

Dominion Presbyterian

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Note and Comment.

A great-grandson of the founder of the British and Foreign Bible Society is minister of the Presbyterian Church of the United States. He is the Rev. W. F. D. Lewis of Rodney street church, Wilmington, Delaware.

The United Presbyterian Mission, (U.S.) working in Lower and Upper Egypt, maintains more than fifty churches, with two hundred stations, and thousands of members, all of whom are taught to make their churches self sustaining as far as possible.

It is just one hundred years since the first Sunday school in India was established in Serampore by Felix and William Carey and John Fernandez. There are now 12,000 schools conducted in thirty-two Indian languages or dialects, with a membership of about 300,000 and 7,000 teachers.

Rev. F. H. Almon, a revered minister of the Anglican church in Halifax, N. S., is now in the 53rd year of his ministry. He has been in active service in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, West Indies, England and the United States. He has hosts of friends in all the evangelical churches. On Tuesday, April 12th, Mr. and Mrs. Almon celebrated the golden jubilee of their marriage life.

The celebration of the Centenary of the Primitive Methodist church in England, which will fall due three years hence, is already engaging the attention of the denominational authorities. A Centenary Fund of £250,000 is proposed, and it is thought that, with a membership of 200,000, besides friends and adherents, there should be no difficulty in raising the amount.

A South American Missionary Congress was lately held in London. English Protestants have six societies at work in South America, chiefly in Brazil. Many were surprised at this meeting to learn that a Protestant mission was planted in Brazil by John Calvin, but it was soon stamped out by the authorities. In Argentina, Protestant missions supplement the defective public schools by their own.

The South Western Presbyterians states that last year 590 converts at Luebo and 280 at Ibay Stations of the Congo mission of the South Presbyterian church were received into the church last year. The utmost care and deliberation were exercised in making these receptions. It seems to have been a jubilee year with the Congo mission.

We find the following paragraph in the London Presbyterian. "Congregational singing, led by a competent choir, embodies the thought of lofty choral praise. We should not forget that the church in its music is offering an oblation of praise, not giving a sacred concert out of courtesy to the Sabbath day." The tendency of things in the present day, even in Presbyterian churches, especially in the large cities and towns, is to go away from the idea of an "oblation of praise" by the whole congregation, led by the choir, drifting into the

"sacred concert" idea, with paid soloists and stentorian organs which drown the voices of the people. Music of that kind is utterly inconsistent with the idea of solemn worship. Presbyterian churches which pay more for choir music than they contribute to the missionary schemes of the church, need to retrace the steps they have been taking for some time.

The oldest Presbyterian minister living in Scotland is the Rev. James Yuill, of Peterhead who was ordained in 1835, and is living in retirement in Aberdeen. He is in his ninety-ninth year, and wonderfully hale for a man of his years. He was a vigorous evangelical preacher in his day, and took a deep interest in educational affairs in the burgh of Peterhead. Mr. Yuill was one of the men who organized the Free Church in disruption days.

The Belfast Witness says that the names mentioned for the chancellorship of the University of Glasgow are Lord Roseberry, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Duke of Montrose, Lord Kelvin, and other lesser lights. Lord Kelvin's claims, that paper says, would appear to most people to be paramount; his successful professorship in Glasgow for 50 years, his great services to science, his pre-eminent position to-day among European Savants; all indicate that Lord Kelvin is the man for the Chancellorship.

The Rev. Dr. W. E. Smith, one of the missionaries of the Methodist church to China, now home on furlough, gave the Christian Guardian the other day, the pronunciation of some of the names most frequently met with in accounts of the Russo-Japanese war. Here are the names with their pronunciation phonetically spelled; Liao Tung (LeowDoong) Kiau Chau (Gow Jow); Wei hai Wei (Way hv Way); Pin Yang (Pin Yong); Seoul (Soel); Chemuipo (Che mulpo); Taku (Tawko); Tientsin chwang (Newchwong); Pechili (Peechelee); Peiho (Peeho). Dr. Smith also told us that the mission station, Kiating, is pronounced Jawdin, and the province of Sz Chuan, Suh chewon.

The Senate of the Presbyterian College, Montreal has nominated Dr. Scrimger to the Principalship of that institution, vacant by the death of Dr. McVicar, but it appears, from a paragraph in the Belfast Witness, that Montreal Presbyterians have been after a distinguished divine in Scotland. The Witness says: "Canada continues to demand the very best the Old Country can give. The latest request is that the Rev. P. Carnegie Simpson, of Renfield church, Glasgow, should accept the post of Principal in the Presbyterian College, Montreal. The author of "The Fact of Christ" cannot very well be spared by Scotland, but it is feared that Mr. Simpson will accept. He succeeded the Rev. W. M. Macgregor in Renfield six years ago, and the Montreal College has, therefore, chosen its time well. After six years of a busy pastorate most men desire a change." Dr. Scrimger will doubtless fill the bill satisfactorily.

A rule of the American Treasury Department forbids the use on any banknote or bill of the portrait of a living person. A similar rule of the Post-office Department keeps the likenesses of living persons off the postage stamps.

The London Daily News, in its investigation into the ownership and conduct of the liquor traffic in England, finds the par value of the investment to be £265,000,000, or about \$1,325,000,000. This is held by a comparatively small number of powerful companies. "It is difficult," says the London Baptist Times, "to realize the social and political influences which lie at the back of such an enormous capital, and militate against all attempts to control the traffic. Those influences have been greatly increased by the conversion of the old private firms into public companies, with their share capital spread over a great number of shareholders in all ranks and professions, including even the clergy. In this way the 'trade' has spread its ramifications everywhere throughout the national life and multiplied a hundred or a thousandfold the number of those interested in defending it against attack."

It falls to the lot of few men to be an Earl under three Sovereigns and in two centuries, and to still fewer to succeed to an earldom as a junior-form schoolboy and to carry the title into the eighties. This is the astonishing record, however, says the Westminster Gazette, of Lord Nelson, who succeeded his father as third Earl when he was at Eton, two years before William IV. vacated the throne. He is a grandson of Susannah Nelson, sister of the hero of Trafalgar, whose son Thomas exchanged his patronymic Bolton for Nelson on succeeding to his uncle's title. Lord Nelson has good reason to be grateful to his great-uncle, for to him he owes not only a pension which has added over £300,000 to his bank balance but a palatial home at Salisbury which a grateful nation built for his great collateral ancestor.

The Supreme Court of the United States has decided that the anthracite coal carrying companies must answer questions put to them by the official of the Inter-State commission, all questions bearing on the business of such corporations. In defining the powers of the Interstate Commerce Commission the Supreme Court holds that those powers include the right to inquire into the management of the business of all common carriers subject to the Interstate Commerce act and to keep itself informed as to the manner and method in which it was conducted, with the right to obtain from them full and complete information necessary to enable the Commission to perform the duties and carry the out the objects for which it was created. The Presbyterian Banner remarks on this decision: "It will be seen how this decision confirms and enlarges the powers of the interstate Commerce Commission and gives it a free hand to rip open the internal and most secret doings of any corporation engaged in interstate commerce. The anthracite coal companies will now have to answer all questions, and it will then be seen whether they have been violating the Sherman Anti-trust law."