

Dominion Presbyterian

\$1.50 Per Annum.

OTTAWA, MONTREAL AND WINNIPEG.

Single Copies 5 Cents.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The Presbyterian Synod of the Maritime Provinces is to meet in St. Andrew's church, Sydney, C.B., on the third of October.

Archbishop Bruchesi, of Montreal, has issued a mandement to his people forbidding Sunday excursions on any pretext whatever. He doubtless understands how demoralizing such excursions generally prove to be.

A century ago France had 26 per cent. of the population of Europe; now it has only 11 per cent. of it. At one time French was spoken all over the world. To-day it is the language of 45,000,000 people, while German is spoken by 100,000,000, and English by nearly 150,000,000.

Dr. H. G. Underwood writes that after twenty years of missionary work there are now in Korea 820 Protestant Christian churches with 16,233 communicants, 11,993 catechumens, and a total of over 40,000 adherents. In the Sunday schools are 18,000 pupils. Last year there were 2,400 received into the church membership. This year will show a larger number. One poor old blind colporteur has worked up an active liberal church of sixty members in a year.

Governor Folk declares that immigration has increased 256 per cent. and real estate values have advanced 20 per cent. during the three years of law enforcement in Missouri. "By the time the next Legislature meets," he says, "I shall be justified in recommending further reduction of the tax rate." It pays in improved morals and reduced cost of civic government to abolish saloon rule. If the liquor traffic could be wiped out the saving to the taxpayers in money alone would be marvellous.

A missionary of experience in India gives the following encouraging testimony as to the progress of the gospel in that land. It is well sometimes to forget how much there is yet to be done, and take a good heartening look at what has been and is being accomplished. "Perhaps the most significant and encouraging sign," says this authority, "that Christ's kingdom is rapidly making headway, is the changing condition of women. Excepting the very small Parsi community, the Christian women are now the most literate class in India. They are beginning to make homes such as Christian wives and mothers alone can make. The Bible-women are, as a class, remarkably effective."

It seems a burlesque, says the Lutheran Observer, that the Peace Conference should be officially welcomed to The Hague by King Leopold of Belgium. Honorable peace among the nations is the earnest prayer and hope of all the people, but is not to be merely peace among the great nations on whom the burden of huge armies and great navies, with their cost of men and treasure, must fall, and whose warring would hamper the commerce of the world. It must be the peace which will protect the weak from the aggressions of the strong. That is the aim of the Conference. For it to be greeted with pious platitudes, and beautifully rounded sentences expressive of noble hopes, from lips of one who is charged with the responsibility for almost unbelievable atrocities in his own dominions in Africa, would be grotesque if it were no so serious.

Evangelist Torrey and Alexander begins a series of meetings at Sheffield, England, on Sunday, September 3, the opening service being attended by over five thousand persons. They finish their work in England for the present in December, and are expected in Toronto some time early in the New Year.

The Moravian Church sends into the foreign missionary work one out of every ten of its members. The other Protestant denominations, together, send one out of every five thousand. It is said that the Moravian children are trained from infancy in the belief that the church exists for the giving of the gospel to a sinful and lost world.

The latest resume of German Protestant missions, according to an exchange shows that upon the foreign field the number of ordained men has about doubled in the last twenty years. In 1885 German male missionaries numbered 520; today they are returned as 1,013, with 117 unmarried lady missionaries to be added. The support of these missionaries has increased from an annual contribution of \$625,000 in 1885 to \$1,400,000 in 1905. The native Christians in full communion stand at 500,000 as against 200,000 twenty years ago. Just now the conflict between the German colonists and the native races in South Africa has excited a pronounced feeling against the work of the missionaries, as every outburst of barbarism has done in every age. The secular press of Germany is full of bitterness towards the natives of Africa and also toward all who have befriended them.

