

# Dominion Presbyterian

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## Note and Comment

The Emperor William, it seems, takes the keenest interest in the caricatures of himself which appear in the English comic journals. He laughs at them till the tears run down his cheeks.

Mr. Moody's son, William K. Moody, a graduate of Yale University, and for several years editor of the Record of Christian Work, will at the beginning of the year become editor of the Northfield Echoes, a monthly devoted to the work at Northfield, Chicago, and the Northfield Extension.

England leads the world in the output of fiction. Germany, whose annual production of books is nearly double that of France, leads the way in educational works. France, in spite of her comparatively small output, takes the lead in history, and in poetry and drama. Italy comes to the front in political economy and its kindred studies.

The Annual Book Number of the Outlook is always of special interest. Among the striking articles in the issue of last week is "In the Field of Fiction," which gives sketches and portraits of some dozen novelists of the past year. An article on "Goethe and Weimar" and "Reminiscences of Thoreau" are also excellent.

The lumbering industry and railroad extension have been most active in the Ottawa district this year; during the autumn months 5,000 men have been shipped out to prosecute these enterprises. The wages paid are generally high and include free board and transportation, but even on these favorable terms the lumbermen's agents cannot fill the demand.

Statistics compiled by the Superintendent of Immigration show that the Doukhobors in the Northwest are in a very prosperous condition. They have repaid the Government 80 per cent. of the money advanced them in agricultural implements and settlers' effects. Last season the Doukhobors plowed 1,114 acres of land. There are 7,900 Doukhobors settled in 17 villages.

Rev. Dr. Norman Macleod, of Inverness, who has been nominated for the moderatorship of the general assembly of the Church of Scotland, is one of a distinguished family of ministers. He is the fifth member of his house, and the third Norman to fill the moderator's chair; his father, his uncle, and two cousins have each attained to that position, says Christian Work.

The Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company was incorporated, with a capital of \$10,000,000, under the laws of New Jersey, last week. A statement given out by the president of the new company says: "Active operations will be begun as soon as we have built our machinery. Probably our factory will be in New York. The company has acquired the right to operate in all the American possessions and in Cuba. There was a contract made recently, prior to the formation of our company, to connect five of the Hawaiian Islands by wireless telegraph, but otherwise we will control all Hawaiian wireless telegraph rights. There are all sorts of uses, too, to which the Marconi system can be put, and it is really in its infancy."

The brewers of Johannesburg were the first to be commended for horses. The writer of an article on "The Humors of Commandeering," in a Johannesburg paper, describes the manager of the Castle Brewery gazing dolefully at the departure of a long array of his choicest animals under the command of a Boer official. "Whoever wants beer now will have to come for it," he ruefully exclaimed as he went inside his office.

The end of Mahdism in the death of the Khalifa is implied by Sir Rudolph Stain, at Vienna, a great authority on Egyptian affairs. The Khalifa, he says, wit out on his ring affairs in South Africa, decided on a forward movement as soon as Gen. Kitchener withdrew part of the Egyptian troops. Egyptian supremacy in the Soudan is now assured, as the natives only served the Khalifa by compulsion.

Menelik, he who is King of Abyssinia, announces his purpose to visit the Paris Exposition next year, and says that on his way he will call on the Czar, to whom he feels under considerable obligation for his moral support during the recent Italian-Abyssinian war. He will be a picturesque figure among the royalists which France then assembles. King Menelik, we may say, has not only shown himself a shrewd ruler, but he is a sovereign of great enterprise, bent on the improvement of his country, and in a certain degree accessible to modern influence. His visit to the Czar and the Exposition will give him a host of new ideas, some of which he may turn to account to the benefit of his country, followed possibly by the trolley, the wireless telegraph and the automobile; the bicycle is already there.

