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CONTENTS.

Notes.....	197	YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETIES.	
OUR HOME MISSIONS—		The Place and Function of the Presbytery, by Rev. Robert Campbell, D.D.....	212
Notes.....	198	CHURCH NOTES AND NOTICES.....	214
The far West in 1897.....	199	OTHER WORKERS AND WORK—	
Our Mormon Problem.....	199	Closed Lands.....	216
Nuggets from the Klondike.....	199	Methods of Mission Work, by Rev. J. Fraser Smith, M.D.....	216
The Future of the West.....	201	How Indian Missionaries Live, by Julian Hawthorne.....	217
The Present West.....	202	Wedding and Widowhood in India, by Lucy E. Guinness.....	217
Life and Work in the Church.....	204	LIFE AND WORK.	
OUR FOREIGN MISSIONS.		Bible Reading; On Preaching; Self Denial; Tobacco Habit among the Young; What Sunday is For, by Mercus Dodds; The Art of not Hearing; Just One Thing, by Dr. Cuyler.....	219-222
Notes.....	205	RECEIPTS FOR SCHEMES.....	223
Foreign Mission Estimate for the current year.....	211		
The journey to the Bhis, by Rev. J. Buchanan, M.D.....	208		
Notes from Trinidad, by Rev. K. J. Grant, D.D.....	209		
The New Hebrides in 1897.....	210		
Letter from Formosa.....	211		

If the Lord were not able to take care of Himself He would stand a poor chance among men. He gives men six days to labor, and the seventh is His own day, in which He wishes men's lives and service specially for Himself. Some shippers have asked to have the Welland canal open on Sabbath. The Dominion Government has consented, and robbed the Lord of His day. In doing so it has robbed the canal men of their day of rest. That a few wealthy men may make money a little faster scores are compelled to toil on the Sabbath; themselves and their families wronged of their Sabbath rest together. But it is an ill day for both men and governments when they disregard the rights of God and of their fellow-men. "Be not deceived, God is not mocked."

Decaying vegetation grows fungus no more surely than decaying religious life does formalism; and religious and national life are so intertwined that decay in the former injures the latter. One of the world's religious excrescences is the swarming brotherhoods and sisterhoods. They are the bane of Romish countries. "In Spain it is said there are 94,000 priests, 68,000 monks, and 32,000 nuns. General Blanco, who was the Governor-General of the Philippines, stated recently in a memorial that he had intended to unveil the doings of the monks, but he had recoiled at the thought of the horrors which would be disclosed. 'The preponderance of the monks,' he wrote, 'is sufficient to account for the decay of Spain.' The Jesuits, it seems, are omnipotent in Spanish consels." Unfortunately, such orders are on the increase among the high Protestants of Britain. No doubt many noble souls have thus sought duty's path and have done deeds of

true and unselfish devotion; but most of these could as well have served God and humanity along other lines, and spared the world much ill. The only brotherhoods and sisterhoods that are a blessing to the world are those of the home, "He hath set the solitary in families," not in orders.

If the U. S. A. keeps Spain's Indies, three grand results will follow:

(1) The Islands, which, under misgovernment, have long been in unrest and rebellion, will gradually be reduced to law and order, life and liberty will be safe, and prosperity will smile.

(2) The Gospel will follow and will bring higher life, truer liberty, and more enduring prosperity. The Philippines and Cuba, now dark and priest-ridden, will enjoy religious, as well as civil, freedom.

(3) The United States, which has hitherto not taken her due part in international questions, leaving Britain to act, often alone, as the upholder of world righteousness, will be compelled, having colonial interests of her own, to take her due part in a larger sphere. This can but bring John and Jonathan together, combining their powers, to right, in some measure, the world's wrong.

A few months since how unlikely seemed this long wished for result; and still more unlikely the way of its coming. The future, as the past, will have the unexpected; but God reigns and under Him changes among nations are but the steppings onward and upward of the race. Some of the steps, like the present war, are sore. Uphill steps are usually sore. Travail, is the law of birth; through much tribulation—heavens are won; and world gains will follow pains, till gain is complete and pain shall be no more.