

# THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

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## Notes of the Week.

Not so many weeks ago a London jeweller received an order for a hundred watches from the Sultan of Turkey, encrusted with precious stones and bearing Abdul Hamid's cypher. Each watch cost twenty-seven guineas, and cash was handed to the fortunate tradesman before delivery of the goods was taken. These will in all probability be awarded to the Moslem butchers at Sassun, Trebizond, etc.

The publication of Cardinal Manning's life has created a storm. Cardinal Vaughan is indignant with Mr. Purcell, the late Cardinal's biographer—not, let it be remarked, because he has misrepresented anything, but because he has told the truth. This is Rome all over—a system that has grown great on evasion of the plain commandments of God, on suppression of the truth, and of endless hollowness and pretence.

Mr. John Morley declared recently in his election contest at Montrose:—"After all the Temperance question remains, and I, for one, do not fall back one jot or one tittle from my declaration that, in my judgment, the matter of licensing, the control over licensing ought to be in the hands of the ratepayers, and that the ratepayers ought to have the same power in the control of licences which licensing justices who are not popular, not elective, have now."

The centennial of the London Missionary Society was held last year. In connection with its observance it was resolved by the Directors of the Society to raise a large sum of money for the extension of its work. \$500,000 being the minimum. As \$29,000 are now only lacking to make up this amount, the Directors hope by the end of this month to secure the whole sum. Gifts over the original minimum will still be thankfully accepted.

On her way to Nice recently, where the Queen is to spend a few weeks to escape the trying, changeable spring of England, she travelled as the Countess of Balmoral. Princess Beatrice, who, as usual, accompanies her royal mother, has scarcely gone beyond the grounds of her villa since her arrival at Nice. Almost her only visitor is the ex-Empress Eugenie, the two being more than ever drawn together by the similarity between the deaths of the Prince-Imperial and Prince Henry of Batenburg.

One of the best of British battles has just been fought in Africa. The Arab slave-stealers got together 20,000 men to carry on their old fiendish work of burning, slaying, and capturing even in British territory. The trade routes were closed and the raids for slaves were begun, when it was resolved to send out a detachment of 150 Sikhs and negroes and 5,000 contingents supplied by the native chiefs. After three sharp engagements the Arabs were routed with great slaughter. Among the prisoners are several important Arab chiefs, one of whom in 1891 committed an outrageous act of treachery and murder, for which he has now been tried, found guilty, and condemned to death.

The Rev. Dr. John Hall at his mid-week prayer meeting recently addressed a large congregation on the New York Presbytery. The historical and scriptural character of the organization known as the Presbytery was touched upon with its make up of ruling-and-teaching elders. "In the New York Presbytery," said Dr. Hall, "are one hundred and sixty-seven ministers, many of whom are professors, editors, evangelists, and others engaged in mission work. The congregations numbered sixty-nine, and the membership exceeded twenty-five thousand. Two missionary elements marked its work which are interesting and important, first, its work among foreigners, and second, its church extension work. The cost and maintenance of the various churches during the last year was \$431,565, \$85,000 was spent in missionary charities, \$198,000 were devoted to church missions, and \$281,000 were spent in miscellaneous charities."

In these notes last week we referred to the change of view on the subject of baptism of Rev. Dr. Pierson and his immersion, privately, it was said to be, at Croydon, England, and an address which he made in connection with it which appeared to us extraordinary. The whole matter has called forth so much comment in the press in the old country that Dr. Pierson has felt called upon to reply publicly to many of the strictures made, and he states that a full statement from him will soon appear. In the meantime he denies, and his denial should be at once accepted, that his baptism was private. The reception held in connection with it, he says, was the suggestion of Dr. and Mrs. Spurgeon and unknown to him. Some sentences in the address he confesses were open to misapprehension and should have been more guarded. As to his future course he says that "he has not the least thought or intention of again taking any pastoral charge," as God he feels is calling him to a different and, in a sense, wider work which would be hindered by such limitations as a pastorate involves.

There has just been given a decision in the Court of Appeals of New York which has far-reaching consequences. According to this judgment, which has stricken the traffic with terror, it is unlawful to license a new saloon located within two hundred feet of a church or school, or to accept any new proprietor of an old saloon situated within the prescribed limits. It is said that in this way 1,500 saloons will be immediately affected, and that by a wise disposition of ecclesiastical and educational buildings it will be possible to remove all temptations to drunkenness from the city. The law whose interpretation and administration will thus bring about such a desirable state of matters is that of 29th April, 1892, which was passed by Democratic legislators, and under which Commissioner Roosevelt has been closing the saloons on Sunday. The tied-house system has received a deadly blow, as the licence is not given to the wealthy brewer who owns the premises, but to the manager. If a manager proves unfit for business he cannot be replaced, and the premises have no value in the market. This is good; but of course every effort will be made to evade the law, and nothing can be relied upon permanently to do away with intemperance but wise and persevering education of the people as to its disastrous consequences in every way.

