

# Dominion Presbyterian

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## NOTE AND COMMENT

The Australian Salvation Army self-denial week has this year reached £33,700. This is an increase of £850 on last year's total.

Relief work in Toronto is to be paid for at the rate of 20 cents an hour, and it is feared this high rate will attract many worthless persons to the city.

Education is well provided for in Toronto, but it costs the ratepayer a lot of money. While the school attendance since 1885 has increased 118 per cent., the expenditure has advanced 399 per cent.

The S.P.C.K. in its annual report states that eighty-one chaplains employed by the society accompanied parties of emigrants to Canada, and seventy-five went with parties to Australia and South Africa. This is good work.

Rev. Alex. Connell has appealed for a guarantee of £1,000 per annum, for four or five years, in special gifts from the wealthier members of the English Presbyterian Church, to prevent further retrenchment in the foreign mission field.

Rev. James M. Gray, D.D., dean of the Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, teaches an interdenominational Bible class of about 1,500 members each week in Grand Rapids, Mich. This is probably one of the largest Bible classes in the world.

A remarkable feat in wireless telegraphy from the Yukon is reported. The wireless station at Tanana was in communication with the steamship Victoria off the Alentian islands over one thousand miles distant, with two great mountain chains intervening.

Mrs. Russell Sage has given \$25,000 to the establishment of a college for colored youths in Kentucky, to be a branch of Berea College. This brings the fund up to \$350,000 from outside sources, leaving \$50,000 to be raised in Kentucky.

It is alleged that in the clerical appointments made by the Lord Chancellor of England a distinct preference for clerics of the sacerdotal school is manifested, and liberal churchmen are not at all satisfied. Representations are to be made to the Prime Minister.

Union is in the air. A movement is on foot to bring about a union of the Southern Presbyterian and the Associate Reformed Presbyterian churches. If there is as little difference between them in doctrine as in name there is no reason why they should not come together.

Apropos of the new Archbishop of York, a remark of Sir Robert Perks is worth quoting: "Everywhere today we hear of Scotland for the Scotch, Ireland for the Irish, Wales for the Welsh, India for the Indians, China for the Chinese—and England for the English."

A munificent gift of £10,000 was made to the Birmingham University fund by G. H. Kendrick, the same day he was elected Lord Mayor. The money is to be specially devoted to the training of students in applied science. Mr. Kendrick's gifts to this object now reach a total of £25,000. The new buildings are to be opened next summer. Won't some liberal-minded man come forward and do as well for the Presbyterian church's university in Canada, and for the struggling colleges?

Rev. R. J. Campbell, recently told his congregation at the City Temple, London, that there was such a thing as the ungodly cough. "There seems to be a cataract of coughing at the moment," he said, "but I hope to be spared from the ungodly variety." The appeal was effective.

An idea of the relative importance attached in China to the late Emperor and Dowager Empress respectively is provided by the regulations issued for Court mourning. Kwang Su is to be officially mourned for only one hundred days; Tsu-Tei for twenty-seven months, or nine times as long.

It is pointed out that in both Presbyterian Churches of Scotland a succession of divines poetically gifted has been maintained for many years. Dr. Horatius Bonar, whose hymns are in use in all churches over the world; Dr. Walter Smith, Dr. Matheson and Dr. John Brownlie are of the number.

The Wesleyan Methodist Calendar for the year has just been issued, and gives the statistics of the various Methodist bodies throughout the world. The Wesleyan Methodists head the list with 8,500 places of worship in Great Britain, 2,600 ordained ministers, and over one million Sunday School scholars. The Primitive Methodists come next, with 5,100 places of worship, 1,150 ministers, and 465,000 Sunday School scholars. The United Methodists have 880 ministers and 324,000 scholars.

With the approach of the centennial of Abraham Lincoln's birth a controversy has sprung up whether he ever sold liquor or not. At all events, when a youth he read the works of Franklin: "Temperance puts wood on the fire, meal in the barrel, flour in the tub, money in the purse, credit in the country, contentment in the house, clothes on the back, and vigor in the body," and resolved to live a temperate life. There appears to be the best of evidence that he consistently lived up to his resolution.

The name of Prof. H. A. A. Kennedy of Knox College is being mentioned very prominently in Scotland for the chair in Edinburgh now held by Principal Marcus Dods. It is well known that Prof. Dods himself was strongly opposed to Dr. Kennedy's coming to Canada, as he desired to see him his own successor in Edinburgh. He has now resigned his chair, and the question of his successor is being widely discussed in the United Free Church of Scotland. Dr. Kennedy has discouraged the mention of his name, as he regards himself "very happily settled in Knox College."

Though the time for the meeting of the General Assembly is far off yet, nominations for moderator are already being made. Dr. Robertson, of Whittinghame—a fellow student of Principal Story, and Dr. Caird, master of Balliol—and the author of devotional books, also an authority on foreign missions, will be the moderator of the Church of Scotland Assembly; and Dr. Henderson, of Crieff, principal clerk, and an authority on church constitution and debate, will fill the chair in the United Free Assembly. Rev. John Campbell Gibson, D.D., missionary at Swatow, China, will be the moderator of the English Presbyterian synod.

Would it not be a good thing for pastors sometimes to follow the example of that preacher who preached the same sermon for several successive Sundays and who declared that whenever his congregation began to practice what he preached in that sermon he would preach another one. "Be ye doers of the Word and not hearers only," as a Scripture admonition which justified that minister in his course. Even in Edinburgh, with a population of 350,000, it is estimated that the total church membership is only 116,000, and that adherents do not number more than about 60,000, making in all less than half the population. Making a liberal allowance for young children the unchurched masses still count up largely in the Scottish metropolises.

The British Weekly has the following with reference to the Edinburgh situation: "In connection with the prospective vacancy in the chair of exegetical theology in New College, Edinburgh, the name of the Rev. W. M. Macgregor, D.D., minister of St. Andrew's church, Edinburgh, is being mentioned as that of one who is eminently fitted to fulfill the duties of the chair with great distinction. A meeting of those favorable to the nomination of Dr. Macgregor is to be called at an early date, and arrangements will be made for presenting in suitable form his claims to the position. For the same vacancy the name of Professor H. A. A. Kennedy of Toronto is also proposed. Professor Kennedy's books show him to be a master of New Testament learning, and his career as a professor in Toronto has been one of the most marked successes."

The Supreme Court of the United States has just handed out a decision which will put a barrier in the way of the education of the black race. In the case of Berea College vs. the State of Kentucky, which has been before the courts since 1904, the highest court in the country has decided that individual states may constitutionally legislate to prevent the co-education of the white and black races. The law of Kentucky, which Berea College endeavored to have set aside, is one prohibiting white and black children from attending the same schools. The decision seems a backward step, but it must have the effect of stimulating the efforts of those who see the necessity for providing an adequate education for the colored people. How to deal with this race is the greatest problem which our neighbors to the south have to face.

As part of the aftermath of the Eucharistic Congress lately held in London, Rev. Father Robert Hugh Benson spoke in the city hall, Glasgow, on "The future of the Catholic Church in the British Isles." To the mind of the speaker the Church has never since the time of King John been on such a favorable footing as now, and the opportunity for its progress has never been nearer. The Broad Church movement and Socialism are, he thought, the two principal forces to be feared. Socialism, he said, had much truth in it, but on account of its "pestilential rubbish" was an extraordinary menace to the Church. Half a century hence no respectable Christian institution would be left in Britain but that which would represent Catholicity, and there would be only one refuge—that to be found within the haven of the one, true, holy Roman Catholic and Apostolic Church. The Father who expresses this belief is the son of an Anglican archbishop.