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THE DOMINION PRESBYTERIAN,  
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 C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, Manager and Editor

Ottawa, Wednesday, April 30, 1902.

We require a few copies of THE DOMINION Presbyterian of 16th April, and will be obliged to friends who will mail them to address of the paper.

On Monday evening a large and enthusi- astic meeting of the members of St. Andrew's church was held to consider a letter from Rev. Dr. Herridge respecting the call ex- tended to him from Frognal church, London. Mr. James Gibson, representative elder, presided. The gist of the letter is contained in the following sentences: "I have no desire to leave this city, nor the church I love so well. \* \* \* My relations with my people are as they have always been, most harmonious. On their part they have been loyal and true. \* \* \* I think, however, that this is an opportune time for considering the future of St. Andrew's church and the best means of maintaining and if possible in- creasing the church's general efficiency." A resolution, moved by Sir James Grant, and supported by a number of prominent mem- bers, unanimously asked Dr. Herridge to remain. It is hoped he will do so, as his removal would be a distinct loss to the Capital, as well as to the Presbyterianism of the Dominion.

The London Christian World publishes the following testimony of a "prominent" French Roman Catholic prelate, to the value of the Bible as a book for reading and study:

"I believe that the prudent reading of the Bible is one of the most powerful means of nourishing faith and of securing a Christian atmosphere to the soul. . . . It is certain that the system which consists in making the Bible a book reserved solely for the clergy is a novelty in the Church. . . . This ground alone would be sufficient to condemn it, were it not that experience also has shown the deplorable results it produces. While in certain Protestant nations the habitual read- ing of the Bible has maintained a solid struc- ture of domestic and social Christianity, the abandonment of this reading amongst Cath- olics has been at once a cause and effect of the enfeeblement of faith." The leaven of Bible Protestantism is working vigorously and steadily in France.

## THE DOMINION PRESBYTERIAN

### JOHN R. MOTT ON UNITY AND CO- OPERATION IN MISSION WORK.

Not long ago John R. Mott completed a world-wide tour of missions, and his impres- sions formed during and as a result of his tour were given in the issue of the Interior of the 6th ult. The article is of great inter- est in itself, and all who know the writer know the value of his judgment on this im- portant subject. For the benefit of the read- ers of the DOMINION PRESBYTERIAN, few of whom comparatively, can see the Interior, we summarize Mr. Mott's valuable article.

The certain and growing tendency toward practical unity in the mission field in Chris- tian work was a feature which strongly im- pressed Mr. Mott and filled him with hope for the future of missionary enterprises. "The principle of comity" he says, "in the arrangement and distribution of forces in the mission field is becoming more and more re- cognized." The need and advantage of this is strongly felt by missionaries on the field and by students of the problems presented by missions, and leaders of large experience and influence in the mission field are work- ing for this end. Interdenominational con- ferences of a local or of a much wider char- acter for the consideration in all their lights and phases of questions of missionary work, or for spiritual fellowship, are one expression of this desire for unity and co-operation. Agencies at work making for this end are Young Men's Christian Associations, Young People's Societies of Christian Endeavor, the Sunday School Union, Bible Societies and others for the diffusion of religious liter- ature.

The benefits arising from the extension of practical unity and co-operation among the Christian forces at work in the mission field, are in many things too obvious to need to be pointed out. Some of those mentioned are, economy in educational work, saving not only in money, but also in time, in men, and in administrative energy; the establishment of some uniform practice among the religious denominations at work as regards admission of converts into church membership, the status of native workers, and especially the avoidance of setting up in mission fields in the East of the divisions which have grown up, in many cases unavoidably, in the West, so forming in time in lands now heathen one great united Christian church.

In illustration of the progress which has been already made in this direction, it is pointed out that several years ago all the Presbyterian bodies at work in Japan were united, and their union has been followed by excellent results. In China also the representatives of the different Presbyterian Churches have agreed to a plan of union similar to that adopted in Japan. The Methodists in Japan have come to an agree- ment on important points in a plan of union. At a great conference of Protestant mission- aries held in Tokio in the autumn of 1900, steps were taken to promote co-operation on a wider scale, and avoid especially in smaller mission fields, the duplication of missionary machinery. When this first step of organic union among different bodies of the same name and polity has been effected, the for- mation of some form of federal union among those bodies of different name and polity

will most naturally and almost certainly fol- low. This method of federal union in some form or other we expect to become of much wider application than we have yet seen it. The sentiment in favor of it is, naturally, very much stronger on the mission fields than at home. "Christians face to face", says Mr. Mott, "with the vast and powerfully en- trenching forces of united heathenism, with its ignorance, superstition, and sin, clearly see that nothing short of a union in spirit, plan and effort on the part of all true dis- ciples of Jesus Christ will prevail." If the forces of Christ can be united in this work, it is the opinion of one of the grand mission- ary statesmen of India, Dr. Jacob Chamber- lain, it will save a full generation in the ef- forts of the Church to establish the Kingdom of our Lord in the non-Christian world."

The present state of Christianity in all the great fields of missionary work is full of en- couragement to all who are engaged in this divine enterprise of evangelizing the world. "Christianity", Mr. Mott says, is so securely planted in Japan, China, Ceylon, India and some other of the nations of Asia, that were the missionaries obliged to withdraw, it would live on and spread as a self-propagat- ing force." In support of this opinion the names of many Christian leaders in these lands are mentioned who possess the "spirit of independence, consecration and real lead- ership," while of the rank and file of the church membership, many impressed the writer of the article in the Interior, as not being one whit behind Christians of the West in "their grasp of the essential doc- trines of our faith, in depth of spiritual in- sight, in exaltation of the Spirit of Christ, in unselfish devotion and in burning zeal." The way in which native Christians in India, Japan and so recently in China, have stood the test of opposition and perse- cution is the best evidence of this, and how firmly rooted the Church of Christ has be- come in these lands. A still further and most encouraging evidence is the rise and growth of the missionary spirit in native churches, and in the steady increase in the number of those that are self-supporting.

All this is bright with encouragement, and so also is the fact that, still the great need, and the great cry are more and yet more missionaries. From all on the field comes the one unbroken appeal for more men and women of consecration and ability to come speedily to their relief. A real crisis on every field is felt to be impending. If it is only met as it might be met, the scale would be turned in favor of Christianity. "There never," declares the writer, "has been such an opportunity for aggressive evangelistic effort as the present in Japan, in several parts of China and India." But the kind of men and women sent should be the best pos- sible, in every way the most thoroughly fur- nished." A few hundred of well-qualified missionaries will accomplish far more at the present time than would thousands of men of merely average ability and of insufficient equipment."

To be full of goodness, full of cheerful- ness, full of sympathy, full of helpful hope, causes man to carry blessings of which he is himself as unconscious as a lamp is of its own shining.—Beecher.