The trustees of Cornell University last week appointed Professor James Seth, of Brown University, professor of ethics in the Sage School of Philosophy. This appointment completes the staff in the Philosophical School so liberally endowed by Henry W. Sage, which now embraces five full professors, one assistant professor, two instructors and two assistants. Professor Seth was born in Edinburgh in 1860. He graduated at Edinburgh University in 1881, carrying off all the honors in philosophy, after which he won the Ferguson Philosophical Scholarship, which is open to graduates of all the Scottish universities. He is a brother of Professor Andrew Seth, who holds the chair of philosophy, formerly occupied by Sir William Hamilton, of the University of Edinburgh.

The temperance question is one at least in which public opinion here is far in advance of what it is in Great Britain. A United Temperance Conference has just been held at which nearly all the Great Temperance organizations of the country were represented. The chairman, the Right Hon. Leonard Courtney, M.P., referring to the rather cold reception given by Lord Salisbury to a deputation which waited upon him from the Church of England Temperance Society, said: "All that would not induce them to slacken their activities for a moment. Majorities of to day become minorities of to-morrow." At the conference it was resolved to reaffirm and send to the Government and all the members of Parliament the series of resolutions passed at last meeting. These called for a Licence Suspensory Bill, the placing of renewal of licences under magisterial discretion, the abolition of grocers' licences, Sunday-closing for England, the closing of public-houses on all election days, the prohibition of sale of drink on passenger boats and within drink-selling clubs.

A danger which confronts us in Canada, especially in connection with horse-racing, the taste for which is undoubtedly growing in the country, is betting and gambling. This evil has reached to such a degree in England that a public appeal, most influentially signed by bishops, heads of ecclesiastical bodies, Presbyterian, Congregational, Baptist, Wesleyan, judges, baronets and members of Parliament warning the people against it. This appeal says: "We believe that the public morals are being seriously affected in every class of society, while the national sports, especially horse-racing, are degraded by the development of betting and bookmaking, which are steadily increasing. The principles of English law in dealing with social evils, while respecting individual liberty, forbid temptation being placed in the way of others for profit. It has become necessary by the enforcement of law to restrain the demoralising work of the bookmakers, whether carried on in the public streets, or in places where they are allowed for an entrance fee to ply their traffic. And to the enforcement of the law must be added strenuous efforts, in every direction, to influence public opinion by that moral suasion which alone can be used in dealing with individuals and their action. We have satisfied ourselves that the National Anti-Gambling League would in no way trespass upon the liberty of the subject, nor meddle to the slightest extent with the sports of the country. The evil it opposes is assuming the proportions of a grave social and national peril."

## PULPIT, PRESS AND PLATFORM

United Presbyterian: God has a work for every Christian to do. And every Christian, with more or less faithfulness is doing the work God has assigned him.

Great Thoughts: The only popularity worth aspiring after is peaceful popularity the popularity of the heart—the popularity that is won in the bosom of families, and at the side of death-beds.

Rev. Alex. Maclaren, D.D.: The Master's feet mark the disciples' path. If suffering was involved in Messiahship, it is no less involved in discipleship. The cross which is our hope is also our pattern.

Central Presbyterian: It is a fine thing to hear a good hymn well read: and a finer thing to hear it sung by a great body of devout worshippers. But it is better still one's self to sing it, with the heart and with the understanding, "making melody in your heart unto the Lord."

General Booth: I have never permitted the close relationship of family love, which have subsisted between me and my children, to secure for them any preference in the affairs in the kingdom of God over their comrades, who, though not blood relations, have ever been dear to me for their works' sake. I will not do so.

Anna R. Brown: Faith triumphs over the hard conditions of life. For a time they bend our backs and wring our hearts. . . . At each step there is something not to our mind. . . . Shall we fight, or weep and give up? Shall we stoically accept our faith? Nay, rather let us endure as seeing Him who is invisible!

Hall Caine: If ever the nations come to break down the borders that divide them, it will not be because of any intellectual perception of the mere commercial advantages of union, but because the family of man has become a real family, bound together by the visible bond of blood, that carries its veins and arteries into every household.

George MacDonald: You have a disagreeable duty to do at twelve o'clock. Do not blacken nine and ten and all between with the color of twelve. Do the work of each, and reap your reward in peace. So when the dreaded moment in the future becomes the present you shall meet it walking in the light, and that light shall overcome its darkness.

Rev. Wm. F. Gibbons: The periodic Christian takes his religion by spells. These spells are longer or shorter, regular or irregular, acute or subacute, as the case may be. When the spell is on, the victim of periodic Christianity is very much like an ague patient on the day of his fever fit; all his activities are at high tension; his zeal boils, and his love, apparently, flames. But, like the malaria patient, the chill follows the fever as certainly as the fever follows the chill. When the chill is on, nothing goes right. He fancies that the church is cold, that his fellow-Christians are inconsistent. He criticises and complains.