

Dominion Presbyterian

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NOTE AND COMMENT

The Presbyterians have 270 pastors over 37,000 members in Michigan, and the average salary is slightly above \$1,100.

The Canadian Club, of Winnipeg, at its annual meeting elected Rev. Dr. C. W. Gordon (Ralph Connor) president, and R. H. Smith, secretary.

During the inauguration of the Lord Mayor of London, some women threw rocks through the windows of the hall to attract attention to their yell, "Votes for women." They proved their rowdiness, not their fitness for suffrage.

Live a life of feeling, not of excitement. Let your religion, your duties, every thought and word, be ruled by the affections, which are the expressions of them. Do not consider whether you are glad, sorry, dull, or spiritual at any moment, but be yourself—what God makes you.

Mrs. Eddy, owner of Christian Science, has settled with her son, Geo. W. Glover, and her adopted son, E. J. F. Eddy, for \$290,000. The consideration is, that they relinquish all rights to her estate. Christian Science, even though it can not prevent sickness, seems to be eminently successful in keeping the wolf away—from one's doors.

Estimating that one of its policyholders dies from tuberculosis every thirty-two minutes, the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company seeks power from the United States courts to establish a sanitarium for the benefit of those whose lives it has insured. The longer every policyholder lives the better it is for all the other policyholders of the company.

The majority of our candidates for the ministry, says the Christian Observer (Southern Presbyterian) decide to give their lives to the work of the ministry before they leave the parental roof. Of 410 candidates on our rolls last April, 380 decided before they were twenty-one years of age to give their lives to the work of the ministry; 287 decided before they entered college, 85 while in college, and 85 after leaving college. No influence, therefore, is more potent than the religion in the home.

A professor at Cornell University declares that the American people are paying one billion dollars a year for sickness. If our population is eighty millions, says the Philadelphia Westminister, that is an average of twelve dollars and a half for each man, woman and child in the country. That estimate was probably conservative. But the professor limits the ills that make this big bill to those caused by overfatigue, and if that be true it is a tremendous commentary on the rate at which the nation lives. Here is the question: Shall we go slower and do less?

A Harvard professor would edit the Ten Commandments. His thought takes the line of the temperance reformer. He would add "Thou shalt not drink to drunkenness, nor bewilder thyself with strong drink." That would be an excellent new commandment. But instead of putting it into the time-honored code, instead of carving new lines on the historic stones, why not write them on Harvard's walls? Why not make drunkenness a crime whose punishment shall be immediate expulsion from the great university? That would be easier and vastly more practical than to cut a new line on the Mosaic tablets.

By the going into force of a recently passed law, the Viceroy of India will have a council of 370 members, one-half of whom will be elected. The new body will have power in matters of taxation and expenditure as well as in the making of general laws. It is the beginning of a change, the need of which, if the future is to be judged from the past, will be a parliament of India. Those who are declared fit to govern themselves a little have a good ground for claiming the power to govern themselves altogether, although it may be well to go somewhat slowly in granting it in India.

It is estimated that this year the combined wheat crops of Canada, the United States, France, Hungary, Russia and Roumania, are 300,000,000 bushels, or one-sixth larger than last year. These countries produce two-thirds of the world's supply. Australia promises big yields and so does Argentina. The heavy crops abroad must be considered in forecasting the price of Canadian wheat during the next two months. At the same time a leading Canadian grain dealer holds that Europe's stores are greatly depleted, that it must come to Canada for much wheat in the next few months, and that this factor will keep up prices.

Parochial schools, as carried on by the Roman Catholic for the purpose of segregating and alienating their children from American influences, remarks the "Herald and Presbyter," have no rightful place in our country, and are tolerated simply because after the blundering fashion that obtains here too largely, they are tolerated. That they should ever draw funds from the public treasury is a thing intolerable and so, incredible. Such a proceeding would be in opposition to the principles of the Constitution of the United States, and should never, for a moment, be considered. These schools should not, in their present fashion, be tolerated, much less supported, by the American people.

