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NOTE AND COMMENT

Several Alpine accidents are reported. A party of English tourists, who had lost their way had to spend the night on the Matterhorn. They were rescued by a relief column, which made its way to them through a raging snowstorm.

His Grace, Archbishop Bruchesi, of Montreal, in a vigorous address at Longueuil enjoined the faithful to a better observance of the Sabbath, for the Lord's Day was now given over to pleasure and the service of man rather than to God.

Dr. Edward E. Harper of Southport, England, has arrived in Ottawa to take up his duties as organist at the St. Andrew's church. Unfortunately to relate his wife died only a very short while before he left England and he comes with the bereaved family. He will preside at the organ on Sunday next.

The Pasteur Institute, Paris, which has already done so much for poor humanity, will soon be able to extend its work, when the legal formalities, which will put into possession of a legacy of \$6,000,000, left to it by M. Osiris, are completed. The money is to be used for researches in connection with the cure of cancer and consumption.

Mr. Thos. Yellowlees of the Ontario Sunday School Association this week leaves on an eastern tour of work, and will visit the counties of North and South Leeds, West and East Carleton, Russell, Prescott, Dundas and Greenville. He will attend meetings also in Ottawa, Brockville, and Prescott, and the township conventions of Augusta, Osnabruck Centre and Mountain. The tour will occupy about three weeks' time.

People waste useful lives, says the Catholic Register, for great opportunities when the little ones they spurn have in them the seeds of true accomplishment. Greatness and goodness are never far apart; he who does his best with the little things eventually climbs to fame and favor whilst the renegade hunter is pushed aside as a failure in life. There is greatness at every man's door if he only knew it, and goodness is the key that lets him into it.

Turkey is, like many of the other unprogressive nations, taking a new life. A national bank is to be established, and the president is to be an Englishman, Sir H. Babington Smith, secretary to the British post office department, and a near relative of Lord Elgin, a former distinguished Governor-General of Canada. The bank is an important part of a plan for reorganizing the financial and commercial affairs of Turkey and developing its resources. Probably this movement would not have taken place had the former Sultan not been deposed and driven into exile.

Sir Thomas Whittaker, M.P., the British temperance advocate, has been giving the British workmen some facts which are well worth pondering. He says that out of every 100,000 men, 11,000 more temperance men reach the age of seventy than those who call themselves careful drinkers. The liquor bill of Great Britain is greater than the annual rental value of every inch of land in the British Isles. The army and navy are costly institutions, but the British public spends on strong drink two and a half times as much as it spends on both the army and navy. This traffic, remarks the Christian Guardian, is surely the most stupendous commercial folly of the age.

The amusements in Queen's Park, Aylmer, Que., have been running on Sundays. The friends of the Lord's Day have instituted proceedings under the Provincial Sunday Observance Act. The case is being followed with keen interest, and, if successful, will result in the closing of amusement places in Hull.

A movement which aims to secure the Sunday as a day of rest for all the postmen in the United States has been inaugurated. A memorial was prepared which will be presented to Postmaster Samuel Hitchcock, urging as the first step an official investigation of the work now being performed by post office employees in the United States. It points out that British and Canadian cities have no Sunday collections or deliveries. Congress will be asked to act on the matter at its next session.

"In a few years the better classes in Japan will be living and eating in European fashion," says a well-known authority on Japan. "Already many wealthy Japanese have two houses, often side by side—a Japanese house in which they live as their fathers lived, and a European house in which their children are fed, educated, and clothed in European fashion. In the latter house the children are encouraged to sit on chairs, eat meat with knives and forks, and talk English. The result will soon be seen in the improvement of the physique of the next generation. The movement receives the support of the Emperor."

