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A HAND-BOOK OF SABBATH SCHOOL MANAGEMENT AND WORK

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Following are a few extracts from the numerous press notices that have appeared:—

It contains a fine line of information about our sister church in a very compact and handsome fashion.—*North-Western Presbyterian* (Minneapolis).

The editor has strong reason to be satisfied with the compact, yet comprehensive, scope of the little manual.—*Empire*.

There have been additions to the wide range of subjects on which it gives reliable information. THE YEAR BOOK is more than a compendium of statistics and tables of church lore and records. It has every year articles written by eminent members of the church upon themes indicative of the growth of Presbyterianism, and interesting to Presbyterians everywhere.—*Globe*.

The contents . . . and articles on various subjects are interesting not only to Presbyterians but to members of all Christian denominations.—*Gazette* (Montreal).

It must be invaluable to every member of the denomination.—*Advertiser* (London).

This issue is superior to any of its predecessors, and gives a great deal of useful information in small compass.—*Cleaner* (Huntingdon).

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Notes of the Week.

THE Rev. W. J. Lowe, late of Islington, Liverpool, has been installed pastor of Strand Presbyterian Church, Derry, as successor to Rev. J. Edgar Henry, appointed to the chair of Church History in Magee College, Derry. A reception took place in the Guildhall, when the ladies of the congregation presented him with a Geneva gown and bands, and Professor Henry was presented with an address and a valuable service of plate.

WE are in hearty sympathy, says the *New York Independent*, with those Italians who denounce the murderous mob that recently rioted in death at New Orleans, and take the liberty of strongly suggesting to Italian residents in the United States that this is a good time for them to adopt measures for the absolute suppression of the Mafia in this country. That is a secret organization which the American people will not and should not tolerate.

THE Rev. Robert Hill, M.A., of Free St. Luke's, Glasgow, lecturing on "The Moderates and the Evangelicals, 1752-1796," said the period teaches us that a mere mechanical orthodoxy is misleading and pernicious, but at the same time sound doctrine is the only secure basis on which to build a fabric of moral excellence. Relaxation of manners usually accompanies the prevalence of heretical teaching. Mr. Hill showed how the Moderates helped to make it plain that in dealing with social evils and human sin very little indeed is to be expected from mere culture. The lecture was one of a course on "Christianity in Scotland."

THE *Hamilton Times* says: The pastor of Wentworth Presbyterian Church does not believe in turning his pulpit into a bulletin board or an advertising medium. Sabbath morning after announcing the meetings during the week in his own church, he stated that he had a number of other notices in his hand which he did not intend to read, as he considered that they should be advertised in the usual way, instead of from his pulpit. The reverend gentleman is right. There is no more reason why a minister should announce from his pulpit the hold-

ing of week-day entertainments and meetings for all and sundry than that he should read out a list of houses to let or servants wanted.

THE Rev. J. Thorburn McGaw, B.A., Secretary of the English Presbyterian Church, is to have the honorary degree of D.D. conferred upon him by the Theological faculty of the Irish Presbyterian Church at the closing public meeting of the Divinity Session in Belfast College about the first week in April. Mr. McGaw was a distinguished student of Queen's College, Belfast, and a graduate, with high honours, of the Queen's University. Prior to his going to Sale, he was Professor of Logic and English Literature in Magee University College, Londonderry, where he was held in the highest esteem, both by his brethren in the ministry and by citizens of all classes and creeds. Professor Martin, M.A., D.Lit., and Professor Heron, B.A., are to have like honorary degrees conferred upon them at the same time.

SOME people are complaining bitterly that the missionary societies do not at once send out all the volunteers who offer to go to the foreign fields; but the editor of *North Africa* says: As far as our experience goes, besides questions of health, the main difficulty with rejected candidates is that they are spiritually inefficient. We have sent out every candidate who has appeared to us suitable, but many of those who apply know comparatively little of their Bible, and less of its teaching, and consequently but little of God. When asked to define a few Scripture terms or explain the meaning of some statement, they are unable to do so. What is the use of sending them out to teach what they have not yet learnt? The writer adds that the despising of dry theology is now producing a shallow type of Christian.

CHICAGO should not be so very wicked a city after all. The *Interior* tells us that nearly 2,000 descendants of the old Scottish Covenanters filled Hooley's Theatre on Sunday afternoon, March 22, it being the occasion of the eighteenth anniversary of the Highland Association of Illinois. On the platform were Professor H. Macdonald Scott, Rev. F. J. Brobst, Judge Cunningham, and others, also the council of this large association. The services opened with the audience singing the Twenty-third Psalm. The hymns, solos and quartettes were sung to the Scottish airs of "Scots Wha Hae," "Annie Laurie," "Robin Adair," etc. Rev. F. J. Brobst, chaplain of the Association, preached an eloquent and impressive sermon, his subject being "The New Covenant," drawing practical lessons from the heroism and piety of the Covenanters. The services were attractive and solemn.