The death of Miss Anna Swanwick reminds one, says a London correspondent of the Manchester Guardian, of a story which is curiously characteristic of Mr. Gladstone's scrupulous care in dispensing public money. He was much struck by Miss Swanwick's translations of *Aeschylus*, and was altogether so much impressed by her cultivation and accomplishments that he decided that she was a most fit recipient of a literary pension if her circumstances were such as to make it acceptable to her. The difficulty was to ascertain this point, and while Mr. Gladstone was meditating on the subject Miss Swanwick invited him to dinner. As he was driving to her house Mr. Gladstone suddenly saw a ray of guiding light: "If there is champagne, no pension." There was champagne, and there was no pension.

The following words spoken by Admiral Dewey to a representative of the New York Sun, need no comment: "I do not intend to arraign the entire American people for the acts of a few. But I am hurt. I am cut to the quick. I never have felt so badly in all my life. I want the American people to know it. I want them to know that if I could I would return to the contributors to the fund the house purchased with it. I would never in the world have accepted it if I had known what it would cost me. If I should feel to-morrow as I feel to-night I would cut it all, throw up everything, go on the retired list and go abroad. In fact, I feel so discouraged, so worn out to-night that I scarcely know what I will do. When I sailed into Manila Bay, over dangerous ground, with death and even worse in front of me, I little thought that in such a brief period of time after I returned to my native land the American people would countenance such monstrous attacks upon me because I was doing what I considered to be the most gracious thing I could do, to present my home to my bride. I hardly feel like living in a country where I can be attacked in so outrageous a manner without being defended by any one."

An application of the ether wave principle is made use of in a recent invention at Weymouth, England, for steering crafts, whether submerged or not, by means of an ether wave, on the wireless telegraphy principle. During a successful test the model was subjected to a variety of tests, and followed the current wave as surely as if guided by a rudder.

A dispatch from Berlin says: "A great sensation has been caused by the Empress' letter to the municipality, acknowledging the congratulations on her Majesty's birthday, in which she takes occasion to express pain at the fact that a teacher of the Royal University ridiculed the Bible 'in a manner to most deeply injure all morality, and above all Christian feeling.' This refers to a speech of Dr. Preuss, a Jewish tutor, who has expressed the message of Job, 'His Excellency gave and His Excellency taketh away: blessed be the name of His Excellency.' It appears that the Empress was displeased at the hostile attitude of the municipality in regard to the levying of taxes to support the Lutheran churches, as the Councillors, mostly Radicals, Socialists and others, opposed the measure."

M. Delcasse has rendered, says Christian Work, a distinguished service to France. By an eloquent and statesmanlike address that he delivered in the French Chamber on the foreign policy of the Government, on Saturday, he not only won an overwhelming vote of confidence for his administration, and routed horse, foot and dragon the "Nationalists," or properly the Monarchical parties, but has aroused increased confidence in France throughout Europe. In his masterful address M. Delcasse showed that France had not fallen from her high estate in ignoring the fanfare of the Deroulades and refusing to go to war over Fashoda, and that she had acted with equal propriety and sagacity in not interfering in the Transvaal. The statement of the facts was so simple, and the reasoning so conclusive, that when he had finished not one member of the opposition attempted to reply.

Mr. W. H. Appleton, long the head of the well-known publishing house of D. Appleton and Company, passed away at his home in Riverdale on the Hudson, Oct. 19, 1899, having reached the advanced age of eighty-five years. Speaking of the opposition raised by the publication of advanced scientific works the memorial notice says: "It must not be inferred from the foregoing, however, that Mr. Appleton was either unmindful or wanting in respect for the opposition which his course aroused. Much of this had its origin in the religious convictions of the community, not a little of the criticism it is said emanating directly from the Church or its leading representatives. But being a strong Church man himself, actively furthering the work of the Church with his private means and personal co-operation, in full sympathy with its purposes and rejoicing in its beneficent influence, he was the last one who would wantonly outrage the sacred belief of his fellow-men. Yet gifted with a large mindedness, that is at least unusual in the walks of business, he was enabled to see that the onward march of natural knowledge which had so often before excited alarm among men of narrow views could have nothing in it that was inconsistent with a truly religious life; while, on the other hand, to promote its advance and diffusion was to contribute by so much to the highest human welfare." We are glad to have this information concerning the well known publisher from those who knew and esteemed him.