

Dominion Presbyterian

\$1.50 Per Annum.

OTTAWA

Single Copies 5 Cents

NOTE AND COMMENT

Miss Catherine Evangeline Booth-Cilbourn, granddaughter of General Booth, will be married to the Rev. James Strachan, M.A., minister of the Presbyterian church, Belgrave square on September 22.

A decree issued by the police authorities at Nuremberg, Germany, prohibits the wearing of long dresses in the streets. The same decree also warns parents that they will be held responsible if their children throw snowballs or play with air-guns in public places.

The notice board of a certain Church of England states that "the rector will be pleased to hear of any sickness or trouble in the parish." But how should the intimation of the rector's interest in the afflictions of his flock have been stated? The English tongue seems a cumbersome thing at times.

Last year again no railway passenger lost his life by accident to the train upon which he was travelling throughout the British Isles, and only 283 passengers were injured in any way. Of railway servants 6 were killed and 164 injured during the year. That is a record to be proud over.

In the China Inland Mission, which was commenced forty-four years ago, there are now 928 foreign missionaries residing at 210 stations. During the past year forty-five new workers joined the mission, three missionaries died, and fourteen retired. Since the commencement of the mission 30,000 Chinese have been received into church fellowship, and of these more than 21,000 survive. During the year 1908 there were received 2,507 into fellowship.

King Solomon's Temple, according to "The Jewish World," is to be rebuilt in Jerusalem by the Freemasons. The members of the craft at Boston, Mass., have started the plan by applying for the incorporation of a company to take the matter in charge. It is an enormous undertaking, and one that will cost a vast amount of money, but with the Masonic Order behind it it is thought that there is a probability that the Temple of Solomon will be successfully rebuilt.

The proposal to erect a statue to Lord Kitchener on the Calcutta maidan has been enthusiastically received by the people, white and brown, in India, and he will no doubt (says the "Sketch") join those great men who, from the backs of their bronze horses, look down at the little men and women of today taking their evening airing on the Red Road. The road's name is taken from the color of the crushed brick of which it is made, and it runs a crimson ribbon across the green plain, Calcutta's great breathing place, by the Hugli.

The Scottish correspondent of the Belfast Witness makes the following sensible remark respecting the minister's holidays: The beginning of September marks the end of the recognized ministerial holiday season in Scotland, and already the majority of the city ministers are back at work. There are, however, hundreds of country ministers in Scotland who take no real holiday during the year. This is a misfortune for them and for their congregations. Nothing has so helpful an effect upon preaching and visiting as a complete respite from them, if only for two or three weeks. When country ministers have a serious breakdown in health the cause is often diagnosed to be the failure to take a regular holiday of some sort.

The Africa Diamond Jubilee Commission proposes to build and equip a mission station for \$250. One hundred and fifty dollars to build the school or chapel; \$25 to furnish same; \$15 for a bell; \$5 for a clock; \$5 for a lamp; \$25 for a pole and thatch parsonage; \$25 for a corn mill. The latter is hardly part of the equipment of an American school or church, but in Africa the school children do the work and thus the mill becomes a source of revenue as well as teaches improved industrial methods.

At the recent meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science at Winnipeg, President Thompson said he had not the slightest doubt that engineers would ultimately succeed in utilizing the heat of the sun directly for power, "and when coal is exhausted, and our water power inadequate," he declared, "it may be that this is the source from which we shall derive the energy for the world's work." He also declared his belief that chemistry is to solve the problems of life and sex.

One well-known public man declares that, outside of his teachers, the three men who did the most to make a man of him, were his father and two neighbors, who would talk to him as though he were a man, and would discuss public questions with him as though he were an equal. There was nothing of the patronizing air about them, and they took it for granted that the boy understood. This, he declares, helped to make a man of him. Would it not help any boy? asks the Christian Guardian. Why not try it with yours?

