

# Dominion Presbyterian

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## NOTE AND COMMENT.

The Brownie Orphanage, Presbyterian, at Kodoli, North India, had a bright Sabbath not long ago when sixty-three orphans made open profession of faith in Christ.

According to the annual report of Commissioner John W. Yerkes, of the Internal Revenue Bureau, U.S. Treasury Department, the number of cigarettes manufactured in that country during the last year was about 10,811,000.

The great London Times makes this prediction which, considering its hitherto conservative position, is both remarkable and most cheering: "Belief in the strengthening and supporting qualities of alcohol will eventually become as obsolete as a belief in witchcraft."

The Mission News of Yokohama, chronicles a fourth gift from the Emperor of Japan to Christian institutions. This is to the amount of one thousand yen to a school for wayward children. In a letter accompanying the gift is the statement that the emperor has washed his institutions with interest.

The Emperor of Japan was 53 years old on the 3rd of November. On that day the North China Daily News had a brief sketch of his career which concluded as follows: "History will realize more clearly than we do the grandeur of the events of his reign, and how much the progress of his empire owes to his personal efforts and character."

In an address on "International Evangelism," at the recent Inter-Church Conference on Federation, the Rev. Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman said that his experience in evangelistic work had taught him that sectarian evangelization was a contradiction in terms; that so long as evangelistic work sought the conversion of men to "our sect of our church," it was a failure.

Popish controversialists are very bold in these days. In Edinburgh some time ago a Jesuit priest made a violent attack upon an eminent judge, Lord Ardwall, for "sullyng the judicial ermine" by presiding at a great meeting in commemoration of John Knox. It shows that the spirit Knox fought against is by no means dead, says the London Presbyterian.

A poor widow of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, who has suffered the fate of Naboth, so far as her property is concerned, at the hands of one of the great steel companies, has found a worthy champion in Richard Watson Gilder, Poet. He has started a fund for her legal defense and says: "The American people are at this moment in no temper for open exhibitions of legally advised lawlessness by ruthless wealth." The organized trusts of the United are thoroughly despised and hated men. Their wealth does not save them from popular contempt.

Lord Strathcona's life-long services to the Dominion of Canada, now extending over nearly seventy years, are about to be recognized by a testimonial, says the London Presbyterian. A circular has been issued, signed by no fewer than five of those who have held the great office of Governor-General—the Duke of Argyll, and Lords Aberdeen, Lansdowne, Derby, and Minto—along with many others distinguished persons. Subscriptions will be limited in amount, what is contemplated being not a costly gift, but a simple expression of the esteem of his fellow-countrymen for the veteran statesman's life and work.

At the end of fifty years the World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations is able to report affiliated organization in no less than 50 countries, with a membership of 683,739; paid secretaries to the number of 2,228; buildings owned and occupied, 852, and representing a value of \$170,704,000. The United States and Canada lead with 373,502 members; Great Britain follows with 127,074; Germany with 103,324; and then a great falling off occurs to less than 10,000. It appears, therefore, that this organized movement of young men for young men is very largely—indeed, almost wholly—confined to Teutonic or Anglo-Saxon peoples.

When the Senate of the United States convened recently two of its members were absent by reason of their conviction for crime. Senator John H. Mitchell of Oregon and Senator Joseph R. Burton of Kansas have each been sentenced to six months in prison and to pay fines of \$1,000 and \$2,500 respectively. But even worse for the Senate than the conviction of Burton and Mitchell will be the presence of three others whose names figure also in the Senate's roll of dishonor. Thomas C. Platt, Chauncey M. Depew, and Boies Penrose will be pointed out more often than others, and always as disgraced Senators says the Evening Post.

Viscount Peel presided recently at a conference on temperance reform in London, when the policy suggested to be accomplished by legislation included a time-limit for compensation and other matters. Lord Peel said the temperance party was worse off now than before the passing of the Act of last year, and the trade should be taught that the State was master of the situation. The present evils were sapping the vital energies of the country. It is significant of the growth of advanced temperance sentiment in Great Britain, that so many prominent public men should be coming to the front in advocacy of temperance principles and restraint of the liquor traffic.

