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Note and Comment

The Common Council of Glasgow, by a vote of 48 to 12, has rejected the proposal to open the picture gallery on Sunday. The labor party strongly desired that the gallery be opened on that day.

Dawson City, in the Klondike region, has three churches; one each by the Presbyterians, Episcopalians and Roman Catholics, to which the Methodists have now added another. The Salvation Army is also there. It is stated that each place of meeting is filled every Sunday night.

A correspondent sends to a London paper an interesting letter, concerning "Ruskin's evening of his days" at Bramwood. The master, he says, is failing fast. He has passed his eightieth birthday, and weaknesses incidental to such an advanced age have taken possession of his mind and body. He is practically confined to his house, save for occasional airings in a bath chair on Sunday mornings. He never reads, nor does he write, "and Ruskin," the correspondent adds, "has given his last message to the world."

The Herald and Presbyter says the Presbyterian Church "ordains to its ministry only those who accept its doctrines." Dr. Charles Hodge, says the Christian Work, who knew a thing or two about Presbyterian doctrine, said forty years ago—we quote from memory—that it was not required of a minister in the Presbyterian Church to accept every statement in the Westminster Standards, but only the system of doctrine inculcated by them. "The editor of The Herald and Presbyter should have no difficulty in comprehending this distinction."

The graduating class at Yale has voted strongly in favor of compulsory chapel. Moreover, two out of every three of this class are church members. When reckless attacks are made upon the morals of the university, as happens once in a while, the latter fact should be remembered. No institution in which the proportion of Christian students in any class is so large is morally unsafe for young men.

A Presbyterian pastor writing recently to the Outlook with regard to the suggestions of that paper concerning a "Non-Episcopal Service," protests and with reason, against the use of the expression, "Episcopal" Prayer Book. "It's crowning glory is that it is not a sectarian volume, but is the book of Common Prayer," "The Prayer Book does not belong to the Episcopal Church, but is the heritage of English-speaking Christendom.

... The post-Reformation contributions to the volume are quite as much from Presbyterian and Lutheran as from Anglican resources, if not more so." Yes; it is true that there are in the Prayer Book contributions from John Calvin and John Knox; but there are elements in it that justify its Anglican name.

Last year it was proposed that a section of the trunk of the mpundu tree, under which Livingstone's heart lies buried, should be removed and brought to London for preservation in the rooms of the Royal Geographical Society. This course was suggested as the only means of saving from destruction the original inscription carved on the tree, and now an attempt is being made to raise £5,000 for the purpose of providing a substantial and elaborate monument in bronze, which is to be taken out to Central Africa in sections and erected there.

It was a hobby of the late American theatrical manager, Mr. Augustin Daly, to collect plates illustrating the Bible. He had about 8,000 of them bound up with the text in a copy that made forty-two volumes, bound in half white levant, with vellum sides Mr. Henry Blackwell, the binder, used two Douai Bibles for the text, as each page had to be pasted on special paper. Mr. Blackwell spent years on the work, and calculates that the cost of the Bible to Mr. Daly must have been at least £5,000.

Some American ladies recently visited the German Emperor on board his yacht at Kiel. They were, says the Christian World, pioneers in the movement for the emancipation of women. One of them spoke at great length on the degrading position of women in Germany. The Emperor listened patiently to the end. "Well," said His Majesty, with a sigh of relief, "I agree with my wife. She says that women have no right to interfere with anything outside of the four K's—Kinder, Kirche, Kuche and Kleider—children, church, kitchen, and clothes." The American ladies retired from the contest convinced that the Emperor was a hopeless subject.

Principal Fairbairn, in some remarks made after his return to Mansfield College from India, said: "It is wrong to attempt to speak in generalities, which are ever closely allied to fallacies, but one may say that where the missionary has the advantage over the civilian is in his closer intercourse with the Hindu men through his longer residence in one place, and through his approaching them on the side of their intellectual and religious interests rather than on those of their commercial, judicial or civil. It may be a curious fact, but it is a true one, that I found more appreciation of the good things in Hindu men and in the Hindu religion among the missionaries than in any class of the European community. It is possible that the missionary does more to reconcile the Hindu to the British regime than any other single Western element operating in India." Speaking of missionary work, he said: "Its many-sidedness is surprising. The zeal with which it is trying to adapt itself to the multitudinous demands of a most complex state of society and thought, the ungrudging labor of its members in their respective fields, and the way in which they have conquered the respect of the Hindu community, are very impressive."

More news from ministers and churches is needed. Let the Presbyterian know what you are doing, and it will be sent abroad amongst the people. They want to hear from you, brethren.

Rev. F. B. Myer at a recent gathering in Calcutta recommended the Christ method of propagating Christianity, and said that if he were a young missionary he would do his very best to "train twelve apostles, seeking to imbue them with his own spirit, living with them, working with them and sending them forth." A man of the fullest consecration, largest faith, greatest tact, soundest judgment and ripest experience would be necessary for this kind of work; but workmen developed in this way, a most effective and blessed service would follow.

John Ruskin has no sympathy with the bicycle. In a recent letter to a friend he said: "I am prepared to spend all my best 'bad language' in reprobation of bi-, tri- and 4-, 5-, 6-, or 7- cycles, and every other contrivance and invention for superseding human feet on God's ground. To walk, to run, to leap and to dance are the virtues of the human body, and neither to stride on stilts, wriggle on wheels or dangle on ropes." That is the Ruskinian way of putting it.

The Neapolitans in general hold drunkenness in very great abhorrence. It is said among them that a nobleman, having murdered another in a fit of jealousy, was condemned to suffer death. His life was offered to him on the sole condition of saying that when he committed the deed he was intoxicated. He exclaimed, "I would rather suffer a thousand deaths than bring eternal disgrace on my family by confessing the disgraceful crime of drunkenness." He persisted, and was executed.

The Christian and Missionary Alliance, led by Dr. A. B. Simpson, held its annual camp meeting at Old Orchard, Me., last week. The contributions and pledges for missions amounted to \$54,881. This is a large sum, but considerably smaller than in previous years, due, probably, to the recent criticisms of the unbusiness-like methods of the Alliance in the management of its finances.

The policy of the Roman Catholic Church is shaped mainly by the Pope; the next Pope is always chosen by the cardinals; the vacancies in the college of cardinals are filled by appointment by the Pope. Pope Leo is growing old, and some of the cardinals have been hoping for a change of policy in the Church at his death. But the Pope has arranged for that. He has just appointed twelve new cardinals, who are all "cordial supporters of the present policy" of the Church. Says the Independent: "The German party, together with the party favoring an arrangement with the Quirinal, are out-matched. At least this appears to be the result of the nominations."