The Interior describes the distinguished missionary, scholar, and educator, Dr. W. A. P. Martin, as at the age of 82 joyfully preaching the gospel in street chapels in the city of Peking. In the great capital where he has been the confidant of emperors and princes he finds a crowning glory for his old age to appear among the populace as an ambassador of the King of kings. His intimacy with the imperial authorities has permitted him again and again to impress his judgment on the policies of the empire. Influential Chinese would gladly honor him with some appointment in public life as a tribute to his national services. But he will not have it so.

A church committee once went to sample a Nonconformist preacher as a prospective pastor. The general opinion of the committee was favorable until a certain staid and venerable commoner was reached. "I have an objection," said the member, "What is the matter?" "I don't like the brother's pro-nouns-a-ton," replied the critic. This was in England, but the descendants of this objector removed to Canada, and are still alive, and form a very numerous family, whose mission is always to find the fly in the ointment. That they succeed, some of us know only too well. Fortunately their influence is often no greater than their wisdom, for which let us be thankful.

There is no place for self anywhere in Christian living. A man who tries to shine to glorify himself may be a Christian, but if so, he is yet following Christ afar off, and has much to learn. We must let our light shine so that men shall see our good works, and glorify our Father. The best, the truest Christian life is not that which calls attention to us, which makes men admire us and praise us, but that which makes men think of God, and praise and honor Jesus Christ. The sure proof of the divinity of the Christian religion is the daily life of the

Christian himself—not his words and professions, but his conduct and spirit; not his Sunday garb and service; but his every-day tone; not his church ways, but his home walk.—Selected.

The annual report of the Inland Revenue Department for the last fiscal year shows a considerable falling off in the production of spirits and in the consumption of tobacco, due, doubtless, to the financial stringency and the consequent economizing of liquor and tobacco users. The quantity of spirits produced during the twelve months was 5,176,048 gallons, a decrease of 1,673,715 gallons, or about twenty-five per cent, as compared with the previous fiscal year. The foreign demand for Canadian distillery products also fell off, the quantity exported being 311,314 gallons, a decrease of 101,545 gallons. The excise revenue was \$15,048,589, a decrease of \$929,073. The number of cigars taken for consumption during the year was 192,105,371, as compared with 200,133,255 in 1907. The number of cigarettes manufactured last year was 356,189,380, a decrease from the previous year of 28,304,674.

Whoever attempts to escape work avoids his best friend, says the Philadelphia Westminister. We read the story of man's fall in the light of subsequent revelation, only to find that work is not a curse, but our highest privilege. The fact that the seasons end urges us on to do our best. An endless probation is simply none at all. There is no more pathetic lamentation in all literature than this. The summer is ended and we are not saved. Probation is over. The Judge enters the field and counts the sheaves. The summer ever reproduces itself. They come in their annual succession, but each holds its own place. This summer will be this but once. Another will come, but it won't be this. Nothing is ever repeated. The second resembles the first, but is not to be identified with it. The sun never greets the earth twice the same. Probation is written everywhere.

A new testimony to the benefits of the abolition of the saloon has arisen from the American Electric Light Association, which recently held its meeting at Atlantic City. Among the things which the Committee on Progress said in its annual report are the following: "The city with prosperous and steady workmen, who own their own homes, and where there is a steady revenue from direct taxation, is a safer and sounder proposition for the electric light company operating in its district than a city with a roving, irresponsible class of workmen, where much revenue is obtained from saloon licenses." After admitting that the saloons were liberal users of electric lights, perhaps exceeded only by the all-night restaurants, and that a city which derived large revenues from the saloons would have larger sums to expend on steady lighting, yet the report claimed that the opportunities for procuring large numbers of residence customers are much better in a town where there are few or no saloons. This they say is because in such places the working people have more money available for electric lighting and for similar conveniences. Furthermore, the electric light companies have found by experience that the small saloon keeper as a customer is generally regarded as one who will bear watching. A considerable percentage of the thefts of currents, and attempts to tamper with the meter occur in saloons. Taking it altogether, therefore, electric light companies that are operated in "dry" towns have no reason to envy their neighbors operating in "wet" towns.