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Contents.

EDITORIAL.	Italy—Its People and its Prospects.	1
Paragraphs.	from Old Story Page.	2
New Light.	THE YOUNG PEOPLE.	4
Source.	Prayer Meeting Topic.	7
Our Father's Care.	etc.	4
Notes.	FOREIGN MISSIONS.	6
Book Notices.	W. B. M. U.	8
CONTRIBUTED.	P. M. Board, Notes by the Secretary.	8
Historical sketches—The two Hills of Falmouth.	THE HOME.	10
Y. M. C. A. Juniors.	THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.	10
Day of Prayer at Newton.	Bible Lesson Feb. 13—Matt. 9: 9-17.	11
Seminary Indebtedness.	FROM THE CHURCHES.	12
Resolution of Nymphs.	MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.	15
Surprising Things in the West.	THE FARM.	15
Toronto and McMaster.	Quarterly Meeting.	9
Notes.	Notices.	9
SELECTED.	News Summary.	14 and 16
Tonic for the Tired.		
Sentiments in Religion.		

Disorder in the French Chamber of Deputies. The other day in the French Chamber of Deputies scenes occurred which rival if they do not surpass the wild disorders which disgraced the Austrian Parliament a few weeks ago. The Drefus affair, which has caused great excitement in France, accompanied in places by violent popular demonstrations, was the cause of the uproar in the Chamber of Deputies. The scene was one utterly disgraceful to a great deliberative assembly. Angry passions prevailed over all considerations of order, decency and dignity, and the members fought with each other like savages or wild beasts, instead of men entrusted with the legislative interests of a great civilized nation. Finally, the President of the Chamber having left the chair, the military were called in to restore order and prevent loss of life. Some eighty Deputies, it is stated, were engaged in the fight, but it would seem that the number must have been much greater, if it is true, as stated, that, after the melee, 125 neckties were found on the floors of the Chamber, besides many coats torn from the shoulders of the combatants. The affair which is the cause of this outbreak, is giving the French Government very serious trouble. Paris is greatly excited over the situation, and it is difficult to predict what may result before the excitement shall have passed.

The Drefus Case. It is not easy to get an intelligent idea of the matter which is at the bottom of the recent popular outbreaks in Paris and the cause of the wild scenes of disorder which occurred the other day in the French Chamber of Deputies. Drefus was an officer in the French army, who was convicted of selling, or endeavoring to sell, to a foreign power, information concerning the military affairs of his country. He was sentenced to a life imprisonment and has been sent to a lonely island off the coast of French Guiana. The affair was practically re-opened in connection with the trial of Major Esterhazy, a Polish Jew, also an officer in the French Army, who, it is understood, had made damaging statements concerning the action of French officials in connection with the Drefus case. The trial of Esterhazy resulted in his acquittal. In neither of these trials, however, are the proceedings known to the public, and the Government, while declining to reconsider the case of Captain Drefus, has also steadily refused to publish the evidence on which he was convicted. This refusal is based on the ground that the evidence was sufficient, and that to make it public would disturb the relations of France with a foreign power. The present situation is, however, one that gives rise to grave suspicions, whether well founded or not, that justice has not been done in the case of Drefus. The popular feeling in that direction has been greatly strengthened by the fact that M. Zola, the novelist, and perhaps the most popular literary man of France, has espoused the cause of the condemned officer, declaring him to be the victim of a conspiracy and openly assailing the Government for

having condemned an innocent man. The anti-Semitic feeling is strong now in France, and this, while it may help the government out of its present difficulty, tends to engender bad feeling of a permanent character. Many people are disposed to prejudice and condemn Drefus, not on the merits of his case, but simply because he is a Jew.

Britain on the Upper Nile.

If it is Great Britain's purpose, as it seems to be, to establish her authority in Africa over a continuous line of territory extending from Cairo to the Cape, it does not appear that any nation is, at present, in a position effectively to thwart that intention. There have been recent rumors of the presence of a French military expedition at Fashoda, in the Upper Nile region, in territory which Great Britain has distinctly claimed to be in her sphere of influence, and any invasion of which she has declared, would be regarded by her as an unfriendly act. The sending of a considerable reinforcement of British troops to Egypt appears to be connected with this reported movement of the French. But it is now doubtful, to say the least, whether there is any French force at Fashoda, and the conditions are such that there would seem to be very little probability of France attempting to send by way of the Congo any expedition which could seriously interfere with British policy on the Upper Nile. The Anglo-Egyptian force at Ed-Damer, 150 miles from Khartoum, numbers 5,000 or 6,000 disciplined and well-armed troops, with three large gunboats and other smaller vessels. Between this point and Khartoum are the Dervishes in considerable strength, and if the policy of the British Government is carried out successfully, these Dervishes will be beaten back and a well-established British sphere of influence will be secured from Khartoum southward. If any of the European powers seek to interfere in this matter, the attempt would likely be made from the east coast and in connection with King Menelik of Abyssinia. An embassy was sent from England last year to Abyssinia and Great Britain has a treaty with the King by which he engages to remain neutral, if not friendly, to British interests on the Upper Nile. It is not improbable, however, that France and Russia have employed what influence they could in Abyssinia in opposition to British interests. The presentation by the Russian Government of a sword to King Menelik, of which late despatches tell, may not be without significance.

