

# Dominion Presbyterian

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## Note and Comment.

Mr. J. Hudson Taylor has retired from active control of the China Inland Mission after fifty years of continuous service.

The youngest son of the late Dwight L. Moody, Mr. Paul Moody, will, it is expected, become an evangelist.

The harp of Mary, Queen of Scots, has been bought by the Society of Antiquarians of Scotland for \$4,500.

Kansas City has the unenviable notoriety of leading in the proportion of divorces to marriages, there being but four marriages to every divorce.

Mecca has been a forbidden spot to any non-Mohammedan. But now we read of a railroad projected from Damascus to Mecca. What a change!

The number of Protestant Christian organizations laboring in Japan is 33, having 757 missionaries. There are 558 organized churches, having 42,451 members.

An expert has now discovered that King Edward has Irish blood in his veins, and shares, with the rest of his compatriots, the distinction of being descended from the Kings of Ireland.

A committee of eleven of the Presbyterian Church in the United States held sessions last week in Philadelphia to prepare a book of simple forms of service for Presbyterian churches.

In France it is unlawful for a pupil in a school to use tobacco or cigarette. In Switzerland a minor found using a cigarette or tobacco is arrested and put in jail under the law of the land.

The annual graduation ceremony at St. Andrew's University took place on the 29th ult. Four Honorary degrees of Doctor of Divinity and six of Doctor of Laws were conferred.

Fraulein Madeleine Niente is said to be the first woman pharmacist in Germany. She was born at Karlsruhe in 1881. She had to take her preliminary studies in Switzerland.

Speaking generally, the Scottish Education Bill has been received by the English and also by the Scottish Press with a chorus of praise. It is, they say in effect, a good measure for a free and progressive people.

Sir Donald Currie, who has given £100,000 to develop London education knows the value of it, for he had very little himself of a conventional kind. He began his commercial career at the age of fourteen in a shipping office. He is now one of the richest shipowners in the world.

Mr. T. Fisher Unwin announces a new book by Mrs. Brightwen, the author of that popular volume, "Wild Nature Won by Kindness." It will be entitled, "Quiet Hours with Nature," and will be illustrated from photographs and drawings.

Women in Russia are to be given the chance of taking up agriculture as a regular profession. The government is founding an agricultural high school for women, whose students will administer the crown domains on equal terms with men.

Signor Marconi stated at Aberdeen the other day that he believed wireless telegraphy would be of great service to fishermen. When the herring fleet got the fish and were becalmed they could telegraph to the shore for a tug to come out to help them.

A German scientist living in Japan says that the next generation of Japs will attain the normal height of Europeans. This he attributes to the adoption of the European style of sitting instead of the Oriental fashion, which was detrimental to the development of the legs.

The London Christian World reports remarkable evangelistic meetings held by Rev. John McNeil in Plymouth, England. "In spite of gales of wind and drenching rains the attendance has been soberly estimated at 4,000 each day. At noon in the open air at the dockyard gates almost every day hundreds of workmen heard the gospel."

"The Ottawa Citizen Company, Limited, has just completed a new six-story fire-proof building which is one of the finest newspaper buildings in Canada. The building is very handsome and imposing, and is a credit to the Canadian Capital. The Citizen Company has also installed a new three-deck Hoe press with a capacity of 24,000 papers per hour."

The turbine engines which will be introduced into the new ships will make the task easier in many ways, for by this plan the engines for a given power are lighter than those at present used on British and German vessels. They take up less space, are more economical of coal, and require fewer men to look after them.

At a meeting of the Presbytery of Glasgow held on the 27th. ult, it was agreed on the motion of Rev. Principal Story, to overture the General Assembly to take such measures as it might deem proper and advisable to ensure that the fourth centenary of the births of John Knox, which falls next year, might be duly celebrated.

The Inter-Ocean, Chicago, commenting on the fact that a committee engaged in the revision of the Methodist hymnal could find no worthy hymns written during the last twenty-five years, finds in this another indication of a modern lack of faith. "A generation that hesitates to pledge itself to a creed lacks the faith that is expressed in hymns of praise that bite into the mind and become really popular." A very different explanation has been offered, to the effect that the dearth of good modern hymns is due to a prevailing condition of "spiritual prosperity and peace, in which the inspiration of conflict and development is lacking."

A very well-informed writer in the "Kilmarnock Standard" states that Thomas Car-

lyle, not long before his death, was in conversation with the late Dr. John Brown, and expressed himself to the following effect: "I am now an old man, and done with the world. Looking around me, before and behind, and weighing all as wisely as I can, it seems to me there is nothing solid to rest on but the faith which I learned in my old home, and from my mother's lips."

It seems that an impression has got abroad that the Station Square, Dingwall, has been fixed upon as the site for the national monument which is to be erected to the memory of the late Major-General Sir Hector Macdonald. This, it appears, is not the case, as the committee in charge of the matter are considering various sites suitable for the memorial. The general feeling is that a more prominent spot could be secured than the square, and the Hill of Tulloch, two miles out of the Highland town, finds favor with many subscribers. If erected on Tulloch Hill the Hector Macdonald monument would be to Rossire what the Wallace monument is to Stirling, and the Duke of Sutherland memorial to the county of Sutherland.

We quote the following from the Herald and Presbyterian: Those who wish a really lucid statement as to the followers of Mary Eddy, styling themselves "Christian Scientists," will find it in the decision of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, wherein it refuses to grant a charter to this body as a corporate institution. It states that by denying the existence of disease, this movement is in conflict with the laws of the State, and that its attitude in the matter makes it a menace to the community and in opposition to public policy, especially as to contagious diseases. It fails to find it simply doing religious work, but as being an organization for profit. Mrs. Eddy has shown that her religious views are very elastic, and she will be found, before long, modifying them to suit this emergency, and then others as they arise. She has already greatly shifted her theories and her demands on her followers, the one essential in all cases still being, however, that they must purchase and read her multiplex publications.

The movement for the erection of an international memorial to James Watt has now been commenced, says the Scottish American, and judging from the careful arrangements that have been made for the collecting of the necessary funds, no stone will be left unturned to make the project thoroughly successful. It will be remembered that some time ago Mr. Carnegie laid the foundation of the fund by his handsome donation of £10,000 and he has now undertaken the duty of collecting money from Watt admirers in the United States. Dr. Robert Caird is arranging a similar canvass in Canada, and efforts are being made to obtain contributions from Australia, India and South Africa, so that the project has assumed world wide dimensions. The committee has just issued an appeal for funds, and ere long a list of the subscribers will be furnished. The form of the memorial has not yet been decided upon, but doubtless the solution of that question will largely depend on the money subscribed.