Concerning the beatification of Joan of Arc, the California Christian Advocate first expresses the hope that the Roman Catholic church will go right on and beatify John Huss, John Wyclif and Martin Luther. Then the editor adds: "They can beatify all the good people they can find. In fact we hope that some day they may feel like putting this editor (he being an Irishman) among the beatified. No hurry, gentlemen! We are not yet on good terms with the 'devil's advocate.' Our concern is to ask in all sincerity if it is not a little late in the day to carry on these great beatific hoaxes?"

It is Jesus Christ who has presided over the march of progress all down the Christian ages and to whom belong the glory of the highest and the host. It is the same Christ who has given us a faith that adequately meets the three greatest mysteries and emergencies of our lives, sin, sorrow and death. And, from present indications the present century enthrones Him more deeply and divinely in the holiest affection of human hearts than has any century of the past. Many of the old theologies will undoubtedly go, but Jesus eternally abides, and is eternally new. As new as the morning, as new as spring-time, as new as the delicious fragrance of an opening flower. The world will never surpass Him, and the religion of the future will be new manifestations of His Glory, new apprehensions of His grace, new appreciations of His love, and new dedications of heart and life to His holy ministry of transforming society and saving the world.

The Ten Commandments make an excellent substratum foundation for the life that men ought to live in this present life, says an exchange. The man who departs from these precepts, or principles, in his doings, is sure to make a ruin of himself. It matters not whether or not they could be voted into existence by a majority vote of our modern society, the fact remains that every member of our modern society stands or falls, in everyday life, by his obedience or disobedience to this law of God. If men break the eighth commandment and steal they may expect to come to be known as thieves and treated accordingly. If they break the seventh commandment and live impurely, they know themselves to be moral lepers and hateful in the sight of God and of all who are pure. The commandments are old fashion of righteousness, and it pays, fashion of righteousness, and it pays, for time and eternity to live by that word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

It is a matter of no small significance that Roman Catholic influence is making itself felt increasingly in the West. This is evident in two directions particularly. A large French element is coming in and thus swelling the Catholic population. Their own estimate is that there are 75,000 French Catholics in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta, and several colonizing schemes are afoot through which it is expected to bring in some thousands more. At the same time the hierarchy, annoyed by the missionary efforts of Protestants, has watchful eyes upon the Ruthenians, of whom it hopes to make converts. To this end and as a means of more successfully reaching these foreigners a priest has just been sent to Galicia to study the language and rites of the Ruthenians in their own home. He will return next year and with him in his new Ruthenian mission will be associated seven priests of the Ruthenian rite. This is the beginning of a new activity by the Catholics, which Protestants can meet only by a similar method of training missionaries in the native tongue.

Halley's comet has already been sighted by several astronomers, and will be in full popular view next spring. The appearance of this occasional visitor recalls the fact of the terror which it has caused at other times, and the bull issued by Pope Calistus against it, in order to drive it away and to protect the faithful from its power. Prof. John Draper, in his "Conflict of Religion and Science," says: "When Halley's comet came in 1456 so tremendous was its apparition that it was necessary for the Pope himself to interfere. He exorcised and expelled it from the skies. It strunk away into the abysses of space, terror stricken by the maledictions of Calistus III., and did not venture back for seventy-five years! . . . By order of the Pope all the church bells in Europe were rung to scare it away; the faithful were commanded to add each day another prayer, and as their prayers had often in so marked manner been answered by eclipses and droughts and rains, so on this occasion it was declared that the victory over the comet had been vouchsafed to the Pope." This might be overlooked were it not for the habit that the infallible popes of the Changeless Church have fallen into of personally superintending universal affairs and of denouncing all opposition. As Galileo and Bruno were overwhelmed in their day, and as Protestantism in every age and land has been persistently assailed, so even the comets have had to take their turn. When the papacy shows repentance and humility, and recedes from some of its assumptions and tyrannies, some of its old blunders may be forgiven it.