

Dominion Presbyterian

\$1.50 PER ANNUM.

OTTAWA, MONTREAL, TORONTO AND WINNIPEG

SINGLE COPIES, 5 CENTS

Note and Comment.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century Protestantism had fifty missionaries in the field, ad paid to the cause \$50,000. To day there are 13,607 missionaries, and an annual contribution of \$20,000,000.

It is announced that Dr. Marcus Dods is to deliver a course of lectures in Chicago. He is also expected to visit Canada, and will be the guest of Principal Patrick in Winnipeg. Principal Patrick will accompany him in a trip through the great prairie country and British Columbia.

The report that the Rev. G. J. Bond had resigned the editorial chair of the *Christian Guardian* is happily inaccurate. It is true that Mr. Bond's health has been very seriously affected by recent bereavement: but rest and change and the strength that comes from faith in God will enable him to continue work with his wonted vigor, courage and literary ability, for he is again at his responsible post.

In the Presbyterian Banner, we find an account of a fossil head that has been recently discovered in Montana, about 135 miles north-west of Miles City. The skull, as found, is seven feet and a half in length, and five and a half in width. The name given to the animal is "Triceratops." The animal to which this skull belonged must have lived centuries ago. It lived on grass and herbs, and must have required several hundred pounds per day.

The Belfast Witness states that Mr. M. J. McCarthy, author of "Five Years in Ireland" and "Priests and People," has just issued his address to the electors of Stephen's Green Division, and it is well worthy of consideration by all electors. He claims to be an out-and-out Unionist, and would not allow priestcraft to make any further progress in Ireland, and states there are already too many priests, monks, and nuns in the country, but yields to no one in his deference for religion and his loyalty to the faith of Christ.

The New York Evening Post's London representative, commenting on the persistence with which English Nonconformists are living up to their "passive resistance" declarations and the respectability and courage of those who decline to pay, adds: "If the present movement persists a change in the law will become inevitable." And if Rev. R. J. Campbell, now of City Temple church, now in America, is an authority—and we think he is—the Nonconformists are in this fight to the finish.

A unique thing occurred recently in France something akin to a riot against the keeping of the stores open on Sunday! In the city Nice the Sunday-closing movement has met with success, and a large proportion of the stores are now closed on the Sabbath. Recently, some five hundred salesmen made a demonstration there against the stores that remained open. The Commissioner of Police arrived, but instead of driving the

salesmen off, he went from store to store begging the proprietors to close. In godless France, the tendency is toward Sabbath observance; in Christian United States and Canada is it not in the other direction?

Catholic and Protestant alike will feel the touch of nature that makes the whole world kin, as they read the simple and pathetic reminiscences of the late Cardinal Vaughan, contributed by Olive Katherine Parr to Temple Bar, and entitled "The Children's Cardinal." Apart from the biographical value of the article, its description of the various enterprises undertaken at the Cardinal's initiative in behalf of the needy children of London, makes it particularly suggestive and helpful to those interested in such philanthropies. It is reprinted entire in *THE LIVING AGE* for October 10.

The Rev. Dr. Frew, of the United Free Church St. Ninian's, Stirling, has a unique record as a minister of the Gospel. He is over ninety years of age, and "his eye is not dim, nor his natural force abated." He is quite vigorous mentally and physically. On Tuesday, 8th September, he entered on his ninety-first year, and on the Sabbath previous he preached in his own church with his usual vigor. St. Ninian's has been the venerable Doctor's only charge, and he has been minister of that church for the long period of sixty-eight years, a remarkable record unsurpassed by any minister in Scotland, if not in the United Kingdom.

One of the most remarkable devotional meetings of recent days was that held at Stratford, in East London, G.B., on the occasion of the dedication of a number of Wesleyan foreign missionaries. No fewer than five fathers took part in the imposition of hands, helping to ordain their sons, and, in addition, the venerable George Piercy assisted in the ordination of his nephew. Rev. Thos. Champness was full of tender reminiscence. He was born at Stratford, now a perfect wilderness of artistic dwellings, but then a village with green meadows running down to the banks of the Lea. "And now," added Mr. Champness, "the son who bears my name is going to the very station on the West Coast to which I was sent, in this same month of September, forty-six years ago."

An American religious journal addresses the following loud warning to the people of the United States: "The rapid increase in mobs and lynchings, and in the non-enforcement of law by the officers who are under oath to suppress and punish crime in this country, are but the sure forerunners of a terrible military despotism. A free government must enforce its laws or yield its place to a despotic government that will. Lovers of liberty, look out! The despotism is coming, certain, sure! The only thing that can stay its progress is the prompt, strict, vigorous enforcement of law!" Nothing so much weakens the respect of people for law and order as failure on the part of the "proper authorities" to enforce law. The contempt for unenforced laws grows apace.

According to the Belfast Witness Pope Pius X. has created quite a sensation at the Vatican by allowing his sisters to dine with him. What a terrible innovation! According to Papal usage his Holiness must dine absolutely alone, not even the highest Prince Cardinal being permitted that honour. And to think that this new Pontiff should actually have his two sisters at the same table with him. Our contemporary quotes what occurred, as follows: "On finding the Pope deaf to entreaties not to violate hoary observance, the Head Chamberlain, it is said, broke into loud sobbing, and retired to his apartment, whilst a Cardinal of noble extraction who happened to be calling at the Vatican drove off in a state of great irritation." Only think of it!

Rev. Dr. Anderson of Nashville, Tenn., gives the following, among other interesting facts, respecting Presbyterian missions in Japan: "In 1885, steps were taken to establish a mission of the Southern Presbyterian Church in Japan. That fall, Messrs. Grinnan and McAlpine sailed, and arrived in Japan at the beginning of 1886. They soon established a church at Kochi, the capital of Tosa. This church was somewhat remarkable. The foundation for it had been laid by an American minister and a Japanese. After a hard day's work in a town near Kochi, they went down to the beach to rest. Here they knelt in the bright moonlight with the breakers of the great Pacific rolling at their feet, and prayed that God would speed the day when his Church would be planted among the mountains of Tosa, that it might bear the news of the Gospel of peace to that sunny land. Our little mission seemed to be God's answer to that prayer. It was organized with twenty-two members and numbered 101 at its first birthday." The point is also noted that one thing which makes Japan an important field for missions is her already established reputation as an educational centre. China and Korea are sending their young men to her to be educated.

Crathie Parish Church, Scotland, was the scene of an impressive ceremony on Sunday, September 20th, when the memorial to her late Majesty Queen Victoria was unveiled by the King. The memorial takes the form of a portrait bust of the late Queen set in a niche on the face of the massive granite pillar, which marks the angle of the choir and the south transept, in which is situated the Royal pew. The inscription reads as follows—"In dutiful and beloved remembrance of Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India, this monument was erected by her sorrowing and devoted son, Edward R. and I." The church, which has been greatly improved of late both externally and internally by the King, was crowded in every part, and several hundreds were unable to gain entrance. In addition to the King, the Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince Edward of Wales, and Princess Charles of Denmark, there were present a distinguished company, including Lord Lansdowne, Lord James of Hereford, Mr. Balfour, Mr. Henry Chaplin, and Lord Balfour of Burleigh. The service was in strict accordance with the simplicity of Presbyterian worship.