

Dominion Presbyterian

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NOTE AND COMMENT.

A Children's branch of the North India Bible Society has been formed. Last year it paid for printing 16,000 copies of the Gospel of St. John.

The Free Church of Scotland has addressed to the King, through the Secretary for Scotland, a protest against the forthcoming marriage of Princess Ena of Battenberg to the King of Spain.

The Rev. Dr. Hasley of the Presbyterian foreign mission board, after visiting the missions in West Africa, denounces Leopold of Belgium as "the most iniquitous monarch that ever sat on a throne."

A congress of representatives of Russian trade associations has chosen twelve men to sit in the council of the empire. Permission has been granted to the Poles to use their own language in all schools and colleges.

The largest empire in the world is that of Great Britain, comprising 8,557,050 square miles—more than a sixth part of the land of the globe, and embracing under its rule nearly a sixth part of the population of the world.

The man who put in circulation a story that a plot existed among the members of the New York police force to assassinate Rev. Dr. Parkhurst, and then confessed that it was a lie, was on the 4th instant sentenced to seven years and six months in the penitentiary.

The London (Eng.) Presbyterian says:—Mr. Meyer proposes definitely to resign the pastorate of Christ Church, Westminster Bridge Road, in May, 1907. He will then be sixty, and hopes to give the rest of his days to preaching, free from pastoral ties.

A native pastor in Kamerun, Africa, wrote to Dr. Halsey these words: "When you will be homeward bound and crossing the vast Atlantic Ocean the sons and daughters of Africa will be raising their hands to you and shouting together with one voice: 'Help! help! to drive out this great darkness.'"

At Chamba a beautiful church building connected with the Church of Scotland Mission has been erected and dedicated to the worship of God, the gift of the late Rajah of Chamba, who died one month after the dedication. He laid the corner stone of the building before his death. The site is the finest in the capital.

In the New Zealand Parliament, where the Maories have separate representation, interpreters translate the speeches of the Maori members into English, and as the natives are very fluent the process becomes somewhat tedious at times. The record for sustained verbosity in the New Zealand Parliament is held by a Maori member named Sydney Taiwhanga. In one debate on native affairs he held the floor for nine solid hours.

By the recent death of James Primrose at Carlton Place, Blantyre, in his 86th year, there has been removed, says the Scottish American Journal, one of the few remaining links with the early life of David Livingstone in Blantyre. "Jamie," as he was popularly designated, was born in James street, Glasgow, but while he was only a child his father removed to Blantyre, where Jamie started work as a lad, and had the now world-famed African missionary as his neighbor in the Blantyre weaving mills. The deceased was a real Scotch character, plain in style, and always spoke in braid Doric.

A conservative estimate of the Mohammedan population of the world was given as 200,000,000, by Dr. Zwemer, of Arabia. The Koran can be read by one-fourth of that number, while the Bible has been translated into every language spoken by the followers of the False Prophet.

It is stated that Rev. John Watson, D. D., will spend next year in Pittsburg, Penn., and will deliver a course of lectures at the Western Theological Seminary. And the Presbyterian Standard adds: "It is hoped that this work will not consume all of his time, and that the South may be privileged to have him within her gates."

The Prince of Wales has sent a letter to Lord Minto, the Viceroy of India, in which he says the Princess and he left India with profound regret. The welcome to them throughout India had given the most intense pleasure, and he pays a warm tribute to the loyalty and affection of the Princess, and to the splendid condition of the Indian army.

Great Britain is the only State, so far as we know, that has steadily refused to maintain diplomatic relations with Serbia since the outrageous assassination of King Alexander and Queen Draga at Belgrade three years ago. And England says she will not resume those relations so long as the army officers who were guilty of the assassination are kept in the service.

Rev. Dr. Cunningham Geikie died at Bournemouth on the 1st inst. He served in Canada from 1848 to 1880, and received the degree of D. D. from Queen's College in 1871. He was the father of Rev. Mr. Geikie of Toronto, the author of several books; and his brother, Dr. W. B. Geikie, has been the dean of Trinity College Medical Faculty, Toronto, for many years.