THE Belfast correspondent of the *British Weekly* writes to that journal: Mr. Walker, M.A., Oxon, Professor of Hebrew, Assembly's College, read a paper to the members of the Central Presbyterian Association entitled "An Historical Sketch of Biblical Interpretation." It is needless to say that Professor Walker's paper was both scholarly and well put; but that it will be regarded as satisfactory on all points by some of the more conservative ministers and members of the Church is somewhat questionable. At all events he possesses profound scholarship, and has the courage of his convictions. He speaks right out what he believes to be truth. His audience was entirely composed of laymen; and though some of his positions were pretty strongly stated, yet the audience seems to have accepted them heartily, and at the close complimented him on the lecture. Is this an indication of the setting in of a new and wider order of things among the youthful Presbyterians of Belfast?

A CONTEMPORARY says: Presbyterianism generally in Belfast, and the cause of Church extension in the city in particular, has sustained a severe loss in the death of Mr. Henry Matier, J. P. Mr. Matier was for many years the head of one of the largest linen firms in Ulster, and a man of extensive travel and wide culture. During his early days in Belfast, he was a member of the Church which had for its

pastor the late Rev. John Macnaughton, M.A., formerly of Paisley, and the brightest and best gift that ever Scotland gave to Ulster; and between them there existed the closest and warmest life-long friendship. Mr. Matier was an elder, but an exceedingly unobtrusive one. His strength for the Church lay not, however, in power of debate, but in a generous heart, which he allowed to regulate his purse, placing it ever at the disposal of those who had any good work in hand. Latterly he was a member of the Fortwilliam Park Church, of which he was one of the founders, and of which the Rev. Mr. Macconachie is minister.

THE third annual congress of the Scotch-Irish people will be held in Louisville, Kentucky, May 14-17. Among the speakers announced are: Governor Buckner, Hon. W. C. P. Breckinridge, Judge William Lindsay and Hon. Henry Watterson, of Kentucky; Rev. Dr. John Hall, of New York; Rev. Stuart Acheson, of Toronto, Canada; Mr. Alexander Montgomery, of San Francisco; Hon. A. E. Stevenson, of Illinois, and Rev. Dr. J. H. Bryson, of Alabama. The Scotch-Irish Society of America, with Mr. Robert Bonner, of New York, as president, will have charge of the exercises; but it will not be strictly a society gathering. It will be more properly a mass meeting of the race. All Scotch-Irish people are earnestly invited to attend. The objects of the society are historical, educational and social. The only requisites for membership are Scotch-Irish blood, in any degree, good character and nominal dues, for which members receive the historical works issued by the Society. Send applications for membership and for further information to A. C. Floyd, Secretary National Society, Columbia, Tenn.

BY the death of Herr Windthorst, says the *British Weekly*, the Church of Rome loses her most strenuous advocate outside the ranks of the priesthood. He was a North German, and his religious feelings had a ferocity which is unknown in the Catholicism of the South. He was one of the few German Statesmen in whom foreigners were interested. The dwarfish, deformed creature—a sort of Quilp in politics—had powers of sarcasm which even Bismarck feared. He was a tremendous worker, and continued almost to the end in harness. His life was not without its triumphs. He built up a formidable party, and he saw the downfall of his enemy. But he also lived long enough to see the Church of Rome losing her hold on Europe, and to know that for Germany at least the road to Canossa was definitely closed. His death leaves the Centre sadly in want of a leader. There are able men still left in it, but for eloquence, enthusiasm, and diligence, not one to fill the place of the "Schwarze Perle."

THE Pundita Ramabai is working with characteristic energy and persistency in the righteous cause of uplifting her sisters in India. Letters received from the Advisory Board and others speak with great satisfaction of the work. The school was moved from Bombay to Poona toward the close of last year and under date of January, 1891, there are twenty-five widows in the school. It is difficult to realize that these widows are children, one hardly more than a baby, one of nine, one of ten and several about fourteen; for these sad little ones public sympathy is being aroused and different methods are being used to lessen the evils of child marriage and enforced widowhood. Mr. Malabari, of Bombay, a Parsee, by his vigorous letters in the *Times* has done much good. The school in its home life and educational training is fitting these girls for noble lives and assisting to break these bonds. The change to Poona has not affected the school; results must be for the first two or three years comparatively small but to work upon public opinion and see it slowly turning toward liberal education is no small thing. Ramabai will see, if her life be spared, a greater change for the women of India than she could have anticipated when in this country. The Toronto Ramabai Circle intends holding its annual meeting shortly when reports of the work will be given.