

Temperance Items.

Bishop Hartzell says that 75 per cent. of the demoralization of natives of Africa in their home life and character comes from the use of strong drink.

The Duke of Fife, the son-in-law of King Edward, made a notable statement in a public speech the other day. He told his audience that he had, for the past five years, been a total abstainer, not because the doctor had ordered him to abstain, but because he believed it to be the best way.

Dr. William Goodell Frost, president of Berea College, Berea, Ky., in speaking recently upon "Feuds in the Southern Highlands," said that it is the common belief of judges who have tried criminals for murder, that 95 per cent. of all these killings are performed under the influence of the whiskey bottle.

The Michigan Christian Advocate gives the following belligerent advice: "Smite the saloon with the arguments of reason; smite it with the noble sentiment of love for home, for kindred, for fellow men; smite it with the education of the children; smite it with the boycott; smite it with the law, and smite it with the ballot."

At Poplar Bluff, Mo., the judge, during a murder trial, interrupted the proceedings for an hour to allow two ministers to address the people present on the question of local option. During the speaking the sheriff was required to maintain the order customary during regular session of court. If local option was universal there wouldn't be many murder trials.

Prominent People.

President Loubet, of France, plans a visit to the United States during the World's Fair.

Rev. Dr. Gonsaulus, of Chicago, will lecture in Toronto on January 12th. He is worth hearing.

Emilio Aguinaldo, of Manila, seems to be a thoroughly patriotic Filipino and withal working in harmony with the United States authorities for the good of the people. He is showing considerable genius as a statesman.

Rev. Dr. Robert McIntyre, of First Church, Los Angeles, and his congregation, Sunday morning, November 22nd, freed the church of indebtedness. The sum of \$13,000 was subscribed in a short time to cancel the entire debt.

Under the auspices of the London City Mission, Dr. Campbell Morgan lectured in City Temple, London, on Dwight L. Moody. It was the original intention to give a lecture to the missionaries alone, but the general public was finally allowed to be present, and for an hour and a half listened to the description of the great evangelist's character. Dr. Morgan mentioned seven characteristics of the man—namely, tenderness, humor, insight, impulsiveness, reserve force, breadth and modesty.

Dr. Henry Clay Trumbull, for a number of years editor of The Sunday-school Times, and author of several books on Sunday-school teaching, died during the past month at the age of 73. A recent number of The Times says of him: "Dr. Trumbull was as a loved father to many thousands of those who have been helped, and guided, and cheered, and uplifted, by his consecrated life and God-directed words. There are hosts whose hearts are aching and whose lives are saddened this week by the news of the passing of their loved friend, and who wonder whether thousands of these have never known this friend save through his writings."

Mr. John Morley, who recently completed his monumental biography of Gladstone, will visit the United States in the autumn of 1904, when he is to deliver the address at the opening of the Technical College in Pittsburgh.

Probably the oldest musician in the world is Manuel Garcia, now aged 98 years. He has given up teaching and lives in a villa in North-west London. His memory is still excellent, and his wit sparkling. His 100th birthday is due on March 17th, 1905.

Zion's Herald says that it is evident that Dr. Henson, the new pastor of Tremont Temple, Boston, is to be one of the attractive preachers to the general public; and the reason is apparent to any sympathetic hearer. He preaches the old Gospel as if he believed it, with tenderness and unusual force. His sermons are short (thirty minutes), his plan of discourse simple and natural in its divisions, and he speaks straight from a warm heart to the hearts of his hearers.

Dr. McLaren, says a London exchange, would seem to be losing some of his old inspiring optimism. In a letter to Dr. Theodore Cuyler, of Brooklyn, he plaintively remarks: "We are greatly secularized in this country, and need the winnowing fan in all our churches. I fear it is not much better with you. Many a time I am ready to thank God, when I see the deadness in the Churches and the awful problems to be faced, that I am nearer the end than the beginning of my course."

Literary Lines.

Wesley's sermons have been recently translated into Bengali under the authority of the Wesleyan Missionary Society.

