

The Presbyterian Review.

Vol. XII.—No. 40.

TORONTO, APRIL 9, 1896.

\$1.50 per Annum

He Cares for You.

BY N. DANIEL DAVIS.

And is it true that o'er the shining river,
God's tender hand shall wipe away all tears?
That in that land our songs shall rise forever,
Through endless years?

And can it be that pain, and grief, and sorrow,
And sin, and death, can never enter there?
That evermore we'll rest, in that glad morrow,
From toil and care?

O stricken ones, look up, and cease your mourning!
God's promises are faithful, tried and true,
He sees your tears, hears your bitter groaning;
He cares for you.

Be you but faithful; then ere long you'll reckon
All earthly things but dross; your life-work done,
Celestial doors will open, angels beckon;
Your crown be won.

OVER LAND AND SEA.

This year is the 250th anniversary of the completion by the Westminster Assembly of the Confession of Faith.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., will meet in the First Presbyterian Church, Saratoga Springs, N. Y., Thursday, May 21st, 1896, at 11 o'clock a.m., and will be opened with a sermon by the Moderator of the last Assembly, Rev. Robert Russell Booth, D.D., LL.D. The undersigned constituting the Committee on Commissions will be in the lecture room of the above named church at 8 a.m., on the day of meeting, to receive the Commissions of Commissioners. Wm. Henry Roberts, Stated Clerk, Wm. Eves Moore, Permanent Clerk.

All correspondence with reference to the entertainment of delegates should be addressed to the Rev. J. N. Crocker, D.D., Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

Reduced rates of fare on the railroads for Commissioners and other persons in attendance have been secured.

All correspondence relating to railroad rates or other business of the General Assembly, and all papers, overtures, memorials, etc., should be addressed to the Stated Clerk, Rev. W. H. Roberts, D.D., 1534 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Before the British occupation of India the Ganges, in whose waters the Hindoos believed the happiest death was to be found, carried annually 1,000,000 dead bodies to the sea.

It is stated that the most crowded spot on the earth's surface is the "Mandaraggio," in the city of Valetta, in Milan. Upon a spot in this place, about two and a half acres in extent, no fewer than 2,574 live.

In *Word and Work* [of London] we find the following interesting fact: "Important remains of a prehistoric city and necropolis have been discovered near Syracuse by Dr. Orsi. The rock-cut tombs amount to nearly five thousand, distributed over a space of ground nearly four miles in circumference. The period is that of the bronze and the first iron ages. A great number

of bronze knives, daggers, and *fibulae* have been collected, and several earthen vessels. There is also a very primitive megalithic building, evidently the king's residence. The city is supposed to be the ancient Erbessas. Explorations will be carried out in the spring by the Director of the Syracusan Museum."

In Norway there are 189 Y.M.C. Associations, with a membership of 10,000. Seventeen of the Associations own their own buildings, and general secretaries are employed at Christiania, Bergen, Moso, Stavanger, and Baklandet.

While two woodmen were cutting down a huge maple a few miles from Wolverine, Mich., they came upon a hard object embedded in the wood, which, upon examination, proved to be an axe. On the head was inscribed the motto: *Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam*, and underneath the inscription appears the name of Robert Lasalle with the date 1655. The axe is no doubt one of those supplied to the explorer by the Jesuit missionaries. The handle of the axe has five notches all on the same side and the end is bound with an iron ring.

M. Rochefort's recent advocacy of temperance has directed attention to the consumption of absinthe in France, and some startling statements in connection therewith are being made. Men as a rule take the absinthe diluted with water, sipping it slowly. But the women, to the consternation of the doctors, insist as a rule on drinking it "neat," with most terrible results to their constitutions. The number of brilliant men whom France has lost through the abuse of the opalescent but poisonous fluid, from the great poet Alfred de Musset, who used to be picked up drunk and half-dead every night in the streets, down to the celebrated artist and caricaturist Andre Gill, is simply appalling. An idea of the extent of the evil may be gathered from the recent returns of the ministry of finance, which show that at the present moment there is a *marchand de vin*, or French absinthe seller, to every three houses in the French metropolis.

Rev. W. E. Shive once said, an invalid grew so cross and wicked that none could wait on her but a little negro. She hooted at religious talk and sympathy. Finally a copy of the Shorter Catechism was put in the negro's hands with instructions to request the invalid to teach her; and she was paid a dollar to sit as a learner. The scheme worked like a charm; for the negro reported, "You had better take that Catechism away from her, for she just reads it and cries." The next morning she sent for Dr. Scott, a Baptist minister, "to show her the way to Jesus." The Holy Spirit had used those clear statements of the doctrines of salvation to melt her hard and rebellious heart. This all occurred near Kingston, La., years ago.

In China it is an offence for a man or woman to get in a passion in a public place and use words of anger. The punishment is five days' imprisonment.