The centenary of the birth of Mazzini, of whom it has been said that he was the greatest moral force in Europe during the nineteenth century, was fittingly observed in Italy last month. He preached the social conception of Christianity when he said: "God will not ask us, 'What hast thou done for thine own soul?' but 'What hast thou done for the souls of others—the sister-sons I gave thee?'" The use of the feminine appellation in this is suggestive. The doctrine of the brotherhood of man is wrapped up in the phrase, but tribute is paid to woman's superior spirituality by describing the essence of man in terms of womanhood.

Lord Curzon has made it clear that he did not resign the Indian Viceroyalty on personal grounds. He resigned, he says for two great principles, and he is satisfied that his action will hereafter be amply vindicated. One principle is that it was essential that there should be indestructible subordination of the military to civil authority in the administration of well-conducted States; the other the payment of due and becoming regard to Indian authority in determining Indian needs. It is Lord Curzon's opinion that these principles have only temporarily disappeared, that they will very soon reappear. Few will be disposed to contest the strength of principles such as specified, while there are some who still think that Lord Curzon's views in regard to their practical recognition are extreme.

The Presbyterian West Persia Mission has suffered a heavy loss in the death, August, 18, of Dr. Joseph P. Cochran, a great man and a physician of rare ability, beloved of all classes of the Persian people, whose life was full of good works. A powerful Kourdish chief, who controlled nearly a million of wild tribesmen, once said of Dr. Cochran to the writer of this paragraph: "Our religious books teach us to call that man an infidel and blasphemer. But I say that in the eyes of God that kind of an infidel is better than most Mohammedans!" The power of a Christian physician who is devoted to Jesus Christ, to win the affectionate regard of hostile Bigots, is seldom more vividly illustrated than in Dr. Cochran's life.

The Tariff Commission has been hearing of late from the farmers in different parts of Ontario. Though the farmers work hard, they evidently find time to do some thinking. Their remarks made before the Commission, as reported by the newspapers, says the Maritime Baptist, indicate more than a superficial acquaintance with the practical issues involved in the proposed re-adjustment of the tariff, and some of these farmers, too, know how to express their ideas in vigorous speech. It is evident that the farmers are pretty generally and decidedly of the opinion that under the existing tariff the conditions for wealth-getting are much better for the manufacturers than for the farmers, although the farmer works hard, sees few holidays and lives frugally.

Dr. Chevasse, the Evangelical Bishop of Liverpool, has addressed to his clergy some wise words on this subject, a subject which, he said, touched the very heart of the Christian religion. Neither the Higher nor the Lower Criticism was wrong in itself, but Christians must hold fast these facts—

- 1.—That the Bible is God's Word written.
- 2.—That in God's Word there is a human element as well as a Divine, just as in the person of the incarnate Word Jesus Christ, the human and Divine natures are found together.
- 3.—The Church nowhere defines inspiration. Dr. Chevasse contended that with a grasp of these three facts the church could face with calmness, interest, and expectation all that Higher Critics could say.

The memory of Dr. Barnado is not to be allowed to pass away, or his work to fail. It could not fail, established on the basis that it was. Queen Alexandra herself is interested in its continuance, and in a letter of condolence on his death prays that "his splendid life-long work may be kept up as an everlasting tribute to his memory." A commission, of which Lord Brassey is chairman, has recommended the continuance of the Dr. Barnado Homes as a memorial to their founder, through whose hands \$15,000,000 of money passed to the unfortunate. An appeal is made to the people of Great Britain to raise a fund of \$2,500,000 to pay the debt on the Homes and other liabilities, and to place them in a secure position for the future. It is believed that the people of Great Britain will respond without delay and make possible the continuance of this great undertaking of organized rescue for the benefit of so many future citizens.

The unemployed Christian is like a man on a strike, he is dead capital.

One swath at a time, one round at a time, and the largest harvest is reaped.