The inkstand that was used by Robert Louis Stevenson, author of "Treasure Island," in Samoa, has been sold at auction in London for \$125.

A copy of Wycliff's New Testament brought \$580 at a sale in London the other day. It was almost five hundred years old, having been written in 1425.

"Who wrote the most, Dickens, Warren, or Bulwer?" Warren wrote "Now and Then"; Bulwer wrote "Night and Morning," and Dickens wrote "All the Year Round."

Bishop McCabe thinks if the Apostle Paul were on the earth to-day he would be publishing the largest church paper in the world and turn out of the church every official member who did not take it.

A careful estimate printed in The Independent reckons up the world's production of books, up to the year 1904, at twelve and a half million separate works, including new editions and translations. And authors are busier than ever.

The Fleming H. Revell Company reports that Ralph Connor's books, "Black Rock," "The Sky Pilot," "The Man from Glenlarry," and "Glenlarry School Days," although published only four years, have reached over a million copies.

The Christmas number of The Farmers' Advocate is a splendid issue, containing ninety pages of interesting matter, including many fine illustrations. Even those who are not farmers will find much that will reward careful reading in this excellent periodical. Such a paper is a credit to the country. In future it will be published as a weekly.

Germany is the greatest reading nation. Russia reads less than any other country. In 1893 23,607 books were published in Germany, as compared with 8,082 in Russia. In regard to newspapers, the great habitants of the United States have 22,000 journals, while Russia, with a population of 130,000,000, has only 890.

Herbert Spencer, who died during the past month, wrote a number of books, most of which he had to publish at his own expense, and out of which he derived little profit. He once declared that ninety-nine out of every hundred English people would sooner take a dose of castor oil than read a page out of one of his books.

Miss Bookley—You are from Boston, I believe, Mr. Staples?

Mr. Staples—Yes; I have lived there several years.

"Then you must know all about Brown- ing and Emerson?"

"No—no, I can't say that I do. Clothing firm, isn't it?"

About Women.

There will be thirteen women delegates at the General Conference of the M. E. Church next May at Los Angeles.

Miss Vera Goldstein, of Victoria, is about to test the right of women to sit in the British House of Commons, by offering herself as a candidate.

If the efforts of English temperance women have secured the employment of women as bar-maids abolished proves successful, 80,000 young women will give place to men at the drinking places.

Mr. Lillian Stevens, president of the national W.C.T.U., says: "The question, Is liquor drinking among women increasing? is hard to answer. We surely hear more about drinking women than formerly, perhaps from the fact that the drinking habit attracts more attention than it did in the days when nearly every one used liquor in one form or another."

Rev. Dr. Clifford, the celebrated Baptist preacher of England, attributes whatever physical and mental vigor he possesses, in a large measure, to the helpful sympathy and co-operation of his wife, who has been the happiness and the strength of her husband. Dr. Clifford advises young men to select their wives from among those who are workers at home, and who are learned in household ways.

A report from London, England, states that the House of Lords has finally decided that women are debarred by their sex from becoming qualified lawyers in that country. The question arose on the appeal of Miss Bertha Cave, of London, against the decision of the Benchers of Gray's Inn not to admit her as a student for the purpose of being called to the bar. The court decided that there was no precedent for a woman's admission to the Inns of court and no reason to create a precedent.

Pertinent Paragraphs.

Eating and drinking to the glory of God certainly does not mean eating or drinking anything that will lessen the glory of the body which God gave us.

To feel much for others and little for ourselves; to restrain our desires, and to indulge our benevolent affections, constitute the perfection of human nature.—Adam Smith.

The old hermit Palladius, having five hundred scholars, used never to dismiss them without this admonition, "My friends, be cheerful; forget not, I beseech you, to be cheerful."

Blessed is the man who has the gift of making friends, for it is one of God's best gifts. It involves many things, but above all, the power of going out of one's self and seeing and appreciating whatever is noble and loving in another.—Thomas Hughes.