

A HERMIT'S DEATH.

The death is reported of Ah-Chow, the man that was known in Hawaii as "the wild Chinaman of Papaikoumaka." For thirty years this strange being had lived far up the mountain on the windward side of Hawaii, fifteen or twenty miles from Hilo. The little spot where his hut stood was almost inaccessible, and as he fiercely resented all intrusion he was not disturbed by visitors for years. He was originally brought to the islands as a contract laborer in the days when labor contracts were penally enforceable. He seems to have been embittered by this service, and, escaping, he fled to this spot. There he built a shack and began to clear a little ground, and there he lived ever after.

Eighteen years ago the suspicion was aroused in some way that Ah-Chow was a leper, and a posse was sent out to bring him in. They did, but he was captured only after a struggle, in which he inflicted some ugly wounds with spears made of hardwood, which he had designed as weapons of defence. He was found not to be a leper and was allowed to go back to his hermitage. He seldom left the place, which was seven miles from a road and up the rugged mountain, and only by accident did anyone come to it. Natives living in the region, not having seen him about for several weeks, had the temerity to approach the place, and found his body in a coffin-like box in which he was accustomed to sleep; evidently he had finished a meal and then lay down to sleep and had died.

News has been received, says the Montreal Witness, of the death at Tunbridge Wells, England, of the Rev. A. H. Grace, of Allahabad, India, after a severe illness from typhoid fever. Mr. Grace was returning with his family from Allahabad on furlough to England when he was taken ill at Marseilles. He was brought to England to the home of his brother, Dr. Nathaniel Grace, where everything possible was done for him. Mr. Grace, who was educated at the Theological College, Philadelphia, graduated from McGill University in 1898, and after his graduation he occupied the position of secretary of the College Young Men's Christian Association. He went to India under the direction of the International Committee of the Young Men's Christian Association, and was appointed secretary at Allahabad, where he has labored during the past seven years with increasing success. He leaves a widow (formerly Miss Elizabeth Ross, also a McGill graduate), and three children. His loss will be greatly regretted by a wide circle of friends, not only here but abroad.

The June Tidings contained the following list of new life members of the W.F.M. Society:—Mrs. Lesley Pidgeon, Knox Church Auxiliary, St. Thomas; Mrs. Jas. Urquhart, Knox Church Auxiliary, Ottawa; Mrs. Jas. Dickson, Knox Church Auxiliary, Ottawa; Mrs. W. S. Carruthers, Emmanuel Church Auxiliary, presented by friends in the congregation, East Toronto; Mrs. R. White, presented by Gordon Mission Band, Knox Church, Stratford; Mrs. John Gowans, Avenue Road Church Auxiliary, Toronto; Mrs. J. Gilbert Gibson, Knox Church Auxiliary, Hamilton; Mrs. Donald Campbell, St. John's Church Auxiliary, Almonte; Mrs. Wm. Kannwin, presented by ladies Woodville Auxiliary, Woodville.

There was a large gathering of friends and neighbors at Roseheath, Edson, Alberta, the residence of the Rev. Jas. H. Beatt, on July 1, on the occasion of the marriage of Miss Isabella, the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Beatt, to Mr. Frank Edgson, the youngest son of the late Mr. Charles Edgson, the pioneer settler in that district. The bride's father performed the ceremony.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

A Union Jack, floating from the gas works at Newry, Ireland, was ordered down by the authorities.

According to Mr. Haldan's figures, the annual cost of the British and German armies respectively is \$245,000,000 and \$270,000,000.

The anniversary of the battle of Drumclog was celebrated on June 6. A congregation assembled on the historic field to do honor to the heroes of the Covenant.

The congregation at Brussels, which was started a few years ago by the United Free Church, has been transferred to the Church of Scotland, and put under the care of the Presbytery of Edinburgh.

It appears that since tar macadam has been used in Battersea, deaths from summer sickness has decreased in the area so treated. This is inferred to be due to the fact that tar macadam is an effective dust-ayer.

A splendid collection of animals and birds for the Zoo has been brought to London from Australia. It includes several keas, a bird notorious for its attacks on sheep. Previous to the settlers' arrival in Australia the keas lived on vegetables.

At Sotheby's Mrs. Piozzi's diary, with its many anecdotes and records of conversations of the great Dr. Johnson was sold for the remarkable price of £2,050. It recalls the auction sensation of the Shelley note-books last season, when the enormous bid of £3,000 was advanced on behalf of an American buyer.