In Melbourne, Australia, there is a magnificent hotel, having accommodation for over 500 guests. It is the largest and finest place of public accommodation in Australasia and is run on strictly temperance lines. Not only is there no barroom, but no liquor is served to guests or in any way, and still people will gravely tell us that the hotel business can not be successfully carried on without a "bar."

The Congregationalist, noting that the Home Missionary Society is spending this year \$150,000 less for its work than it spent ten years ago, says that "this record of our denunciation if continued means a decline of its prestige and influence, a weakening of its educational and foreign missionary work in strange contrast to the faith and sacrifice of its early history." That admonition applies to more than the Congregational body.

Dr. Campbell Morgan's latest enterprise is a Holiday Conference at Mundesley, Norfolk, on the lines of the now world-renowned "Northfield Summer School," and already Dr. Morgan has taken up occasional residences there in preparation for the conference, which will take place from June 18th to the 29th. The programme will consist of Bible lectures given every morning by Dr. Morgan, and missionary and workers' conferences.

The first place of worship in Western Australia was unique in two respects—the materials of which it was built and also the several purposes to which it was devoted. This remarkable building was made at Perth by soldiers, shortly after their first arrival in 1829, and was composed almost entirely of bulrushes. In addition to its use on Sundays for Divine worship, it occasionally served as an amateur theatre during the week and during the whole time as a barracks.

As the south winds call the slumbering violets from the earth, so shall the cemetaries awaken into bloom when the eternal God breathes upon them.

The division of the Presbyterian Church in the United States into North and South was caused by the slave-holding question. Since the war which secured one united Government, efforts have been made to procure one united Church. A meeting was held recently in North Carolina to promote reunion. On this important matter the "Interior" says—"On both sides of our unhappy sectional division line the feeling of the mass of the membership for wiping it out and getting together grows stronger every day. There is a very rapid change working in the South; the ecclesiastics and doctrinaires who have been trying with a thousand sophistries to persuade themselves that separatism is the way to help on the brotherly kingdom of God, are yielding to the steady tide of the people's common sense setting toward union."

We have several times called attention to the N. Y. Christian Intelligencer, to the work of the Spirit in India. In many of the mission revivals are reported near akin in their features to what was experienced last year in Wales. What we desire to emphasize in connection with these evidences of the Holy Spirit's presence is the prominence prayer has in the meetings. Emotional fervor declaring itself in prayer and praise and testimony has predominated, and addresses have been thrust into the background. The Spirit works where and as He listeth, and rules cannot be prescribed for His operations. The type of praying in India is joyful thanksgiving for sins forgiven and victory over sin; and the intercession for the unsaved. May there not be in this suggestion for us? More praise and prayer and less preaching and exhortation might infuse new life in many of our prayer meetings and secure a more abundant blessing.

The Southwestern Presbyterian rises to remark: "Why is it that subscribers who ask a paper to discontinue, as we see our subscription has expired, usually do not see this fact until about two to six months after the fact, and then fail to see that they owe anything to the paper?" We have also been perplexed by the same problem. Occasionally subscribers to the Dominion Presbyterian ask a discontinuance of the paper without remitting arrears, and are surprised, sometimes annoyed, that their request does not meet with immediate compliance. See that arrears are paid up when asking for stoppage of paper to your address, and then there will be no trouble about the removal of your name. Never adopt the mean style of "refusing" paper at post office, especially if you are in arrears. To do so is not only mean—it is dishonest.

An exchange says: "The daily press of Wales has been making an investigation of the results of the great revival. The inquiry includes two questions, whether the converts had held out and whether there had been a real effect on the moral condition of communities. In both respects the investigation proved satisfactory. It showed that the number of backsliders has been very much less than was anticipated. It also furnished 'numberless proofs' of the deep influence of the revival over the individual conscience. Old debts have been paid, 'conscience money' has been returned to railways and other corporations. Long-standing feuds have been buried, drunkards have become as regular at prayer-meetings as they used to be at saloons, persons notoriously immoral are now faithful in Christian duty, and men and women once subjects for the police are now with the pastor.