Here is an incident that is puzzling not a few thoughtful men among our American neighbors: August Albert, sixty-three years old, a native of Saxony but for thirty-two years a resident of Michigan, where he voted, has been refused re-admission to the United States by the Board of Examiners at Ellis Island after a trip abroad. They pronounce him too old to come in as an alien, though he possesses more than \$1,000, and ineligible for entrance as a citizen because he neglected to take out final naturalization papers. The gross absurdity of the decision is illustrated by what the New York World calls the interesting paradox "that a man may be a citizen of one of the United States but not a United States citizen. The Ellis Island 'board of examiners' should undergo a surgical operation with a view to getting some common-sense into its cranium, or combination of craniums."

It is good to note, says the Lutheran Observer, that while the tendency, not only in America, but in England, is to a growing secularization of the Lord's Day, England's future king and queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, in their planning for their coming visit to India, have declined to travel on Sunday while ashore. President McKinley followed the same course, and our present President, while there are details in his practice on the Sabbath which we might wish were different, still stands unequivocally for the sanctity of the Lord's Day, and always is found among the worshippers in God's house. The call is to Christians everywhere, high and low, to be faithful and to realize their individual responsibility for guarding the day against the secularizing forces of the age. If men and women in high places everywhere would honor and faithfully observe the Sabbath day, their example would exert a beneficent influence upon the masses of the people.

In Scotland the fossilised remains of a prehistoric animal have been dug up on the Rossie estate, near Ladybank. It had horns of nine feet from tip to tip.

Professor Schurr, who has just died in Baltimore, was a pioneer in the crusade against killing birds for hat adornment. He had a collection of birds and butterflies representing 50,000 specimens, valued at about \$100,000.

Professor Scherer, the author of the book "Young Japan," takes a pessimistic view of that country. He says the two cancers at the core of the Japanese character are deep-set dishonesty and abandoned impurity.

Dr. Barnardo, the friend of friendless children, died in England last week after a short illness, at the age of sixty years. Through his efforts 55,000 orphan waifs have been rescued, trained and placed in life, and 16,000 of them have been sent to Canada.

An insurrection of Tartars at Baku has assumed an alarming aspect. Some 500 petroleum wells have been fired, an arsenal has been burned down, and in an attack upon a camp 1,000 people have been killed or wounded. There is murder with pillaging everywhere.

The British Museum has recently become possessed of a copy of the New Testament with these words written on the flyleaf in the autograph of our late Queen—"1 Cor. xiii., 4 and 8, Love suffereth long, and is kind. . . . Love faileth not"—V.R.L., 1861. The copy in question belonged to Lord Ronald Sutherland-Gower, F. S. A.

A writer in the London Outlook, quoting Mulhall's statistics, shows that an emigrant from Great Britain to the United States carries with him on an average \$165. To this is added the working value of the emigrant, estimated at \$1,250.

St. Paul's Cathedral was built on the site of a temple to Diana in 226. Several times it has either been destroyed or injured by fire, being wrecked by the great conflagration in 1086, and again in 1696. The first stone of the present edifice was laid on 21st June, 1675, and it was practically completed under Sir Christopher Wren in 1710 at a total cost of £1,511,002.

According to a recently published interview John D. Rockefeller is predicting hard times. He says that America's greatest panic is coming in 1907 and 1908, and that where there were 3,000,000 men out of work in 1903, there will be from 7,000,000 to 10,000,000 in idleness when the next seige of hard times is upon us. His conviction is that the crisis will be brought about by over-production in all lines. Glutted markets and heavy over-stock will lead to shutting down of factories, and consequent lack of work. One thing is certain, if such a cyclone does strike the United States Canada can hardly escape feeling the effects of the visitation. The hard times visitation which pressed so severely on Canada from 1873 to 1880 began in the United States in 1872 soon after the failure of the great firm of Jay Cooke and Co., and was marked by great over-production of manufactured goods, with glutted markets, wide-spread closing of factories and immense augmentation of unemployed men. Canada shared somewhat painfully in the results of that catastrophe.