duties here for a period of over thirty years, and his parishioners feel that he should be given assistance in his good work. St. Ann's church has shown great progress under Canon Roberts' rectorship. The attendance at the services has increased to such an extent that the talk has become quite prevalent of enlarging the church. Both spiritually and financially the parish is in the best condition, and all agree that the rector should be aided by an assistant clergyman.

HE WAS NOT SENTENCED.

Murderer of Von Plehve Has Not Yet Been Tried. ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 29.—The statement made in these despatches last week that Sasonoff, the assassin of Minister of the Interior Plehve, had been sentenced to death proves to be incorrect. The question as to whether the assassin will be tried by court-martial or by a civil court has not yet been decided. This is one of the questions that the new minister of the interior will have to pass upon, the fact that St. Petersburg is technically in a state of siege giving the minister this power. Sasonoff, the murderer of M. Siplagrine, M. Plehve's predecessor, was tried by court-martial. It is expected that the Emperor will appoint a new minister of the interior as soon as he returns from the Don.

AFFAIRS IN FINLAND.

ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 29.—The imperial decree convening the Finnish diet not only convokes it this year, but makes provision for its meeting three years hence, thus forecasting meetings of the diet at intervals of not more than five years, in accordance with the letter of the Finnish constitution. For the first time since the Grand Duchy came under Russian sovereignty, that such a step has been taken possibly indicates the suspension of the policy of the Russification of Finland, to which the minister of the interior, Plehve, was committed.

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