Britain's Policy as to China.

It is stated that Russia has offered, with the aid of France, to secure to China a loan on the same terms as those offered by Great Britain. It seems improbable that Russia can offer inducements that would dispose China to accept her offices in this matter in preference to those of Great Britain. But at all events, the latter has put her foot down too decidedly in reference to her Chinese policy to admit of receding from the position taken, which is that the trade of China must not be monopolized either in part or in whole by certain European powers, but that the Chinese ports which are opened to trade with one nation must be open for all on equal footing. For this policy, the Chancellor of the Exchequer has declared, Great Britain will contend even at the cost of war. Alluding to this declaration of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, the London correspondent of the New York Evening Post, says: "Diplomatic purists at home and abroad declare themselves shocked by this calculated indiscretion, but grave though the situation be, it so clearly represents the present mood of English public opinion that necessarily it has brought matters to a head. How England receives

this final word is shown by the fact that consols did not drop a single point after the speech. The leaders of the Opposition, Mr. H. H. Asquith and Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, hastened publicly to support the government. The press of all shades of opinion did the same with practical unanimity. What almost every one feels is that England must make a determined stand for free markets. If she should yield now, the battle would only have to be fought again on the completion of the Siberian railway, and other developments which are calculated seriously to weaken England's position. Germany seems to have accepted the inevitable and agreed that Kiaochau shall become an open port. Russia clearly means to make the fullest use of her influence at Peking before abandoning her desire to secure the virtual fee simple of Port Arthur and the surrounding district."

Book Notices.

A History of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States. By Thomas O'Gorman, Professor of Church History in the Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C. New York: The Christian Literature Co.

This, the ninth, volume of the American Church History Series possesses large interest for the student—whether Roman Catholic or Protestant—of the religious and ecclesiastical history of America. As Spanish rule in its inception and development in the western hemisphere was wholly under Roman Catholic auspices, and French rule predominantly so, the history of the religious developments connected with the Spanish and French colonies, to which a large part of Professor O'Gorman's book is devoted, is necessarily one of great interest, and from the standpoint of the student of ecclesiastical history the part of the work which deals with more recent developments is no less so. The volume is divided into two books. The first book, dealing with "The Missions Period," is sub-divided into three parts, which severally discuss "The Spanish Missions" of the South and extreme West; "The French Missions," in the Northern and Central portions of the Continent, and "The English Missions," which had their beginnings and principal seat in Maryland. Book II. has for its title, "The Organized Church," in which Part I. discusses the growth of the church from the beginning of the hierarchy to the first Provincial Council of Baltimore (1790-1829); Part II., The growth of the church from the First Provincial Council of Baltimore to the First plenary Council (1829-1852); Part III., The growth of the church from the First Plenary to the Second Plenary Council of Baltimore (1852-66); Part IV., from the Second Plenary Council to the establishment of the Apostolic delegation (1866-93).

The Ideal Life. Addresses Hitherto Unpublished. By Henry Drummond, with Memorial Sketches by Ian Maclaren and W. Robertson Nicholl. Toronto: Fleming H. Revell Company. Price \$1.25.

The wide and eager acceptance which the works of Professor Drummond, published during his life-time, met with, will insure for this collection of addresses, gathered up and published since his death, a most kindly reception. These addresses, which might be called sermons, since each discourse is founded on one or more passages of Scripture, are marked by the evangelical spirit, the directness of statement, the charm of style and human sympathy, which are characteristic of Professor Drummond's religious writings. There are fifteen discourses in all. Among the titles are the following: Ill Temper; Why Christ Must Depart; The Eccentricity of Religion; To me to live is Christ; The Three Facts of Sin; The Three Facts of Salvation; "What is your Life?" The Man after God's Own Heart; Penitence; How to know the Will of God. The Introduction, in two parts, written by Mr. Nicholl and Dr. Watson (Ian Maclaren)—intimate friends of Professor Drummond—is biographical in character and deeply interesting. Dr. Watson invests with the peculiar charm of his style this tribute to his departed friend. He finds it hard to forgive some whom he calls "the professional religionists of our time," for their unsympathetic attitude toward Professor Drummond because of his religious views and teaching. Mr. Nicholl contributes a short but appreciative and very interesting biographical study of Drummond's character and work. Touching reference is made to Mr. Drummond's last and only illness, when, for more than a year, he lay upon his back, crippled, and at times suffering acute pain from some mysterious malady of the bones. It was then, says Mr. Nicholl, that some who had greatly misconceived him came to have a truer judgment of the man. When he was struck down in his prime, at the very height of his happiness, when there was appointed to him, to use his own words, "a waste of storm and tumult before he reached the shore," it seemed as if his sufferings liberated and revealed the force of his soul. Those who saw him in his illness saw that as the physical life flickered low, the spiritual energy grew. He never in any way complained. His doctors found it very difficult to get him to talk of his illness. There was no sadness nor farewell. It recalled what he himself said of a friend's death—"putting by the well-worn body without a sigh, and expecting elsewhere better work to do."