

# Dominion Presbyterian

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## Note and Comment.

Mr. Andrew Carnegie has increased his donation for the extension of the Aberdeen Public Library and the erection of two branch libraries from £6,000 to £10,500.

Marconi has cabled from Cronstadt, Russia, to London stating that he had received wireless signals from the Cornwall Station, 1,400 miles distant and partly inland.

That Protestantism is not declining in France is attested by the fact that the evangelical churches in this country contribute 267,000 pounds toward the support of religious and charitable institutions. The church has sent eighteen missionaries at one time to the Zambesi and forty to Madagascar, doubling in the last three years their contributions.

Harper & Brothers have just sold 1,300 copies of *The Right of Way* in a single day. This is evidence of the lasting vitality and popularity of a really good book, for this, Sir Gilbert Parker's greatest novel, was published last year. In spite of the continual rush of new novels, however, *The Right of Way* still remains among the novels that sell sensationally.

A despatch announces the collapse of the Campanile of St. Mark's, Venice, a greater loss to the world's picturesque than would flow from the similar destruction of any other historic monument in Europe. This is explained by the special significance which the tower enjoyed as part of a unique ensemble. It had definite uses and intrinsic merits as a work of art.

Some interesting statistics compiled from the British Volunteer returns for 1901 are published. It appears that the strength of the force in Scotland is 59,459, made up of 11,189 artillery, 1828 fortress and railway engineers, 740 submarine mining engineers, 45,085 infantry, 617 members of Medical Corps, 221 mounted infantry, and 2055 cyclists. The infantry possess eight Maxim guns.

The announcement on Monday that Sir Michael Hicks Beach, British Chancellor of the Exchequer, intended to resign, scarcely caused a ripple in the markets, though it was generally recognized as an event of almost equal importance to that of the resignation of Premier Salisbury. Since the close of the Boer war a feeling of security pervades the British markets which, apparently, nothing can disturb.

The barb-wire fences, which proved such a characteristic feature of the war in South Africa, have been removed. A hope has been expressed that the stone block-houses, which are quite a feature of the landscape, like the Peel towers of Scotland, and the Martello towers of the south coast of England, will not be destroyed. The suggestion is a good one, providing they may not prove too unpleasant reminders to the loyal Boer subjects.

In the fifteenth century (A. D. 1415) John Huss, the Protestant reformer in Bohemia, was publicly executed (burned to death) at the instigation of the Roman Catholic church, because of his evangelical teachings. Now (it is reported) there is a movement on foot in the Russian [Greek] Catholic church to canonize him as a martyr. The doctrines which Huss condemned were held equally by both churches; his name was obnoxious to the one as to the other. That he should now be thus honored is a marvel!

It would appear that Montreal is blessed with an ideal street railway company. Last week, entirely on their own initiative, they gave all classes of their employees a substantial increase in wages, to take effect the first of July. A similar action had been taken about three years ago. We are not surprised to learn that the men are greatly pleased, and are enthusiastic in their praises of the company. A street railway company that will do more than it is forced to is a welcome innovation.

The stampede of a herd of cattle one day last week, in Chicago, drunk on distillery refuse, illustrates the physical effects of alcohol, for it was this that was the exciting cause of the trouble. Over a score of the cattle were trampled to death and many others injured, and the whole herd of six hundred was maddened with excitement. It reminds one of the devils in the herd of swine. The cattle acted very much as men do under the influence of the product of the distillery. The daily papers give, day by day, a long record of murders and self-destruction committed by men under the power of strong drink.

In an address on the cure of tuberculosis, delivered in New York on Monday, Dr. H. M. Biggs, of the Health Department, said: "Tuberculosis is an absolutely preventable disease. It is on the decrease in New York. If the death rate of twenty years had kept up the ten thousand deaths from consumption in this city last year would have been seventeen thousand. Tuberculosis is not only preventable but curable. It is simply a question of how early a diagnosis is made. Thousands, tens of thousands, of persons die because their physicians have not the moral courage to say to them, 'This is tuberculosis, and now is the time to take precautions.'"

One of the original ideas incorporated in the new Harper's Weekly, the first number of which was issued on July 5, is the separation of the journal into two parts, the editorial section and the pictorial section. This arrangement is designed to facilitate the family reading, and in order that the literary part of the paper can be read by some members of the family circle at the same time that the pictures and their accompanying text are enjoyed by others. Each separate section is securely wired and the leaves cut, so that for convenience, comfort and readability the new weekly stands easily at the head of the world's periodicals.

It is said that sunstroke is more apt to occur on the second, third or fourth day of a heated term than on the first. Loss of sleep, worry, excitement, close sleeping rooms, debility, abuse of stimulants, predispose to it. It is more apt to attack those working in the sun, especially between the hours of eleven o'clock in the morning and four o'clock in the afternoon. On hot days wear thin clothing. Have as cool sleeping rooms as possible. Avoid loss of sleep and all unnecessary fatigue. Do not check perspiration, but drink what water you need to keep it up, as perspiration prevents the body from being overheated. Have, wherever possible, an additional shade as a thin umbrella when walking.

If Roman Catholicism were simply a form of religion we would feel toward it as toward any other form of religion; but it is associated with a scheme, here and else where, now and always, for political power and religious despotism. The Washington Post reports Bishop Kelly as saying at a banquet in Washington City on May 14: "I am a Catholic first, an American after, and a long way after; I am not an American Catholic, but a Roman Catholic." Let this be borne in mind. The allegiance of every priest is to a foreign power, in Rome, the center, in all ages, of political ambition. The oath of every Roman Catholic Bishop makes clear why Bishop Kelly said: "I am not an American Catholic, but a Roman Catholic."

The number of monks and nuns in Spain is given by the official statistics at 50,000; but, according to the leading Protestant organ of Madrid, *El Cristiano*, it is widely believed that these statistics are false, and that the real number does not fall short of 60,000 to 70,000. The larger part of this formidable body is engaged in teaching so that through them the Roman Church is enabled to exert a very strong influence on the rising generation. Another country in which Roman agents are very numerous is Holland, where there are 28,000 priests for a Roman Catholic population of 1,600,000, one for every sixty persons. There, however, thanks to a Protestant Government and an active Protestant majority, Rome is losing ground, the percentage of Roman Catholics having fallen during the last fifty years from 40 to 33 or 34.

It is claimed for Ludhiana, writes a lady missionary in that city, that it is a place of "first" things in the founding of Protestant Churches in the Punjab. There was baptized the first convert, was organized the first church, was sent forth the first Indian missionary. There was inaugurated the first mission school, the first orphanage, the first printing press, the first newspaper, the first dispensary, the first Christian boys boarding school, the first medical school for Christian women. The church building is the oldest in North Western India, and the Indian Christian community the oldest in the Punjab. The Ludhiana Presbyterian Church is not only the first self-supporting Church in the Punjab but it is self-directing as well,