

British and Foreign

During the last ten years the records of Great Britain show that 154 men and 237 women reached the age of 100 years or more.

The world's wrecks last year numbered 1,045. Steamers were shown to have a greater immunity from disaster than have sailing vessels.

There have been over 190 additions to the membership of the Free High Church, Paisley, during the past year, chiefly from the non-church going.

A visit of exploration to Jerusalem is about to be made by a body of English Freemasons, under the personal guidance of Sir Walter Besant and Sir Charles Warren.

Principal Salmund, of Aberdeen Free Church College, last week laid the memorial stone of the new Free Church which is being erected at Macduff at a cost of £2,600.

A commencement has been made with the erection of a hall for the proposed new congregation for West Hampstead. Dr. John Watson has been spoken of for the pastorate.

Last week the new minister, the Rev. Mr. Macpherson, late of Kinnaird, was inducted to the church and parish of Dingwall as assistant and successor to the late Mr. Macalister.

Last week Principal Rainy and Professor Orr addressed a meeting in Hawick on the Union question. Both speakers urged the propriety and the expediency of the present movement.

The plague is increasing in Bombay. The mortality from all causes during the past week was 1111, as compared with 894 in the preceding week. The deaths from plague were 220 against 154.

The Rev. James Morrison, senior Free Church minister of Urquhart, Elginshire, and father of the Synod of Moray, died on Monday of last week at the ripe age of 82, at his residence in Elgin.

A new religious weekly, in sympathy with the Church of Scotland, is to be started almost immediately. It will be called St. Andrew, and the editor is Rev. Donald Macmillan of Kelvinnahugh.

For the third year in succession an increase in membership is reported by the Society of Friends. The registered membership at the close of last year throughout the world was 113,877, as compared with 112,413 in 1897, a net gain for the year of 1464.

A copy of the celebrated Mazarin or Gutenberg Bible, from the library of the Rev. W. Makellar, was sold recently at Messrs. Sotheby's for \$14,750. It is the first printed edition of the Bible, and the earliest book printed with movable metal types.

The Vatican having arranged to send missionaries to the Soudan, the English Government has opposed it for the moment, informing the Vatican that England wishes first of all to organize on a solid basis the administration of the new territories.

Rev. Dr. J. Gordon, of Washington, suggests that instead of meeting in different towns, a great Assembly hall should be built in Washington, and the Assembly should regularly meet there, as the Supreme Courts of the Churches in Scotland meet in Edinburgh.

In one of the literary classes of Harvard College the young men are requested, for the cultivation of literary style, to read the Bible in King James' translation ten minutes every day. They also are required from time to time to present papers showing that they have read it.

The whole amount—£100,000—asked for by Lord Kitchener has been subscribed, and he has written a letter of thanks. In his letter not fully realizing the great generosity of the British people. He has now no doubt that it is their wish that there should be founded at Khartoum a college in memory of Gordon.

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The Transfer Books will be closed from the 16th to the 31st January, inclusive. Notice is hereby given that the General Annual Meeting of the Company will be held at 2 P.M. on Wednesday, February the 15th, 1899, at the office of the Company, for the purpose of receiving the annual report, the election of directors, etc.

By order of the Board.

S. C. WOOD,
Managing Director.

Toronto, December 21st, 1898.

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