

Dominion Presbyterian

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Note and Comment.

It is a curious coincidence that the new Primate and the Archbishop of York are both Scotchmen. This is probably the first time in the history of the Church that such a thing has occurred.

Some publicans in London are declining to serve more than two drinks to one person at one visit; and the streets at once assumed a more orderly aspect. The provisions of the Act are very stringent.

The Boers are descended from the Huguenots who left France under the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, and from the Dutch, who emigrated at various times in search of civil and religious liberty.

It is announced from Edinburgh that Mr. Andrew Carnegie has resolved, in furtherance of his education scheme for Scotland, to give \$5,000,000 to endow a trust for scientific research.

Rev. Dr. John Watson ("Ian Maclaren"), of Liverpool acting under medical advice, has been obliged to cancel all his public engagements, both in Liverpool and elsewhere, until the end of July.

More than twenty million dollars were given away last year by will in Great Britain for religious, educational, and charitable purposes. What non-Christian country could show such a record?

The amount subscribed towards the purpose of raising a memorial to the late Marquis of Dufferin and Ava has reached £5400. The fund is now closed, and Mr. F. W. Pomeroy, the sculptor, has made considerable progress with the statue.

A church hard to match is one at Durban, in the Zulu Mission, which sends out every male member who is at all qualified for the task to take some active part in preaching the Gospel each Sunday. Its pastor is a Zulu, and under his supervision no less than 50 meetings of some kind or another are held every Lord's Day.

Brides in Alfeld, Lower Hungary, have been deprived of their wedding gowns by the Government health authorities. It was the custom of the place for brides to wash with soap and to comb the heads of all guests, they in turn throwing coins into the basin. The result, according to the doctors, was the spreading of disease, and an epidemic of ophthalmia led the Government to put a sudden end to the custom.

The Rev. J. C. Carrick, B. D., minister of Newbattle, is interesting himself in a movement to restore the monument in Newbattle Churchyard to William Creech, the Edinburgh publisher, to whom Burns addressed his poem "Willie's awa'," and to place a brass tablet in the church where the father of Burns' patron and friend ministered from 1739 till 1745, "to commemorate one who assisted in helping on the ploughman-bard of Scotland."

The venerable Dr. Theodore L. Cuyler, whose "Recollections of a Long Life" is as engrossing a book as has recently come from the press, was eighty-one years of age on January 10 last. His pen is still active, and his bow abides in strength.

Sir Thomas Lipton tells that Queen Alexandra's executive ability is extraordinary. Concerning the dinner to some 2,000 widows and as many orphans created by the late war, no detail was too trivial for Her Majesty to oversee, wherefore the dinner was given without one jarring note or one detail being marred by incompetency. Her Majesty is a very good business woman.

It is reported upon authority from South Africa that an agreement has been arrived at between Mr. Chamberlain and the leading financiers, by which the contribution of the Transvaal towards the expense of the war is fixed at thirty millions sterling. A guarantee will furthermore be given for an imperial loan of £30,000,000 to be expended on reproductive public works in the Transvaal and Orange River Colony.

It is reported that the Winnipeg Catholics will re-open negotiations with the Winnipeg Public School Board for an arrangement whereby the Catholic schools may be taken over by that body to the relief of the Catholic ratepayers who now pay taxes to the public schools and support their own schools voluntarily. But then the Archbishop of Montreal tells his people that the Manitoba school question is not settled. It appears, however, that the Catholics of Winnipeg are about settling it for themselves.

At the beginning of the last year there were in the United Free Church of Scotland 1,896 ordained ministers, including "Emeriti." Of this number of ministers there are only five who were ordained before the year of the Disruption (1843). Of those who were ordained in that year there are only two on the ministerial roll. There were 630 who have been in the ministry over twenty five years; thirty-seven will attain their semi-jubilee in the present year. Of those on the ministerial list, only one-third of the whole number have been over twenty-five years in the ministry.

After a lapse of 300 years since he acted such a prominent part in Scottish affairs John Knox is now to have a mural memorial erected to his memory in St. Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh, at a cost of £1,400. It was in this sacred edifice in later days, when Charles I. endeavoured to force Episcopalianism upon the country, that, according to tradition, Jenny Geddes, a lady with the fiery enthusiasm of a Kensit, threw a stool at the head of the Dean when he opened Laud's new Service Book, and raised a riot which culminated in the doom of Episcopacy as the State religion in Scotland.

The statistics of churches in New York City present some interesting facts. There are now in the greater city 1,380 churches, of which 238 are Roman Catholic. The total indebtedness of all the churches is about \$12,800,000, and there are only a

little over 300 churches that are entirely free of debt. In all Greater New York the Protestant church membership is estimated at being 425,243 souls. The parishioners of the Roman Catholic churches approximate 976,025 in number. The total estimated value of Roman Catholic church property in the five boroughs is \$41,152,800; that of the Protestant churches is \$87,012,323.

It is true of practically every community that either the church or the saloon controls it, and every citizen in the place is in the hands of one or the other. Which would you rather have over you?

The Rev. Cosmo Lang, the Bishop of Stepney, has been at Sandringham on a visit to the King. This gives some countenance to the rumor that he will be the new Bishop of St. Alban's. Bishop Lang is a Scotchman, a son of Dr. Marshall Lang of Aberdeen University, formerly Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and minister of the Barony Church, Glasgow, Norman Macleod's old parish. Bishop McLeod is also a nephew of Rev. Gavin Lang, formerly minister of St. Andrew's Church, Montreal, and now of Inverness, Scotland. Many of the bishop's family have been and are ministers of the Presbyterian Kirk.

It is expected that the new Archbishop of Canterbury will be enthroned about the middle of February. This ceremony, though not, of course, approaching a Coronation, is attended with a good deal of pomp. In the early half of the century the ceremony was performed with comparative simplicity, and often with some difficulty. Archbishop Hawley, who was promoted to the See of Canterbury in the height of the Reform agitation, was stoned out of the city, and it is only in the latter half of the century that the Archbishops have had any popularity in their own cathedral city.

The Island of Porto Rico has been for four hundred years in the undisturbed possession of the Church of Rome. Four years ago a meeting of Protestants in the island would have been held at the risk of their lives. The Presbyterians of America took the Gospel to Porto Rico as soon as they were able after the island came into possession of the United States. On the 25th of October last the formally organized Presbytery of Porto Rico met in the beautiful church of Aguadilla. There were six ministers present and three Porto Rican elders. The language spoken in the court was Spanish. Much interest was manifested by the natives at this unprecedented assembly. An evening meeting of a popular character was held, and among the speakers were several naive Christians who spoke on "Christ for Porto Rico, and Porto Rico for Christ." The American church have reason for rejoicing in that, by God's good hand on their work, they have shed the Gospel light in a land covered with darkness scarcely less black than that of heathen lands, and more impenetrable because of the violence of Rome's priests and the fury they stirred up among their ignorant devotees.