

## British and Foreign

Lord and Lady Overtoun are both ill and confined to the house.

Principal Dykes will take up his residence at Cambridge in May.

Mr. Rockefeller, the oil king of the world, is reputed to be worth \$250,000,000.

The Presbytery of Belfast has adopted a strong resolution against theatre-going.

The authorities at Vienna have appointed a woman as chief gravedigger at a cemetery.

Dr. MacLaren, of Manchester, celebrated the 73rd anniversary of his birth on Saturday.

Mr. R. Johnston, a licentiate of Coleraine Presbytery, has accepted a call to Castledawson.

Rev. Malcolm White, M.A., of South Church, Blairgowrie, has celebrated his ministerial semi-jubilee.

The health of Dr. George MacDonald is said to have improved somewhat since his return to Bordighera.

Hygienic Bibles have been provided for police courts in New York. The covers are glazed, and easily disinfected.

Dr. John Watson's American tour is understood to be of a semi-private nature. He is accompanied by Mrs. Watson.

Rev. John Camae, Presbytery of Derry, has asked leave to retire from active duty and to have an assistant and successor appointed.

Rev. John C. Gibson, of Swatow, China, the present Duff lecturer in evangelistic theology, is a son of the late Professor Gibson, of Glasgow.

There is a well-authenticated case of a Roman Catholic priest who sent a cheque for £25 towards the building fund of a new Methodist church.

Rev. Alexander Rankin, of Strathaven, who is stated to be the only pre-Disruption minister in active work, has applied for a colleague and successor.

Great indignation has been occasioned in Crete by the discovery of the mutilated bodies of twenty-seven Christians, massacred by the Moslems two years ago.

Rev. Colin Sinclair, of Invergordon, is retiring with an allowance of £170. The salary of an assistant and successor has been fixed at £200, with the use of the manse.

The summer school of the British Chautauqua will be held at Saltburn, on the Yorkshire coast, from August 12 to 26. Dr. Clifford is the new president, in succession to Dr. Monro Gibson.

The plague is getting worse in Bombay. The deaths in Bombay city in one week numbered 1,600. In one plague district among 7,000 persons inoculated only one death occurred. Active steps are being taken to prevent the plague reaching the Cape.

Lord Rosebery has been to Harwarden Castle to see Mrs. Gladstone.

The Protestants in France number 600,000. They are strongest in the South of France, where in former centuries the Huguenots were so numerous, and in a few large cities like Nîmes, Montpellier, Marseilles, Bordeaux, and especially Paris. Much of the wealth of the country is in their hands.

The Rev. E. F. Scott, B.A. (Oxon.), minister of the U. P. Church, Prestwick, and colleague to the Rev. A. Alison, was last week presented by the members with a purse of 100 sovereigns as a mark of their esteem, and in appreciation of his agreeing to remain in Prestwick rather than accept the call from Finnart Street U. P. Church, Greenock. Miss Scott was also presented with a gold watch and chain.

Commenting on the appointment to the vacant canonry of Westminster, the Record says: "Dr. Robinson is the son of a clergyman for many years a well-known Evangelical incumbent in the diocese of Liverpool. He himself was first known at Cambridge as a decided Evangelical who owed much to Mr. Moody's influence. He became, however, an equally decided High Churchman, and as Vicar of All Saints', Cambridge, was regarded as a distinct Ritualist. This is not, therefore, a moderate appointment, but another concession to the Neo-Anglicans."

The English Church Union, in their latest report, state that during the last six months 3,021 persons have joined the Union—2,645 since the meeting on September 26, over which Lord Halifax presided, at Bradford. The committee add: "It seems as though churchmen were beginning to realize once more, as in 1874 (the time of the passing of the Public Worship Regulation Act) and as in 1889 (the time of the prosecution of the Bishop of Lincoln), the necessity of falling into line in order to support one another, and maintain the great cause which they all have at heart."

Dr. McGaw, in the absence of Sir George Bruce, presented the annual report of the Church Extension Committee to the London Presbytery North. The total number of congregations in the two presbyteries of London in 1866—the year in which the committee was first appointed—was thirty-three; to-day there are ninety-six. The total money raised by the congregations of the two Presbyteries in the year 1897 was £104,402, of which sum £56,816 was raised by the congregations which had no existence in the year 1866, their membership being 12,394. During the past year three preaching stations had been raised to sanctioned charges. A site for a church has been purchased at Harrow, a hall has been opened at Muswell-hill, and another is nearing completion at Wembley. A new hall in which to form a congregation at West Hampstead will be opened in the autumn.

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