

Dominion Presbyterian

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Notes and Comments

Captain Dreyfus will spend the winter in Egypt.

Several thousand Chinese are said to have perished from the plague.

Earthquakes on an island in the Malay archipelago a few days ago destroyed a village, and 4000 perished.

A German expedition in Southwestern Africa was led to ambush recently by a guide, and 100 soldiers were slaughtered.

It is reported at London that the British Postmaster-General is considering the feasibility of introducing three-penny telegrams.

The Japanese Government will introduce in the Diet a law freeing foreigners from all restriction to the mining business in Japan.

The Christian Register says that Unitarianism has "no more resolute and vigorous opponent" than the Presbyterian church.

The Sultan of Turkey has issued a decree promising reforms to Armenian, and exercising clemency toward sentenced prisoners.

The majority, the Uitlanders, pay in taxation £25 a head. The minority, the Boers, pay less than £4 a head. But the minority alone have the political power.

The Religious Intelligencer says that when a man refrains from supporting a cause because those favoring it are in a minority he shows that he is a moral coward.

The New Zealand compulsory law, after a five-years' trial, is declared by William Reeves, general agent of the colony in London, to have worked wonders. Labor troubles have ceased.

Interest in the medical mission in foreign lands is constantly increasing, natives in the north of Africa coming long distances for treatment, and wild Bedouin characters, encouraged by the Sultan and living in lawless independence, who treated their own women as cattle, are singularly amenable to the women missionaries.

England is now the most densely-populated country in the world, having recently outstripped Belgium, which previously occupied that pre-eminence.

The Aberdeen Free Presbytery resolved last week to co-operate with the Presbytery of the United Presbyterian Church in organizing a public meeting in the city in connection with the Union movement.

Amid a scene of great disorder, which at one time threatened to end in a serious riot, the Lord Mayor of Dublin on Sunday, the 8th inst., laid the foundation stone of a monument to Mr. Parnell.

Efforts are being made to persuade the Emperor of Japan to visit the Paris Exposition. Should he go, it would be the first time in the history of Japan that its ruler had undertaken a trip to a foreign country.

Amid all this enthusiasm for our soldier-sons, let us not forget the brave little band of Canadian women who go with the contingent as nurses. Those nurses may be more needed and have sterner work to do than some of the men.

On Sunday evenings, the Rev. G. H. C. Macgregor, of Notting Hill, is preaching a series of sermons on "The Saviour and His Salvation," showing successively how our Lord deals with our sins, our sorrows, our temptations, and the other ills that beset us.

H. L. Hastings, editor of The Christian, Boston, died on Saturday morning last. He was the author of the famous hymn, "Shall We Meet Beyond The River?" and was widely known for his writings against infidelity.

California proposes to establish a quarantine against consumptive tourists. New Zealand already has such a law. Human life is becoming more and more precious, and even sufferers are compelled to recognize more definitely their brother's rights to a minimum exposure to disease germs.

A writer in the Advocate of Peace says: "There are multitudes of people who think war can never be done away with, but such people are in error. Causes are at work continually that are diminishing wars. Human nature is changing for the better. Human sympathy is growing all the while, and an enlarged and enlightened human sympathy is making war less and less possible."

The finest scenery in Ireland is on the north wests coasts of Connemara, Mayo and Donegal. There are no grander headlands in Europe than these broken, precipitous highland masses towering above the Atlantic.

The scarcity of theological students at the different college entries throughout Scotland is still a subject of serious thought. The Established Presbytery of Glasgow has just been thinking this matter over. The Free Church Students' Missionary Societies are in straits, not knowing where to find delegates sufficient to visit the congregations for purposes of pleading their missionary schemes.

At the opening of Princeton College, President Patton announced that \$1,000,000 had been donated for establishing a chair in political science. President Patton is looking for a man who is distinguished not only as a political theorist, but is a practical politician. Canada can furnish several such professors. Hon. George E. Foster or Hon. David Mills would creditably fill the bill; but we do not wish to see either leave this country for the United States.

We think of Jerusalem as being a Mohammedan city, and yet, though the Mohammedans are in authority, they are numerically in the minority. Out of the 60,000 population, 43,000 are Jews, 9,000 are Christians, and 8,000 are Mohammedans. These have as their quarters that portion of the city which includes the old Temple grounds. It may be that their rule here will be broken, and their domineering in the Holy City be made to cease. It would be very pleasing to the whole Christian world if this could be brought about.

That was a fine tribute paid by the premier of the Ontario legislature to the missionary, when he said that "the British Empire is greater to-day because of her missionaries—the missionary is one of the bulwarks of the state." We had rather accept that statement from the lips of one who has been chosen for his high position because of his Christian integrity, than put our faith in the mere assertion of the man whose knowledge of the operations of missions has been gained by listening to the talk in an officer's room while he was smoking the said officer's cigars. Neither man has had personal observation of the work of the missionary in the foreign field, but the sources of information, and the man behind the assertion, are widely different in each case.