

Dominion Presbyterian

\$1.50 Per Annum.

OTTAWA

Single Copies 5 Cents

NOTE AND COMMENT

The Baroness Delaroché became confused while flying in a Voisin biplane at the Rheims meet, and fell with the machine a distance of 150 feet, to the ground. Her arms and legs were broken and she was severely bruised, but the doctors express hope for her recovery.

The movement against the pictures of the Jeffries-Johnson prize fight at Reno, Nev., has assumed national proportions, in the United States, a score of large cities forbidding their exhibition and the Governor of Maryland declaring he would not allow them to be shown in that State.

There is much in the Swedish people that provokes admiration from those who honor sturdy character, industry and thrift. A most striking evidence of their superior moral qualities is seen in the fact that in a recent election on the question of national prohibition of the liquor traffic 1,700,000 voted for prohibition and but 12,500 against it.

Captain Scott, leader of the British Antarctic expedition left London on sixteenth instant with his wife, for New Zealand, where he will join his ship, the *Terra Nova*, which sailed a month ago. Automobile sleds, Siberian ponies and other supplies will be taken on in the antip. Many distinguished persons bade him Godspeed.

A speaker at the recent brewers' convention in Washington stated that in spite of the advance of prohibition, the consumption of liquors had increased; and argued therefore that prohibition did not prohibit. But *The American Grocer* states from official figures that the value of alcoholic liquors consumed had decreased \$110,185,600 during the last two years. The consumption of tea, coffee and cocoa has correspondingly increased.

In a recent address Mr. Bryan, has given his opinion of the saloon as follows: "The saloon differs from all other businesses in that no one regards it as a blessing. It is not defended as a good thing. It is not an educational centre. It is not an economic or moral asset to a community. It is a nuisance, and only tolerated when it is believed to be necessary. It cannot be defended at all if the community does not want it. The liquor dealer ought to be content to sell where his services are desired, and the manufacturer of liquor ought to be content to dispose of his products among those who desire them. He is entirely outside of his sphere when he attempts to force his business upon a community or to interfere in decisions upon the liquor question."

It is cause for regret that Congregationalists in Toronto seem to be losing ground. Within the past few weeks it has been found necessary for them to part with two of their church buildings, Zion, on College Street, and Parkdale. This is not because Congregationalism has lost favor with the people says the *Canadian Baptist*. On the contrary, it is very evident that the congregational principle is growingly popular in religious circles, as is to be witnessed among Baptists, and even among denominations that are not supposed to care much for the principle. Of late, we have been wondering if the move towards union has not been having a baneful influence on Congregational churches,—that some Congregationalists, expecting to be voted into a union, have taken time by the forelock, and decided to move towards the goal to which some of their brethren are impelling them.

The new marriage law of New Jersey went into effect on July 1. It requires couples intending matrimony to appear before the register of vital statistics with a witness to identify them. They must obtain a license, which must be shown to the officiating minister. New Jersey has hitherto been a *Gretna Green* for hasty marriages. The new law is expected to do away with some leisurely repentances.

The royal engineers appointed to investigate the condition of the famous Leaning Tower of Pisa, reported last week that the perpendicular has recently increased eight inches, owing to the weakness of the foundation. The engineers declare the historic old tower is on the verge of a collapse, and it is extremely doubtful if it can be repaired. The Campanile, or leaning tower, was erected 1174-1350. It was in this structure that Galileo worked on the theory of the pendulum.

The United States treasury department has decided there are more than two hundred proprietary articles, largely masquerading as medicines, which can only be sold hereafter by druggists or merchants who have paid the government liquor tax of \$25 a year. It is asserted by the government officers that many of the liquid concoctions, the sale of which is to be thus regulated, have been prepared to sell in localities where local option or prohibition laws have been enacted.

