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Note and Comment.

The fundamental soundness of King Edward's physical constitution, and the evident falsity of much of the attack made on him a few years ago, are shown by the manner in which the wounds caused by his operation have healed. Detraction loves a shining mark.

We find the following notice of "change of address" in the Herald and Presbyter: "Rev. J. A. McKay from South Lake, Ainslie, Nova Scotia, Canada, to Deo Moines, Ia, 933 High S.reet." We need such men in our own country, but they can be depended upon to do good among our American cousins.

The fact that Great Britain expended \$30,000,000 outside of the national sums, for the disabled soldiers of the Boer War, and the wives and children of the dead soldiers, is a monument to British humanity. Mr. Kipling's poem, "The Absent-minded Beggar" brought in \$1,750,000. Who says after this that poetry is not profitable?

The Southern (U.S.) Presbyterian Church comprises 13 Synods, 79 Presbyteries, 1501 ministers, 3017 Churches, 9,130 ruling elders, 229,642 communicants, 20,874 S. S. teachers and 149,482 S. S. scholars. The total contributions for all congregational, missionary, educational and benevolent purposes this year amounted to \$2,227,649—nearly doubled since 1882.

A most remarkable story of criminal double life was disclosed in Vermont recently by the firing of a spring gun set to protect a mill at Chester against burglars. The victim of the gun proved to be a member of the State Legislature, who for years has been prominent in business and politics by day, and a thief by night, working out for himself Stevenson's story, "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," the reading of which fascinated him and started him on his criminal record.

The Northwestern Presbyterian, of Minneapolis has the following: "Senator James McMillan, of Michigan, who died recently, was greatly beloved because of his many estimable qualities both as a statesman and a Christian gentleman. He was a life-long member of the Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian church—himself the son of a Presbyterian elder—and his activities and generosity made him widely known and greatly beloved. He was a man of large wealth and his gifts were in proportion. McMillan Hall at Ann Arbor, for the accomodation of Presbyterian students, will perpetuate his name in that educational centre. He won an enviable reputation in the senate as a clear-headed thinker and patriotic statesman. His character was above reproach and even in the heat of political contest was never assailed. He was a man of simple faith and was faithful in the discharge of his religious duties. The lives of such men enrich the church and the nation." The deceased Senator was a Canadian by birth. We have given the public and business life and Christian churches of the United States many good men, who have "enriched the church and the nation."

The centenary of Scotland's gifted stonemason and geologist, Hugh Miller, was celebrated at Cromarty on the 22nd of August. It is intended to erect a Hugh Miller institute at Cromarty which shall take the form of a museum, where any relics pertaining to Miller can be kept; and also a free library and reading room. Support has been promised from this side of the Atlantic, and Mr. Carnegie has made the handsome offer to contribute \$500 for every £100 raised by the Committee.

Auld Glasgow has inaugurated a crusade against expectorating in train cars, and, strange to say, the first person prosecuted and fined for such an offence was a sanitary inspector. The Glasgow Leader says he must be "a unique specimen," and adds: "Of all persons in the world to disregard the laws of cleanliness a sanitary inspector should be about the last, for his daily duty is to see that the rules of health are observed." The regulation seems to be well observed in train cars in Canadian cities.

Mr. Adolph S. Ochs has purchased the Philadelphia Ledger, the well known paper conducted so successfully many years by the late George W. Childs. The Ledger, with some peculiarities that have always invited the wit of newspaper men, has throughout its career been a journal of high standing and excellent tone. Mr. Ochs has within a year or so purchased the New York Times and the Times of Philadelphia, and is owner of the Chattanooga Times. These papers are to be conducted as independent, with a leaning towards Democratic doctrine of the old school. The Pittsburg Presbyterian Banner regards as the most important fact connected with the transaction that these papers are to shun the ways of sensationalism and move much on the lines already pursued by the Ledger.

The Fulton street prayer meeting, New York, of which little has been said in the press for some years, is still in operation and accomplishing good work. This month, September, will witness the forty-fifth anniversary of its founding, and not a single week day, since 1858, has elapsed without a gathering for prayer. This is surely something notable. A recently published statement says: "Already a deeper interest is manifest and there is prophecy of great blessing. The meeting in the past has been a standing evidence that God answers prayer. These years have been crowded to the full with direct answers to prayers continually being offered here. On the other hand, the ministry of intercession has been of great benefit to those who have had part in its exercise, and many have gone out from here to wider fields of usefulness and service. Requests have continued to come in from almost every part of the world and are daily laid before the meeting. Such requests should be signed and address given by party sending name, so that a reply may be sent by the superintendent in charge. Names are always withheld from the public. "Would a "Fulton street" noon-day prayer meeting be possible in Ottawa?"

The English Wesleyan Conference has determined to erect a Church House (or

Home) in London on the side of the Royal Aquarium, Westminster. The land will cost £330,000 and the building will cost a quarter of a million pounds more. The Presbyterian of London compliments the Wesleys on their enterprise, describing it as a "hola stroke" worthy of the fine "forward" spirit of the denomination. The proposed Church House will be of an ornamental character, and will contain a great hall to hold 3,000 persons, and a smaller hall with a seating capacity of 1,000, provision for a library, and a home for the various departments of Methodism. The site is in many respects the very best in London for a central mission hall and Church House, and will give visibility to Nonconformity right opposite Westminster Abbey and the Houses of Parliament.

A vigorous agitation has been inaugurated in the Southern States for the abolition of child labor in the cotton factories of that section. The conditions are said to be little short of slavery. A South Carolina paper makes the statement that 9000 children under twelve years of age are employed in Southern factories, many of them being only six to seven years of age; while the hours of labor range from 5 45 in the morning to 6.30 in the evening, and wages range from ten to thirty cents a day. The Southern, as well as the Northern press, have taken up the matter vigorously and call upon the State legislatures to enact restrictive laws so as to destroy the child labor system. Efforts to secure such legislation in the past have failed because of the dominating influence of the mill-owners over the State legislatures. Public opinion, however, is growing and the system is regarded as doomed.

Dr. Frank Woodbury, of Dartmouth, N.S., just across the harbor from Halifax, where the liquor traffic is in full blast, has this to say about practical prohibition in that town: "Prohibition has changed our town from being a disorderly and drunken place to one of the quietest and most prosperous in Nova Scotia. There are many families living in comfort today because the husband does not have to pass a saloon in going to or from work. The boys on the streets in the evenings have no temptations to linger around the saloons, because there are none. This is not a Scott Act county, but is under the Provincial License Act, which allows a saloon wherever enough ratepayers petition for it. Numbers of attempts have been made, but with uniform failure." It is worthy of note that this result has been achieved, not under a formal prohibitory law, but under a stringent and—where vigorously enforced—effective, provincial license law, which requires the signatures of two-thirds of the ratepayers to petition for license, otherwise no license can be granted. Outside of the city of Halifax and one or two districts in Halifax county, there is not, we believe, a county in the province in which the signatures of a majority, much less two-thirds, of the ratepayers can be secured to petition for license. A provincial license law of that kind would suit Ontario much better than a direct prohibition law, provided the public sentiment of this province is educated up to the standard of that in Nova Scotia.