

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Redmond's bill for the alteration of the British coronation oath and the removal of the remaining Catholic disabilities passed the second reading in the House of Commons. This is regarded as a great victory for British Catholics.

A Presbyterian Minister at Auburn, N.Y., has had an electrical sign "Welcome" placed over the church door. To see this may seem too much like advertising, but why should theatres and places of worldly amusement or business be the only ones to hang out a welcome?

Andrew Carnegie has made another liberal gift, having contributed \$50,000 towards a new library for Howard University. The shrewd Scotchman knows how to make a good use of his great wealth. There is no better purpose to which he could devote it than the encouragement of learning.

Some people have tried to deprive Shakespeare of the credit of his plays, and now arises one who declares the ten commandments did not come from Moses, but were written between 700 and 650 B.C. Prof. R. M. Wenley, of Ann Arbor, Mich., endorses this view. Till we have more conclusive evidence than these destructive critics offer, we propose to stand by Moses.

The N.Y. Christian Advocate is moved to say the Protestant Episcopal Church at the present time is afflicted with ministers who defend the use of intoxicating liquors and the legalizing of the saloons for ten hours on Sunday. It would be unjust to charge the whole body with the foolishness and sins of those whose judgment is weak, prejudices strong, or love of notoriety inordinate.

From Winnipeg comes news that a "banish the bar" campaign will be started in Manitoba on June 23rd, when a party of temperance workers, headed by automobiles, will start on a tour of the southern part of the province, and will address meetings in sixty-two towns and villages. When this tour has been completed the northern half of the province will be invaded.

An unusual thing happened last Sunday afternoon, when Toronto Presbytery met in Victoria Church for the purpose of ordaining Mr. W. R. Taylor, the teacher of the men's adult Bible class of that church, which claims to have the biggest average attendance of any Bible class in Canada, something like 250. The reason for ordaining Mr. Taylor is on account of the special work he is doing among the men in West Toronto. Mr. Taylor is probably one of the best Oriental scholars, especially in Semitics, among the younger men in Canada, and he stands high for general scholarship. Another unique feature about his work is the fact that he is probably the only salaried Bible class teacher in the country, the class paying him \$1,000 a year.

WORK FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Writing in advance of the meeting a contributor to the Montreal Witness says:

Every sign points to an epoch-making meeting. The mission to the dispersed of Presbyterianism throughout the Dominion is increasing in volume and responsibility. In the East, the Rev. James Ross superintends a field extending from Cape Breton to Labrador, and a "pickle of stray lambs" in the State of Maine. There is no halo over a work that has been for generations uphill or stationary, yet many a saint has blessed this zealous friend of the small congregation, for "beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings." Next to him we have the Rev. S. Childerhose, the Presbyterian Bishop of New Ontario. This silver northland is setting the world agog with its fabulous wealth. And this "sky-pilot" is a fearless captain and some of the best mettle of the Church is being utilized in this, the latest "region beyond." The situation in the West has always interesting features. It is no small work that can absorb fifty auxiliaries to the preaching force from Scotland and Ireland. The Gallician problem is a new chapter in church history, where one denomination is seen nursing to life and strength an independent church. Thus the oldest of schisms is being healed very effectively, and upon the broad prairie, Eastern and Western Christianity are blending. Principal Patrick is not only the outstanding figure in an evangelical union of Canadian churches, but is also striking a note of harmony where a conflict has waged since the eighth century.

The mission to the Orient and the Islands of the Sea has never been so fascinating as today. The Maritime Synod, with its roll of martyrs, is realizing that their "blood has been the seed of the Church." Not long ago, at Dillon's Bay, old chiefs whose hands had been stained with Christian blood, were seen at that sacred "supper" partaking of the wine which is the "new testament in the Saviour's blood." The beneficent effects of the Gospel are seen in mediating between warlike tribes, for at the same service warriors had laid down the sword in the name of Him who brought to earth "peace and goodwill to all men." Here is an example of "rush orders" which come to the home fountains of supply: Honan asks for three more evangelists, two additional medical men, three high school teachers, four lady evangelists, one practical man to act as builder and treasurer. They also appeal for a new high school, an enlarged dispensary chapel and boys' school. Will the order be filled?