Sarah Bramley, a spinster, who claimed to be the oldest woman in England, died at Nottingham Workhouse on Friday. She was born in May, 1798, and was therefore 110 years old. She entered the workhouse fifty years ago, and has cost the Guardians nearly a thousand pounds for maintenance. Up to a short time ago she retined all her faculties; her eyesight was very good, and every day she read without glasses a portion of the New Testament.

"The Minutes of the Synod," or of the English Presbyterian Church, 1908, have just been published, and form, with the reports of committees and other papers, a bulky volume of 480 pages. A full list is given of the subscriptions to the £13,500 Deficits' Fund, started by a generous gift of £1,500 from Mr. John Lamont, Sen. From that fund (now happily completed) the following payments have been made: Church Building Fund, £7,000; Foreign Missions, £4,000; Jewish Missions, £1,000; College, £1,000; and Sustentation Fund, £500. If there is any surplus it will be given to the Church Building Fund.

The Irish Presbyterian General Assembly, which closed its labors on Saturday, has marked its session by the practical nature of its deliberations. To many present it undoubtedly seemed as if the pervading spirit of the meetings was one of routine, and the attendance could not be said to have come up to the average of that of past years. Yet a great deal of superior speaking was heard, and the manner in which the majority of the reports were prepared and presented was most praiseworthy. The convener of the Guild Committee (the Rev. A. Gilchrist) was able to place before the House a statement which deserved the congratulation it met with, and the report on the State of Religion by the Rev. Samuel Lindsay the new convener, was equally meritorious. The commission with Assembly powers regarding Magee College was reappointed, and authority delegated to it to secure university recognition and status for it. The Sustentation Fund occupied much of the time and attention of the Assembly, and the House adopted the report of Dr. M'Mordie, which advocated a forward movement to bring the dividend up to £100.

FRANCO-BRITISH EXHIBITION, LONDON.

The Franco-British Exhibition in London this year is the great attraction, not only for the residents of the United Kingdom and France, but for people of all countries, and it is estimated that the attendance will reach from 30,000,000 to 40,000,000 during the life of the undertaking. Canada is well represented with the Dominion Government building and the railway buildings, and the country will no doubt receive more publicity in the old country than ever before. The Grand Trunk Railway System have erected a magnificent pavilion in the Court of Progress, one of the ideal sections of the Exhibition, and where the building is surrounded by beautiful gardens laid out by a noted French landscape artist. The Grand Trunk had the distinction of having their exhibit completed for the opening day of the Exhibition, in fact they were the only exhibitor ready for that event.

Thousands of people have already visited this building, and, from the many encomiums that have been passed upon it, this exhibit is a great success and a credit to the Grand Trunk. The collection of natural fruits from Ontario, and the fish and game trophies from the Canadian woods and waters create great interest, while the grains and grasses from Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta are much admired. Two-record moose heads, worth \$1,000 each, are objects of much interest.

The electric lighting of the Building inside and outside has been arranged on a lavish scale.

The lines of the building are carefully followed by small electric lamps fitted with gold stars, about 500 of these being required for this purpose, while the allegorical group of figures over the entrance is well shown up at night by concealed lights, and over the group is suspended a beautiful cut glass brilliant star, representing Canada as the "Star of Empire."

The interior lighting is very effective, the whole space being flooded with orange light from four large flame lamps suspended from the lantern of the roof, so that the service of light is from the same point either by day or night.

The private offices are lighted by electricity and also heated by this means.

The lettering on the exterior of the building is executed in French and English. The French flag as well as the Canadian flag and a series of banners on which are the names of the principal cities of Canada float over the top of the structure.

The question has been asked, remarks the British Weekly, "Whether the Rev. John McNeill's acceptance of the pastorate of Christ Church, Westminster Bridge-road, London, deprives him of the status of a Presbyterian minister?" That question will not require to be answered for a year yet; for the Elders' Hon. Sec. of Christ Church (Mr. Arthur T. H. Smith) writes to say that "under the trust-deed of the Church, no one can become its 'pastor' until he has been nominated by a three-fourths majority of the officers voting at a special meeting, nor until the Church members, at a special meeting called for the purpose, have approved the officers' nomination to invite the nominated one to accept the pastorate." All that Mr. McNeill has been asked to do is to occupy the pulpit for the next twelve months. "At the end of that time" (says Mr. Smith) "if mutually desired, and the nomination is confirmed by the members, the Church can invite Mr. McNeill to become its pastor. Not until the invitation has been given in this way and accepted has Christ Church in the legal sense a pastor."