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OTTAWA, WEDNESDAY, OCT. 10, 1906.

One of the most striking figures in the recent development of Japan, Admiral Togo, is the subject of a deeply interesting article by Mrs. Hugh Fraser in The Living Age for October 27.

The announcement made by Rev. Wm. Meikle, in another column of the Dominion Presbyterian, of his return to evangelistic work, will be interesting to many people in the Ottawa Valley. Previous to taking the pastorate some years ago of a Presbyterian congregation at Glace Bay, N.S., he did excellent work as an evangelist for over twenty years, and he also did excellent work as a pastor and preacher at Glace Bay. His varied experiences as pastor will give him added power as an evangelist. There can be no doubt, as pointed out in Mr. Meikle's circular, that there is room and opportunity for evangelistic work in many fields, and it is a hopeful sign of the times that men qualified and willing to undertake such work are coming to the front.

Rev. Mr. Moore, one of the secretaries of the Lord's Day Alliance, when in Ottawa recently, made the following striking statement with reference to the probable effects of the bill passed last session: "When the act comes into force next March 4,000 stores that were now opened on Sundays would be closed. No freight trains could start out on the Sabbath, and there could be no loading of live stock on that day. Neither would construction work be permitted on Sunday. This year one railroad company alone had 9,000 men employed in construction work on Sundays. There would be no Sunday excursions, no games for prizes or rewards of any kind. 75,000 men that now had to work on the Sabbath would not have to work on that day when the act came into force, and the other 75,000 if they had to work eight hours on the Sabbath would have a full twenty-four hours rest on some other day in the week.

"MINISTERS MADE OVER."

When a piece of machinery balks or does it work imperfectly, the difficulty is sometimes remedied by taking it to pieces, cleaning it thoroughly, making necessary adjustments, and putting it together again—in other words, making it over.

When a man gets out of gear physically what the wise doctor does is not to flood the inside of the patient with drugs, but as far as possible by regimen and change, make him over again.

The suggestion is being made, we observe, that the itinerant system is not the only way to furnish a congregation with variety and freshness in "supply of sermon"; that the desideratum could be met by the permanent pastorate taking itself occasionally to the laboratory to be made over. What is suggested is post-graduate studies at the nearest theological college—that is to say, to spend a few months, or even a few weeks, every few years, or every year if practicable, in getting mentally and spiritually made over.

It may be replied that a good minister will never be satisfied with his attainments, but will always be reading, and thinking, thinking and reading. There are such ministers, and they are to be found alike in country, town and city. But even the most zealous reader and thinker will find his reading and thinking accentuating themselves into ruts. What he needs is a fresh point of view. He may be making a hobby of one or two books of the Bible. He would do well to see what is contained in the books outside his hobby-preference. If he be a keen logician, delighting in the dry light of the intellect, it is possible the very thing he needs is to make himself study sympathetically the life of some great revivalist like Whitfield, Wesley or Moody, and vice versa.

We all need to be, now and then, made over, mentally and spiritually, if we would keep out of ruts and retain our freshness. No one needs it more than the minister, whose task is exacting, and who every Sabbath stands in the clear light of a concentrated attention.

AWAKENING OF CHINA.

The greatest chapters of an unfolding world-drama will probably be furnished by China. The awakening of Japan distinctly altered the relative importance of every country in the world. But the awakening of China, whose population is equal to that of five North Americas, and whose people are of greater average ability than the Japanese—is a matter of future importance beyond the imagination of man to conceive. Christianity and English-speaking ideas will soon have an absolutely open door and a decisive test in China.

"A Negro on Efficiency," by Miss H. C. Foxcroft, which The Living Age for October 13 reprints from The Fortnightly Review, is a striking and sympathetic study of the career of Booker Washington, which, although written primarily for English readers, will be read with keen interest in this country.

HOME MISSION COMMITTEE.

At the meeting of this committee, held in Toronto last week, the work as reported has been most effectively carried on. The great problem was the scarcity of men. The committee could have placed 53 more men if the supply had been sufficient. A call is to be made upon Christian laymen in Ontario and Nova Scotia to come to the help of the Lord in this great work. There are many laymen in our Church who have gifts sufficient to do good service in many of these fields' holding services and visiting the people. The Rev. Dr. E. D. McLaren will be glad to hear from any such workers. A feature of the meeting was the stirring address given by Dr. Kilpatrick and Dr. Neil, who had spent the summer visiting fields in the west. Some practical measures must be devised to keep missionaries in the far away mining regions—if we are to keep the people from becoming heathenized.

The Women's Home Mission Society visited the committee and gave an account of their operations. This society is doing splendid work. Their contributions during the coming year will not be less than \$15,000. There is no church in the world that has laid upon it such a great work as our church in Canada has in its Home Missions.

The Rev. George MacGregor was appointed to Aymer; Rev. W. W. MacCuaig to Plantagenet; and Mr. Jas. Robinson to the Desert-field.

WEIGHTY WORDS.

Archbishop Bruchesi, of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Quebec, speaking in French, recently uttered, on the subject of Temperance, according to La Presse, to a party on the steamer Beupre, words worthy of attention by Roman Catholic and Protestant alike. "Temperance societies are agencies moral and national. Our people are sick, very sick; they deliver themselves, sometimes, to deplorable excesses. If temperance reigned among us, our country would be the most beautiful and happiest in the world. Alcohol makes people rush into insane expenses and shortens life. There are parishes that spend \$60,000 a year in drink. In a municipality neighboring Montreal, this outlay reaches the fabulous sum of \$400,000. Drink fills our prisons and asylums. Lately I visited a prison, I asked twenty-five of the inmates the cause of their incarceration. All attributed it to drink. * * * The people should rise in arms against the common enemy, alcohol, with one accord. It is one's duty as a moral Christian citizen—in short, as a man—to assist the temperance movement with heartiest support."

Classes in Queen's University will resume with a full staff of professors. Six new ones have arrived: Prof. J. W. Anderson, M.A., Scotland, Latin; Mr. Allen, M.A., California, assistant professor of history; Prof. Clark, Ph.D., Maine, physics; W. T. McClement, Chicago, assistant in botany; F. O. Willhofft, Potsdam, N.Y., professor of mechanical engineering, and G. W. Mitchell, B.A., assistant professor of classics.