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C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, Manager and Editor

Ottawa, Wednesday, April 1, 1903.

Playing cards and liquors are to be ban- ished from the passenger trains of the Pennsylvania Railway. This is a straw showing the current is beginning to set in the right direction. The railway companies have done much in recent years to discour- age drinking among employees, to the advantage of railway and employee alike.

A regular reader of this paper is good enough to write: "THE DOMINION PRESBY- TERIAN does not continually sound its own praises on the street corners, wherefore it affords the more pleasure to say that despite its modesty, it strikes me as showing more freshness of thought and manner than any other religious weekly in Canada." This is high appreciation, which we shall accept only far enough to say we hope to make THE DOMINION PRESBYTERIAN more and more worthy of the kind words which from time to time reach us.

We have already said that Professor Jordan's book, "Prophetic Ideas and Ideals," has been well received in Britain. The reviewer in the Expositor Times, the leading journal of the kind in the Mother land, has this to say of it: "Here is a new book on the Prophets, and beside all the books on the Prophets we possess, we must find room for this one. It has all the attraction of 'some new thing,' and it has the worth of that which 'liveth and abideth for ever. For its novelty is in its antiquity. It catches the spirit of the ancient prophet so sympathetically, that it makes the prophet himself new to us. Listen to the titles of some of the chapters: 'The Prophet's Defence' (Amos), 'The Prophet's Comprehensive Word— Mercy' (Hosea vi. 6), 'The Prophet as Disciple' (Zephaniah), 'The Prophet as a Failure' (Jer xviii 18-23), 'The Prophet's Protest against Smallness' (Jonah)."

Are the pastors getting ar.d keeping hold of the young men? Therein consists the most difficult problem of the Church in modern times. No easy solution is in

right

DR. FARRAR.

The late Archdeacon Farrar was a man of varied gifts who gave to the Church of England and to the world at large much valuable service. He did not reach the highest ecclesiastical position, that is he was not made a bishop; and he cannot be placed in the front rank of scholars, that is, side by side with Lightfoot and Westcott. But when those two reservations are made we are free to say that Dr. Farrar did an enormous amount of work and much of it was of very high quality.

As a preacher Dr. Farrar would not rank with the greatest, that is with such men as Beecher, Liddon, Spurgeon and Parker but he could preach noble discourses, splendid in rhetoric and rich in illustrations. Farrar's appeal was rather to the great middle class than to a special set. Those who demand the most delicate scholarship and the finest, most restrained style could criticise him everely. The narrow ritualist resented his denunciation of a shallow ceremonialism and the stern conservative was annoyed by his attacks on Robbinism, Bibliolatry and all other forms of dead traditionalism.

It may be that his books will not live long, for there are few books that attain to great length of general usefulness, but he served his own generation nobly. The amount of his literary work is astonishing. He could write a beautiful story likely to inspire young people to nobler living. His works on the life of our Lord, the life of Paul, and the Early Days of Christianity have exercised a living ministry among a large circle of readers. The small volume on the Minor Prophets is a useful hand book and the Commentary on Luke contains much valuable information and many help- ful hints. When we remember that these form probably not more than half of what he wrote, and that he was a clergyman in active work taking his share in social and philan- thropic movements, we can see that he must have been a diligent worker. Dante, Shake- speare, the great modern poet, and the ancient Greek dramatist all claimed his attention and supplied him with illustrations.

Dr. Farrar was perhaps more a literary man than anything else, but all his studies in literature were consecrated to the purpose of throwing light upon the Scriptures and calling men to a more living faith. He was not a great theologian, theologians are rare, but he had great enthusiasm for all "seekers after God," that is, men who in any country, age or Church had fought and suffered for righteousness.

It is not our business to attempt a critical estimate of the value of this man's work, but we rejoice in the fact that he did work, that his work was so rich, varied and on the whole on such useful lines. During the last thirty years he has been unceasingly active on the side of a broad, intelligent view of Christianity and we are sure that he has not laboured in vain.

When the political pot asserts it is moderately white, as compared with the political kettle, one does not need to take too literally the comparative appraisements. However, as Mr. Dooley says, "It must be a good thing to be good, or iverybody wuodn't be pretendin' be was."

NOTES BY NEMO.

"The Doctrinal Power of the Church."

"Jesus Christ came into the world and gave His testimony to the truth. He taught with authority and he has made faith a necessary condition of salvation. The Christ has communicated to His Church the doctrinal power received from God His Father, that is to say the mission to teach with the right of imposing obedience. This lordship resides alone in the Episcopal body and by that very fact, in consequence of the jurisdictional power of the Church, each bishop possesses it in proportion to the jurisdiction with which he is clothed.

"The Pope is the universal teacher in the Church, for all and each of its members who compose it; it belongs to him to feed the lambs and the sheep, that is to say the faithful, the clergy and the bishops themselves. As for the bishops taken separately they possess doctrinal power but only in the limits of their own dioceses, and under the supreme authority of the head of the Church. They only become teachers of the universal Church in general councils and in union with the vicar of Christ. The two great characteristics of this lordship (magistere) of the Church are perpetuity and infallibility.

"The infallibility of the Church does not merely embrace the dogmatic and moral truths revealed by God, it extends also to the consequences implied in these truths and generally to all that is needed to preserve them intact and protect them effectively against the attacks and snares of error.

"In virtue of its doctrinal power the Church has the right, not only of spreading the revealed truth everywhere, and of not being impeded by any power in the exercise of this sublime function, but also to interfere directly in the working of its clergy and ministers, and in the religious instruction of its members, and to control and watch over all teaching given to the faithful whether in the home or in schools and universities of the State, finally to make sure that this teaching is not dangerous from the point of view of faith and morals."

The above is a most clear statement of the claim of the Roman Church as set forth in a recent Lenten sermon delivered in the Cathedral, Montreal. It is instructive as showing that in this age of restless enquiry and free thought, the Church of Rome makes the same inflexible claim. This claim means if logically carried out complete control over the whole of human life. Another of the Lenten preachers has very much to say about the evils that are produced by the kind of education that prevails in Protestant countries, but in countries where the priests have full control there are evils of the very worst kind. We acknowledge the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ but we do not regard it as being the kind of authority that is here defined and claimed. When He spake with authority it was not the mechanical authority that "imposes obedience" but the living power that captures the heart and controls the mind of the truth-seeking soul.

The latest to be formed is a Bartenders' Total Abstinence Association. To attend properly to the task of making other people drunk, appears to require the cool head of the total abstainer!