

the same number of hymns have been chosen, by the Scotch Committee, and our own, namely, between five and six hundred. The work before the respective Committees will be to eliminate a couple of hundred hymns, and agree as to the one or two hundred which shall be adopted. We trust that the brethren at home can be induced to include a selection of the paraphrases, as well as a select number of the best Evangelistic hymns, in which case we shall have the very best collection of hymns and tunes in the English language. The advantage of a Common Hymnal must be obvious. For years to come Scottish emigrants, coming to Canada, or going to Australia, will find the same hymns and tunes sung in the country of their adoption as they learned at home. This will be a comfort to them, and an advantage. Then again the expense of publication will very considerably diminished from our Church. For ourselves we shall look forward with much hope and confidence to the completion of the Hymnal, and trust it will prove indeed a great blessing to the Church at large.

**Sabbath Reform** New York state has a law compelling barbershops to close on the Sabbath. New York city and Saratoga are made exceptions in applying the law. At this the Brooklyn barbers very loudly complain.—On Sabbath, June 9th, all saloons, concert halls, and dancing pavilions were closed at Coney Island, to the great disappointment of the 40,000 visitors, and the dismay of the business men of the place, who are ruined if the closing is continued. This was accomplished through the efforts of the Brooklyn Law Enforcement Society.

**The Queen at the Dedication of Crathie Church.** On Tuesday June 18th, says the *Belfast Witness*, took place the dedication of the new church at Crathie by a very simple devotional and appropriate service. After a comprehensive prayer offered by Dr. Story, the sermon was preached by the Right Rev. the Moderator, Dr. Donald Macleod, in course of which he stated that that church was the first Presbyterian church since the Reformation at the dedication of which an English monarch attended. He said, "And to-day the lineal descendant and representative of our ancient Scottish Monarchs, the most revered of Sovereigns, follows the example of bygone times, and is with us here as we dedicate this church to God. It is a story which will be told by generations yet unborn, how she who had loved our Highlands and its traditions, had added to the dignity of her high office the beauty of kindest interest in every homestead scattered among these grand hills and glens; how she had shared in the joys and sorrows of those around her, and ministered to their well-being; how she, with those dearest to her, had, year after year, joined in the simple rites in which her people loved to worship God; and how with her own hands she had laid the foundation, and had by her presence graced the dedication of this church. We thank God for it all." This is no flattery, but the simple truth. At the singing of the Hundredth Psalm the Queen was visibly affected. The service, which was short, closed with the singing of the well-known Paraphrase, "O God of Bethel." The new church has been appropriately adorned by her Majesty and the members of the Royal Household, and the

whole circumstances are touching and gratifying. The Moderator's statements were wise, to the effect that excessive ritual and ornament are dangerous to the interests of a really spiritual worship; while on the other hand, there was no piety in ugliness, and Scottish Presbyterianism had suffered in the past by excessive baldness and coldness.

**The Report on Inebriety in Scotland.** Dr. Norman Kerr, president, read a paper at the annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Inebriety on the report of the Scotch Departmental Committee on the subject of Inebriety in Scotland. This Committee was appointed from the Scotch Office, and consisted of Sir C. Cameron, M.P., Dr. Farquharson, and Dr. F. Sutherland. These gentlemen had drawn up one of the most complete reports upon intemperance that had probably ever been produced, having examined over 150 witnesses. Dr. Kerr said the Committee took the same view as to the medical treatment of inebriates that he had always held. The report, he said, pointed out that drunken persons were treated much more leniently in England than they were in Scotland. For instance, out of over 2,000 persons arrested in Dundee for drunkenness only five were acquitted, while in England it was a common thing to let them off. Alluding to a passage in the report as to how far drunkenness was curable, Dr. Kerr said he had found that it was much easier to cure men than women. In this he was supported by the report, which also stated that women were more easily governed than men. There was still a great deal of drunkenness among women, and on Whit Monday he saw more young women about the streets under the influence of drink than he thought he had ever seen in one day before. According to the report the inebriate homes in Scotland had done excellent work. At one time inebriates were allowed to go into lunatic asylums, but happily the House of Lords put a stop to that. The Committee, he said, gave it as their opinion that over-indulgence in alcoholic drink destroyed the will power, and that if a cure was to be effected the patient must not be allowed to touch stimulants. After a long period of total abstinence a cure might be effected. Well, that was the opinion which the whole medical profession had long held. Drunkards were classified in the report, and the establishment of homes under Government control was advocated. The maximum period of detention was fixed at two years instead of one, as at present. A resolution was unanimously adopted congratulating the Secretary for Scotland on the valuable recommendations of the Committee, who had done their work most thoroughly, and praying for amended legislation based on the lines of the Committee's recommendations, especially as regarded the power of committing habitual drunkards to homes for curative treatment, and including provision for the poor as well as the rich.

Who is a true man? He who does the truth, and never holds a principle on which he is not prepared in an hour to act, and in any hour to risk the consequences of holding it.—*Thomas Carlyle.*

The richest jewels cannot be bought with money. As, for instance, "the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit which in the eyes of God is of great price."—*The Bible Reader.*