The subject of Union is referred to in part as follows:—

By the second stage in these negotiations, therefore, is meant the fact that the joint committees have so far completed their labors as to furnish a basis of union. It remains now for the Church to proceed either to adopt the same or to enlarge on the work just completed. Here will be met at this assembly greater difficulties than encountered thus far. At the beginning this very careful principle was adopted, that a union of the churches to be real and lasting, must carry the consent of the entire membership." Yet at the London Assembly, after the very first report was presented, a clear-cut amendment was offered and strong speeches made, to confine further conferences to "federal or co-operative union." The vote showed that twenty-two agreed to this limitation. The next year at Montreal Dr. Barclay moved an amendment to send the whole matter at once to the people for their "judgment," and it was found that sixty votes were recorded for the same. At the last assembly the amendment was moved by an ex-moderator, who has been a member of the union conferences from their inception, in which was this striking clause: "Inasmuch as there is unmistakable oppo-

sition in our church to the further prosecution of the negotiations for organic union." Thirty-two voted for this amendment. All these minorities indicate that "the consent of the entire membership" is not likely to be received, and that further progress will be by "taking the bit in their teeth," for the Church is not yet a unit on the question. It remains to be seen whether the minority will rule or the majority go forth alone.

The docket has a long list of other important subjects. Two "standing committees," those of Young People's Societies and Sunday schools, are seeking for a basis of union. The Assembly will again be called upon to give her verdict on "the relation of Queen's to the Church." "Evangelism" will be on trial as conducted by the new committee. Then there may be a breeze over higher criticism when Knox College asks for a quarter of a million dollars for a new building. Thus the "old assembly week" will have to expand. Otherwise, the venerable clerks may have to present the moderator with a stout gavel, made of some cedar of Lebanon, with the request that it be liberally used to expedite business.

BRITISH MAY MONTHLIES.

The four great monthlies have been received from the publishers, Messrs. Leonard Scott Publication Company, 7 Warren Street, New York, and even a mere mention of their contents will suffice to stimulate the interest of all lovers of good literature.

The Contemporary: The Crisis in Turkey; Algernon Charles Swinburne; The Naval Controversy; The Causes of Unemployment; English Poets from the French Point of View; The Death of Clergy; Preamblistic Religion; Local Universities and National Education; Foreign Affairs; Literary Supplement, Reviews, etc.

Blackwood's: First Three Chapters of a New Story—A Man's Man; The Year Round in Northern Nigeria; Sir John Sinclair and Arthur Young; The Admirable Crichton; An Anglo-Indian Worth; Musings Without Method; In Memory of Swinburne; Naval Defence by Panic; The Parliamentary Situation, etc.

The Fortnightly: Imperial and Foreign Affairs; A Review of Events; British Finances and Imperial Responsibilities; The Exploration of the Other World; In Madame Bovary's Country; The Carlyle Love Letters; The Strength and Scope of Colonial Navies; Bell and the Dragon; The Irish Dialect of English; The Canadian Emigration Problem; The German Griselda; Rugby Football, etc.

The Nineteenth Century and After: Six German Opinions of the Naval Situation; The Origin of the Revolt in Turkey; The Lambeth Idea of Re-union; Prayer Book Revision; William Beckford's Adventure in Diplomacy; The Aerial Peril; The End of a Legend; The Missing Essentials in Economic Science; Ireland and the Budget; Poor Relief in the Days to Come; What Every German Knows; and The Unification of South Africa.

The current number of The Studio well maintains the high standard set by previous issues of this favorably known publication. To be without the monthly visit of The Studio is to miss an artistic treat as well as an educative influence. In the issue before us the several departments are filled with well written notes on art and artists, all illustrated by numerous well executed half-tones and colored reproductions. Address: 44 Leicester Square, London, W.C.