

Dominion Presbyterian

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Note and Comment.

Rev. W. D. Reid, B.D., of Montreal, has declined the call to Cowdards church, Glasgow. Rev. William Ross, presiding at the annual meeting of the congregation, said, he was not discouraged, although disappointed. The membership is 1 177.

Death ends all controversies. Sir George Mivart the Catholic Scientist, is dead. The world will never know how the Pope would have decided the issue between him and Cardinal Vaughan, but it makes little difference now. The praise or the blame of man are as nothing, if only one can hear at last the commendation: "Well done, good and faithful servant."

In order to prove that Apostolic succession did come through Rome for the Anglican church, we are giving the following links in the historic chain: "A. D. 85, the Apostles plant the Church in every city. A. D. 70, Clement says, 'St. Paul went to the extreme part of the West'—i.e. Britain." These two dates are sufficient proof to any historian.

The various war funds are trenching heavily upon the incomes of some of the charitable institutions in Great Britain. Among the rest, the receipts in support of Dr. Barnardo's work have fallen off more than \$40,000 in the last three and a half months. As a consequence, it is impossible to send out to Canada 800 young emigrants who have been spoken for and are eager to go.

It would be interesting to know how much Mr. Webster Davis has been paid by Kruger to stomp the United States for the purpose of arousing sympathy for the Boer and bitter prejudice against England. It might lessen the enthusiasm of many who gather to applaud him, should it be found that he is given a large sum per lecture to help him to a more intelligent (?) interest in his work.

The Scottish Protestant Alliance take exception to the liturgy lately issued by authority of the Privy Council to be used for intercession in the Church of England on behalf of those engaged in the war in South Africa and especially to that prayer "for all those who have fallen in the true faith of Thy most holy name, that they with us may enter into the rest which Thou has prepared for them that believe in Thee."

A writer in the Southern Churchman, in describing a Presbyterian Communion service, says: "Being invited to partake with them at this feast, I gladly participated and, despite the absence of our ritual, I am sure I was never more impressed with the value and blessedness of this sacred ordinance. Why cannot we meet on the common ground that Christ appointed and eat and drink together as Christ taught His disciples to do?"

The membership of the English Presbyterian Church at the close of 1899 has just been ascertained to have been 73,541, as compared with 78,949 in 1898, an increase of 1,291. The income for the year reached a total of £302,867, as compared with £278,121 in 1898, the increase of £24,746 being mainly accounted for by contributions to the building fund of Westminster College. The number of congregations is 318, being a gain of three.

In the United Kingdom, one third of the revenue is contributed by alcohol; and in the United States over one fourth, in France and German under one fifth.

If we would have our children grow up in our Presbyterian faith, we must have them read a Church paper which is true to all the principles of the Church. The DOMINION PRESBYTERIAN is such a paper.

Rev. Jacob Primmer has raised the only note of protest which has been heard with regard to the appointment of Principal Marshall Lang. Mr. Primmer considers him to be the friend and apologist of all the leading Romanists in the Established Church.

Dealing last week with a charge of drunkenness against a woman, Mr. Garrett, at the South Western (London) Police Court, said it was shocking to find evidence at that court of increasing drunkenness among women. That lay every prisoner charged with drunkenness was a woman.

Dean Farrar's new work on the life of Christ, on which he has been engaged for some years past, is now nearly ready for publication, and will be shortly published by Messrs. Cassell and Company under the title of "The Life of Lives: Fresh Studies in the Life of Christ."

An interesting old lady, Mrs. Smith, widow of the late Dr. David Smith, minister of the United Presbyterian Church, Biggar, has just passed away in her hundredth year. She was the daughter of the Rev. John Brown, of Whitburn, and granddaughter of the Rev. John Brown, of Haddington, the well-known commentator on the Bible.

