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Note and Comment.

A cablegram from Manila announces that the islands of Ma-bate and Panay have been connected by cable. It is expected that this will materially assist the army operations now in progress.

Dr. John G. Paton has handed to the Australasian Missionary Committee a draft for £13,000, the result of his recent tour through England and America in aid of the New Hebrides Mission.

Among the recipients of the honorary degree of D.D. at the celebrations in connection with the bi-centenary of Yale University, was the Rev. Dr. Salmord, of the United Free Church College, Aberdeen.

Robert Southey, poet, historian, litterateur, raconteur, explained to a Quakeress how his time was divided up, showing that he was reading twelve or fifteen hours in each twenty-four, and when he finished she said, "But when do you get time to think?"

We have come to the end of the summer. The harvest has been gathered. For all our sowing, whether the seeds be sowed in the soil or in human hearts and minds, there must come the harvest. Blessed are they whose lives are to be followed by blessed reapers over which there shall be eternal rejoicing.

President Roosevelt has been elected first Vice-President of the Long Island Bible Society in recognition of his address before the Society last June. The address has not only been circulated as a leaflet at home but has been translated into several languages and circulated in Mexico and the Argentine Republic.

Anything which widens the breach between college days and the serious, practical life into which the college graduate must plunge, and throws a glamour of unreality about life within college walls, only makes the disillusionment the more difficult and progress the slower when the real work of life is undertaken.

The highest function of religion is to save lost men and women of every class and condition of life. The business of the church is not best accomplished when she gathers up her skirts lest she shall touch some lost soul, and so daintily steps along the narrow pathway until she passes through the gates of pearl and along the streets of gold.

Few of those who know of Lord Cromer as the man of the iron hand and the velvet glove who has made modern Egypt are aware that he is a student of ancient lore as well. He reads a great deal in the intervals of politics, says The Tatler, and, most wonderful in these days, prefers originals. He is, of course, an Egyptologist. His collection of Egyptian and Soudanese arms, amulets, ornaments, head dresses, curios of all kinds, and especially scarabs, would make a professor dance with envy.

The admission soon into the Union of Oklahoma as a State is generally expected. Apparently the only question is, whether there ought to be one State or two. Some ten years ago the ten counties now forming Oklahoma were separated from the Indian Territory prior to 1890, and some maintain that the whole Territory as it then existed should be admitted as one State.

One of the shortest and most eloquent speeches on record was that by the late Senator Dolittle, of Wisconsin. It was upon the eve of the nomination of Lincoln for the second term of his Presidency, and he was called upon to make a speech. His brief speech was as follows—"Fellow-countrymen, I believe in God Almighty; and, so believing, I have faith in Abraham Lincoln."

After the practical annihilation of Galveston by tidal wave a year ago, it is not strange that the city should be bankrupt. But whether wisely or not, considering its situation below sea level, its citizens are rebuilding. They have elected two commissions to act with three chosen by the State to have charge of affairs, so that the government for the present is similar to that of the District of Columbia.

Just now Christian Science comes in for a large amount of discussion. This will continue for a time, but will soon be numbered with the forgotten things. The most significant thing about this new religious movement is the indication it gives of spiritual unsatisfaction. Multitudes have failed to find in the teaching of their spiritual leaders that positive truth which alone satisfies the soul, and they turn to this announcement of a gospel which says there is nothing real. In the utter emptiness of the new faith they will find greater disappointment.

It is estimated that there are eighty thousand unemployed persons in Berlin alone. Distress, especially among the laboring classes, is threatening the whole empire. The demand for manufactured articles in not up to the standards of some years, and it has been a poor season for the farmer. It is claimed that Germany will need to import 1,100,000 tons of rye and 3,000,000 tons of wheat to feed her people. Our exports of bread grains last week amounted to 6,672,000 bushels, compared with 4,952,000 bushels the previous week, and 3,612,000 bushels the corresponding week last year.

The Herald and Presbyter has the following: The death of the eminent medical missionary of Canton, China, Dr. John G. Kerr, M. D., LL. D., removes one of the most useful among all our missionary workers. For forty seven years he engaged in his surgical work in Canton in the name of Christ and for Christ. The record of his labors seems almost incredible. His operations for tumors, cataract and other affections of the eye, amputations, calculus of the bladder, etc., counted up many thousand, there having been 1,300 of the last alone, of which he lost on an average only one in twenty. In the hospital which he conducted there is the record of over 50,000 patients, and those reached by dispensary and out-door practice amounted to over a mil-

lion and a half. He had patients from over four hundred cities and towns. In addition to all his professional duties he conducted a medical school and trained more than two hundred young men, mostly Christians to be capable physicians and surgeons. He translated or prepared many medical works, and numerous tracts, in the Chinese language. His life was long and rich in good works. His influence has been incalculable. Such a life is a noble witness to Christ and the power of his gospel. Such a man is a model to copy after.

The lead of Scotland in education is traditional, and Dr. Macnamara in Edinburgh recently drew a contrast between North and South of Tweed which was altogether in favour of the land o' the brens and glens. At its briefest it was this, that the Scottish people sent their children to school more regularly, kept them at school longer, spent more money on education, and, above all, had an administrative department which was progressive, while that of England, led by Sir John Gorst, was deliberately trying by every act in its power to set back the hands upon the clock-face of education, and to beguile the people with "Rougemontade."

The railroad into Jerusalem is now a familiar thing, but the trolley line is not. It is, however, becoming so. Various lines are projected to connect various places familiar in sacred history, such as Samaria, Bethany, Bethlehem, Lake of Galilee, Jericho, Nazareth, etc. The Palestine of the past is vanishing. More than 200 phonographs lately went to Jerusalem, and in one day recently an American "travelling man" sold nearly \$4,000 worth of modern Yankee goods. American leather, flour, watches, and some canned goods are finding quite a demand. An Illinois windwheel was lately set up on the plains of Bakaa, and the firm that placed it is confident that there is to be a demand for these wheels all through Palestine and Syria, and for other irrigation machinery. A curious thing is that the leaders in these enterprises are often Jews, and they are conducting them as a part of the "back to Jerusalem" movement.

I see, says "The Belfast Witness", that some of the English Nonconformist papers, in calling attention to the anniversary of St. Bartholomew's Day of 1661, when the 2,000 Puritans left the Church of England rather than hold by a Church polity which they believed to be unscriptural, are urging upon the Nonconformists of the kingdom to march on to the securing to the nation of absolute religious equality. It is indeed a sad and humiliating thought that the old stereotyped model of a hierarchical Church, with its prince bishops and Mass priests, with all their assumption of exclusive spiritual right and legal privilege and precedence at all public functions, should still remain to the irritation and annoyance of the most law-abiding and upright citizens of the realm. And it is clear that since there is no apparent tendency on the part of the aggressors to abate their claims, the needed reforms must come from without. Let every friend of righteousness and liberty gird himself for the conflict and never lay down his sword till the battle is turned at the gate.