

Presbyterian Record

VOL. XXV.

APRIL, 1900.

No. 4.

CONTENTS.

Notes.....	97
Experiences in Yukon, Rev. J. A. Sinclair.....	103
Foreign: —Famine Scenes in India.....	102
Report of Rev. H. A. Robertson, Erromanga.....	104
Latest from Rev. Annand, Santo.....	108
Among the Bhils, Mrs. Dr. Buchanan.....	109
Letter from Honan, Rev. J. A. Slimmon.....	109
Youth: —Have You Written Home? etc.....	111
The Best Life Rule; The Two Rulers, etc.....	112
Monthly Topic for May, "Work and Workers in the Yukon and Northern Gold Fields," Rev. E. D. McLaren.....	113
Childhood: —April Catechism, etc.....	116
A Talk to Boys on Drill, etc.....	117
Life and Work: —Systematic and Proportionate Giving, etc.....	118

NOTES.

"Rejoice! rejoice! still cried the crowd—

My mother answered with her tears,"

Is the old time tale of the orphan child whose soldier father's life had helped to win the nation's triumph, and who could not understand why the mother wept when others all were glad. The voice of joy and thanksgiving has these days past echoed Britain's drum beat round the world; but round the world, not only in Great but Greater Britain, there is the sad refrain from hearts and homes made desolate.

To know that loved ones fall bravely at the post of duty is a solace of its kind, but it cannot touch the sore spot in the bereaved heart. God alone can reach that with his healing touch. Let the Te Deums of an Empire mingle with their thanksgiving much of prayer for those who have paid the price of victory.

Read the "Famine Scenes," on another page, and remember that the present famine is the worst recorded in India's history; that the famine area is about 600 miles long and as many wide, with 60,000,000 of people; that 5,000,000, the population of Canada, are

already wholly dependent upon help beyond themselves; that there are yet four months before the earliest possible harvest; that our own mission field of Central India, which never knew famine, though the best part of the famine district, is now the centre of it; that 3 cents a day will feed a hungry one; that there is no way in which our gifts will do so much good as through our own missionaries; that help, when given by them, will also win an entrance for the Gospel, and that the place to send help for that object is to our church agents in Halifax or Toronto, Mr. McCurdy or Dr. Warden.

A nation is builded of its people. The Church and school are the bond, the cement that binds these people into a solid, loyal, whole. No matter how good the natural qualities of the building material, without the church and school a community or nation rapidly disintegrates and hastens to its fall. Without the Church, moral influences wane; self rules, might makes right, savagery prevails, true national life is impossible. The ancient heathen nations declined and fell when they lost faith in their gods. Religion is a national necessity and the better it is the better the nation. But the school is also necessary. Without it religion will become mere blind superstition. Scotland has long been noted alike for church and school, and the world knows the result. If the alien peoples filling our country are to be a strength to the country there must be church and school, and the school under decidedly religious influence. Our Home Mission Committee is aiming to erect among these new settlers in the Northwest, as rapidly as means will admit, buildings that will answer for both church and school, and to appoint among them missionaries who will give them knowledge, secular and religious, on week days and on Sabbaths. No more patriotic work can be done than aiding the committee in thus building up at once the Kingdom of Christ and a strong loyal Canadian-British people.