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Note and Comment.

The Belgian Government is drawing up a bill providing for the total suppression of Sunday newspapers.

The Kirk of Scotland seems just now to have a plethora of ministers. For the vacant parish of St. James, Clydebank, Dumbartonshire, there are over 50 applicants.

Dean Farrar says:—"Give me the children of the nation, and in twenty years England will be sober." Dr. Parker says:—"Convert the young to total abstinence and in one generation England will be evangelized."

The Russian government, prompted by the Greek Catholic Church, continues its persecution of evangelical Christians, in the southern part of its European domain. The matter is before the Evangelical Alliance of Great Britain for action.

Lord Mount Stephen has intimated his intention to make provision for permanent pensions, or annuities, of £16 each for from 25 to 30—as may be required—aged and infirm persons resident within the parishes of Mortlach and Glenrines, Banffshire.

America's revised version of the Bible, after being held back for 14 years, has just been placed on sale. A striking feature is the restoration of the word "Jehovah" wherever "God" or "Lord" appears, and the use of "sheol" for "grave," "pit" or "hell."

The longest bridge in the world is the Lion Bridge, near Sangang, in China. It extends 5¼ miles over an arm of the Yellow Sea, and is supported by 300 huge stone arches. The roadway is 70 feet above the water, and is enclosed in an iron network.

In Montreal the large marble slab, which for many years marked the site of the old St. Ann's market, and the parliament buildings of over a century ago, has been added to the collection of historical relics stored in the Chateau de Ramezay. It states that the market was erected in 1851.

As regards sobriety, Ontario more than holds her own, not only with the other provinces, but also with the State of Maine, where prohibition has been in force for half a century. In Maine the arrests for drunkenness during the years 1890-95 were 253 per thousand, while in Ontario for the same period they were only 195 per thousand. And still there is room for improvement in this regard in the Premier province.

A bill conferring the municipal franchise upon women has passed both houses of the Norwegian parliament, and will become law. Under the new law, a woman is entitled to vote if she pays taxes upon an income of at least 300 crowns (71) in country districts, or 400 crowns (\$108) in cities. In case of a husband and wife who have all in common, the wife is entitled to vote if the husband pays taxes upon an income of at least 300 crowns in country districts, or 400 crowns in cities.

There will be many changes in and additions to Queen's staff (Kingston, Ont.) next season. There will be assistant professors in English, philosophy and modern languages. New professors in Latin and mining engineering, and a lecturer in practical mathematics will also be added.

General satisfaction is expressed at the action of the British Government in appointing a commission of experts of the highest class to investigate thoroughly Professor Koch's theory concerning the transmission of tuberculosis. It is expected that it will result in much benefit, not only to the medical profession but to humanity in general.

According to the arrangements being made the coronation of King Edward next year is to be really British. Foreign Sovereigns, and representatives of foreign States, will accompany the King and Queen to the Abbey, but the grand feature will be the presence of prominent members of every British Colony, and a small contingent of troops from each Colony.

Ireland has been visited this summer by many English and American tourists. One of them hired a "car" in a Tipperary village, and was startled to learn that the driver's name was Oliver Goldsmith. "I rather fancy I have heard your name before," he remarked dubiously. "Sure your honour speaks the true world," was the proud response, "for I've been driving this car more than 25 years."

The Scottish American says:—"There has been a remarkable increase in the attendance at the Winona, Ind., Bible Conference, which is under the guidance of Rev. Dr. Chapman, of the Fourth Presbyterian Church, this city. During the past six summers it has grown from 36 to over 3000. Last summer there were about 500 ministers present, this summer not less than 1000. It will be necessary to enlarge the auditorium and build more hotels to accommodate the increased attendance.

In Egypt one can go anywhere without fear of molestation, for the Egyptian police, organized by British officers, are an admirable body of men. In Upper Egypt he will meet with small garrisons of fifteen or twenty men, commanded by a young British officer, and he knows that should any riot break out this handful represents the might of the British Empire. The work that England has done in policing the country, and in securing justice to the fellahin, can never be over-estimated.

Mr. G. R. Maxwell, the popular representative of Burrard, says the Vancouver World, has received some excellent photographs of scenes in the North, which were taken by Mr. J. McArthur, who conducted a Government survey party in the North. Mr. Maxwell treasures one of the pictures, for it contains Mt. Maxwell, which was discovered by Mr. McArthur in July 1900, and was named after the member for this district. It is situated between the White river and Alsek waters in the southwestern part of the Yukon district.

According to Mr. T. P. O'Connor, Mr. Jeremiah Curtin, the translator of Sienkiewicz's "Quo Aadis?" is probably the greatest living philologist and folk-lorist. He speaks Russian and most of the Slavonic tongues as fluently as a native Slav. He, of course, knows French, German, Italian, Spanish, and Hungarian; he has written several works on the folk-lore of Gaelic Scotland and Gaelic Ireland; he has written with equal knowledge of the languages and the folk-lore of several of the Indian tribes; and altogether he is able to make his way through seventy or eighty languages.

The Lady Dufferin Fund, named for the noble wife of Lord Dufferin 16 years ago, then Viceroy of India, was established to secure medical and hospital treatment for women of India, who for generations had endured frightful tortures in the name or pretense of healing their physical maladies. Nearly 350 hospitals and dispensaries have been established, all under the care of women physicians, graduated from the best medical colleges of England, with the help of 400 assistant surgeons and trained nurses. Over 1,500,000 patients are now treated yearly, and hundreds of natives are being educated as doctors and nurses.

In consequence of Queen Victoria's death her chaplains in Scotland have had all to be re-appointed by the King. No less than eight Presbyterian ministers held office as Royal chaplains. It is a much-coveted position, and highly prized after being obtained, though it may be said to be purely honorary, seeing no salary is attached. When a royal chaplain was summoned to preach before the late Queen, however, he always received a sum of money which a great deal more than covered his expenses in attending. Then the chaplain who officiated on Sunday, either in Crathie Church or in the "Service Room" at Balmoral, was nearly always invited to stay at the Castle from Saturday till Monday. He dined with the Household in Waiting on Saturday, and with the Queen on Sunday.

The success of the Glasgow Exhibition is known to all the world. In such a centre of population and managed with business capacity it could hardly have proved a failure, but the returns are likely to exceed the most sanguine expectations. At a meeting of the Executive Council on the 4th inst. it was reported that up to that time the drawings from season tickets and gate money amounted to £195,000. One of the Glasgow magistrates in a recent speech said that he believed the surplus from the Exhibition would be something between £80,000 and £1,000,000. Referring to this statement a member of the Executive, who seemed to speak from a knowledge of the accounts, said that even the extreme figure thus mentioned might become modest. With such a prospect before them, the management contemplates reducing the price of admission to sixpence during the closing weeks. Glasgow is to be congratulated on the financial success of its Exhibition. The surplus in 1888 was £54,000.