In some of the Southern States the enforcement of prohibitory liquor legislation is producing some remarkable developments of evasive ingenuity. In Tennessee an odorless drink, beerette, which leaves no trace of its presence in the breath of the drinker, has appeared; its intoxicating effects are described as tremendous, if not deadly. In Georgia the practice obtains of putting drinking places in the names of negro employees, who serve the prison sentence at a stated compensation, while the real owners continue the business and pocket the profits. In some parts of Georgia there has been a revival of Ku Klux Klans, or night-riding groups which deal strenuously with suspected operators of "blind pigs." In addition to the good results produced by prohibition down that way, there would also appear to be a great deal of studied lawlessness.

In the Belfast Witness of 27th ult., under the heading "Scottish Notes," we find the following: A telegram from New York states that, according to the newspapers, the most prominent names mentioned in connection with the vacancy in the pastorate of Fifth Avenue Presbyterian church, New York, are those of the Rev. G. Campbell Morgan, D.D., of Westminster Congregational chapel, London, and the Rev. John Kelman, D.D., junior colleague at St. George's United Free church, Edinburgh. The curious thing in the report, if it be well founded, is not that either of these ministers should be thought of, but that both of them should be considered by the same congregation. For Dr. Campbell Morgan is intensely conservative in his theological outlook in deference to his views on Biblical criticism, while Dr. Kelman belongs to the dominant Scottish school which combines an advanced critical standpoint with genuine Evangelical fervor. Neither Dr. Morgan nor Dr. Kelman can very well be spared from this country. Certainly in Scotland the loss of the junior minister of St. George's would be regarded as a very great calamity.

Sam Jones tells of an Irishman who was urged to drink, and reminded about St. Paul telling Timothy to take a little wine for his stomach's sake, But, said Pat, "my name is not Timothy; and, if it was, there's nothing the matter with my stomach." Who will say that the Irishman was wrong? St. Paul no doubt knew something about Timothy's stomach, but we don't, and our ignorance of this element of the case ought to make us chary of quoting this text for any other stomach.

The Rev. Dr. Dawson Burns, whose death, at his residence in London, is announced, was a well-known figure in the temperance world. He was an indefatigable worker in the cause of temperance, and will always be remembered by reason of his annual letter to "The Times" headed "The National Drink Bill." In this Dr. Burns laid before the public a carefully-computed and analyzed account of what they were spending or losing year by year on alcoholic drinks.

The following news item contributed by the Kashing correspondent of the North China Herald is encouraging: "A meeting of all the magistrates belonging to the Kashing Prefecture was held last week to discuss the opium question. We understand that steps will be taken to carry out the wishes of the Government in regard to the rapid suppression of opium. Books will be opened and all habitual smokers will be required to register their names. No more shops can be opened for the sale of prepared opium. The amount allowed to be sold per day in the shops already licensed will be limited. Licenses for these shops will be gradually revoked until all are closed within a certain time. There seems to be a real desire on the part of the officials to stop the traffic as soon as possible."

Doubtless the experience of the Chinese in dealing with this fearful evil of opium will be similar to our experience in dealing with the liquor traffic. There will be places here and there where reform measures incorporated into the laws of the land will be evaded, and these can be pointed to as showing the failure and uselessness of the reform. There will be other places, however, like Kashing, where public sentiment will sustain the law, and a successful attempt will be made to mitigate the evils of the opium traffic.

An exchange tells of a new experiment in social work to be undertaken by the Church Army in London. They have been taught by experience the uselessness of the mere giving of doles night after night of soup and shelter to men and women who desire nothing better. So the Army has just secured a building in Marylebone used for many years as a brewery, which they propose to convert into a central labor home. All men coming into this home will be placed on piece work in return for the value of the food and shelter provided. They expect in this way to deal with one-half of the idle class who come to them. Those who have sunk to a lower level will be looked after in a detention colony where they will receive compulsory training under strict discipline. One part of the building will contain a home for better-class prisoners where by work under good influences they will have the chance of retrieving their characters and making a fresh start in life. Another feature of the scheme is the provision of a central work yard, where respectable married men will be able to secure employment when out of work, by wood-chopping and paper-sorting. This scheme for dealing with the unemployed has the approval of social experts; the cost of it is \$100,000.00.