The London Presbyterian says: The death of Miss Ewart, who was Mayoress of Brighton during the three year's majority of her brother, Sir Joseph Ewart, will be a great loss to Rev. Hugh Shearer's congregation, and will be much lamented in the town. She was prominent in every good work.

The Christian Leader remarks: The controversy between the Duke of Atholl and Dundee presbytery, as to the terms on which the cathedral is held as a place of worship, has ended by the acceptance of Duke's assurance: "I consider that it would be out of the power of myself or of my successors to divert the building from the Church of Scotland, and I shall certainly never do anything again which could have that effect."

The closing address of the session at Aberdeen Free Church College was delivered recently Principal Salmond, whose subject was "The influence of Calvinism on the Life of Nations." At the close of his lecture the Principal said that next session they would meet under new conditions as one of the colleges of a larger church, the United Free Church of Scotland.

It appears that Rev. Hugh Price Hughes and some other Londoners are trying to convince somebody that John Bright, were he now alive, would approve the war with the Boers; but John Bright's daughter says that she knows better. A daughter of Richard Cobden says that if living Englishmen had the wisdom of Cobden, Bright and Gladstone, the war would never have originated. These women are "chips of the old block," says the Boston Morning Star.

Aberdeen presbytery have offered their heartiest congratulations to Dr. Marshall Lang on his appointment as principal of the University. Rev. K. H. Fisher remarked, that the appointment was one of the greatest contributions which had been made for many years to the strength of the religious force in the community of Aberdeen, and in the whole North of Scotland.

One day last week, after the judge had charged the jury in a certain Tennessee county, a member of the jury devoutly arose and calling judge and jury alike to prayer, offered a fervent petition to the judge of all the earth to guide the jury in all its deliberations. There are some people, too, who regard this action as of doubtful propriety. If more juries prayed fewer juries would blunder.

The United States is still at war with the Philippines, but even in American newspapers the events of it receive scant notice. Perhaps what is needed to revive interest in the war is for the school children of Glasgow or Manchester to adopt an address of sympathy with the Philippines, and send it off by special messenger to Aguinaldo. In so doing they would exhibit as much sense as the children of the schools of Philadelphia.

The study does not make the preacher. The typewriter does not make the sermon. Who has not heard of Horace Greeley writing editorials, with the crown of his hat for a double-deck, the stub of a lead pencil for a fountain pen and the inside of an old envelope for a pad of standard linen? And yet Horace Greeley wrote good editorials. It is good to have a well furnished study; but it is better to have a well furnished brain.

The Free Church in Ayrshire, says the Christian Leader, is losing a much valued minister in the Rev. James Henderson, M.A., of Ballantrae, who has resigned his charge in order to take up his duties in connection with educational work in Canada. Mr. Mr. Henderson distinguished himself at Glasgow University as a student of Professor Edward Caird; and Ballantrae to which he was ordained eight years ago, was his first and only charge.

"The question of beer," said Sir William Harcourt in the House of Commons last week, "is a great question." He was speaking in committee on the Finance Bill which, amongst other things, put an increased tax on beer. He went on to say that one of the most remarkable returns ever laid on the table of the House was presented a fortnight ago. It related to the alcoholic habits of all countries, and the United Kingdom stood facile princeps in the matter of consumption. In the United Kingdom the amount of beer drunk per head of the population was 81.8 gallons, in the United States 19 gallons, in the Australian colonies 10.6 gallons, in Canada 8.6 gallons. In regard to spirits, the amount drunk in the United Kingdom was 1.04, United States .95, Australia .76, Canada .65. As to wine, the amount drunk in the United Kingdom was .4, United States .2, Canada .08. So that upon every head of alcohol we beat all the English-speaking world, and taking Germany as a whole, we drank more beer per head of the population than the Germans did. These figures, as Sir William Harcourt said, prove in a melancholy fashion that we are the unexampled drinkers of alcohol in the world. The text thus provided is a new and a weighty one for temperance reformers, of whom Sir William Harcourt himself is one of the stoutest and most persistent.