When we remember that of the 400,000,000 people of China one-half are women and girls, just as liable to sickness of all kinds as their sisters anywhere, and that it is practically impossible, according to Chinese custom, for most of them to receive proper medical attention from male physicians, it seems that the plea for women doctors for China need be made but once, for any person to feel the force of the argument. But some one says that times are changing; that Chinese women are being emancipated and it is no longer impossible for them to go to male doctors. True, China is moving, but old customs are changing slowly. It must not be supposed that because women may go about freely in some places, or because a woman can publish a newspaper in Peking, that all women are free from all old customs. Unnumbered millions of Chinese women still need medical attention, and will never get it unless it is given by some woman doctor, native or foreign.

Fourteen months ago Mehmed V. succeeded the dethroned Abdul Hamid II, as Sultan of Turkey, as a result of the successful revolution of the Young Turk party. An observant traveler in that country reports that an earnest effort has been made to replace the despotic and extortionate governors and sub-governors, with men who will be honest and impartial administrators. The government is aiding night schools, and secondary schools, and intends to establish normal schools in each province and to locate universities at a few central points. New courts of justice have been set up and better judges commissioned. European capitalists have received concessions for building railways, and an English engineer has been employed to irrigate Mesopotamia, where only water is needed to make fertile cotton fields. The ministry of agriculture is circulating a farmer's magazine of a practical sort to improve methods of crop-cultivation and cattle-breeding. The postal service is developing and telephone systems are being introduced. By adroit interpretation the Koran, which has operated for a thousand years to check progress, is now interpreted so as to sanction all these innovations.

The great missionary conference held in Edinburgh is on all hands spoken of as a meeting of unusual impressiveness and power. The Edinburgh Scotsman, in an editorial, says that "the high general tone and character of the conference discussions, and the prominent and distinguished part taken in them, not merely by high dignitaries of the Anglican Church, like the Archbishop of Canterbury, but by representatives of native churches and races—Chinese, Indian, African—have been in many respects a public revelation."

Not until Thursday, the 23rd of June, did the inhabitants of St. Kilda, the most remote isle of the Western Hebrides, hear the sad news of King Edward's death. A royal messenger bearing the sad tidings and a copy for each islander of Queen Alexandra's pathetic letter to the nation, was despatched by special steamer. On the steamer's arrival the inhabitants gathered and proceedings opened with the 100th Psalm in English and Gaelic. The details of the King's illness and death were then explained to the now saddened assembly. The ceremony ended with the singing of the National Anthem and cheers for the new King, and Queen Alexandra. There being no British flag on the island, a little table decoration flag from the official steamer had to be nailed half-way up the mast. Before leaving, the visitors from the mainland distributed half a ton of sweets, tobacco, clothing and shoes among the simple fisher folk of St. Kilda.

A hundred years ago this month, Andrew Bonar was born, and fifty-four years ago this month he became pastor of Finnieston Free Church, Glasgow, in the days when that great city was clothing herself with commercial importance. Where big workshops now stand then stood stout white-washed, old-fashioned dwellings. It was here that Andrew Bonar settled and began a ministry of scholarly evangelism that has influenced men in nearly every land on earth. Andrew Bonar was a true shepherd of the sheep, and he toiled among them day and night, visiting their homes, holding meetings on Sabbaths and week days, preaching regularly within the factory gates. He brought to Finnieston the great preachers of Scotland, but his people loved him best. On communion Sundays there was an all-day service, and reverential crowds moving to and from the tables, singing the one hundred and third Psalm. Sometimes at the close of such a day there would be the three brothers present—Horatius, with his solemn look; John, vivacious and more human; and Andrew, "Oor ain man," as his people loved to call him. Always about his Father's business, it is such men that have made Scotland great.

Fifty years ago we had the pleasure of meeting Andrew A. Bonar at the Free Church man, Kirkurd, south of Edinburgh. He was there assisting the minister at a communion service. He remained over Sunday, preaching twice with power, and bringing home the message with great spiritual fervor. We heard him again in Gould Street Church, when he preached for Mr. (afterwards Dr.) King, who had the faculty of securing the best old country ministers who visited Canada. Dr. Bonar was then on his way to the meeting of the Pan Presbyterian Council, 1880, and took in Toronto, on the way to see his sister, Mrs. Barnes, widow of the celebrated Dr. Robert Barnes, of Knox Church and Knox College, Toronto.