

# Dominion Presbyterian

\$1.50 PER ANNUM.

OTTAWA, MONTREAL, TORONTO AND WINNIPEG

SINGLE COPIES, 5 CENTS

## Note and Comment.

It gives us pleasure to note the advancement of Miss R. Rogers, of Winnipeg, daughter of Rev. R. Rodgers, of Owen Sound, to the position of assistant in the Collegiate Institute in the Prairie city at a salary of \$1,000 per annum to date from Aug. 30 inst.

Militia orders, under date July 30, contain an appeal, signed by Col. Aymer, asking Canadians in South Africa who may have carried off Boer family bibles as souvenirs, to be kind enough to return them, as the Boers set great value on their Bibles. It is to be hoped this order shall have prompt attention.

Respecting Mr. Chamberlain's campaign for a reconstruction of the fiscal policy of the mother country, the Glasgow Weekly Leader says: "Not without good reason should Great Britain abandon her Free Trade position. To return to Protection would be to humiliate herself in the eyes of the whole world. The good sense of the country will yet prevail, and prevent the catastrophe which the contemplated policy would certainly bring."

Methodism is making good progress in Australia, judging from census returns recently published. Her membership is given as 587,943, the Presbyterians numbering 652,576, and the Church of England 1,811,644. The Roman Catholics numbered 965,622, being twenty-one per cent of the population. The recent consolidation of Methodist forces will mean more aggressive and successful work as time goes on. Other denominations outside the four mentioned are small in the Commonwealth.

Sir Frederick Treves, the famous surgeon, has decided to return from practice at the end of July. His chief reason for this step is his desire to devote himself more completely to the reorganisation of the Army Medical Service, which, he says, is a task requiring great labor, but he confidently believes it will result in producing the finest service of this nature in the world. The growth of his practice threatened to prevent his having the leisure for this purpose. Sir Frederick will retain his position as Surgeon-Ordinary to the King.

The Toronto News has this to say of "Knoxonian's" silver anniversary: Rev. Dr. Grant has just celebrated the 21st anniversary of his pastorate of the Orillia Presbyterian church. It is not surprising that he should have received exceptional marks of the esteem in which he is held by his congregation and his fellow-townsmen. Dr. Grant in the pulpit is strong, vigorous and original, and as a writer on religious and general topics he is always pithy and entertaining. He hates cant and pretension, and as Knoxonian in The Canada Presbyterian he punctured many an air balloon and read many a straightforward lesson both to pew and pulpit. Hundreds who know him only by his writing will join his Orillia congregation in congratulations and good wishes.

In connection with the Centenary of British and Foreign Bible Society, next year, Universal Bible Sunday, March 6, 1904, 'bids fair to become the most unanimous festival kept by Christians in modern times.' The number of copies of Bibles and portions of Scripture printed within the past 100 years is almost beyond computation. The readiness of the world to absorb Bibles is an encouraging fact.

A few days ago Dr. Fife Fowler, of Kingston, was called to his rest after eighty years of steady honourable life. Dr. Fowler was a member of St. Andrew's congregation his chief activity was of course in connection with his own profession and Queen's Medical College. He was associated with the work of the college for half a century; and, as far as was possible for a man of his years, he continued in harness to the last. A man who has rendered such faithful service in a quiet, unostentatious manner deserves honourable mention.

Mrs. Ryle, wife of the new Bishop of Winchester, Eng., has allowed it to be known that she does not consider her duties as a bishop's wife necessarily include the opening of bazaars, sales and similar functions. It was a Bishop of Winchester—the famous Dr. Samuel Wilberforce—who many years ago raised much the same protest. He complained that he was overwhelmed with requests from people to open this, that, and the other institution. "They will want me to open their umbrellas next," said the witty bishop.

Some excitement has been caused by the conviction of several labor leaders in New York for having promoted, or prevented, industrial peace, accordingly as employers were willing or unwilling to pay the price in bribes. The exposure is damaging to the cause of labor. Of a different type was the late P. M. Arthur, Chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, whose uprightness, good judgment and moderation prevented many a strike. A man is not necessarily either good or bad because he is a working-man or capitalist. It all depends on what the individual is; and what the individual is really and inwardly, depends on his principles.

Recently the New York Christian Intelligencer was applied to by the Guarantee Company for information as to the character of a young man who was seeking from it the bond needed in order to his gaining a desirable position. Prominent among the questions asked, and evidently regarded as of chief importance were: Does he use intoxicating liquor? Does he frequent saloons? Does he gamble? This, "says the Intelligencer," emphasizes what we have several times remarked, that a most efficient agent in promoting temperance, and indeed morality, is the requirement in the modern business world that employees shall be in character and habits moral and temperate. Railroad companies, banks and corporations take increased pains to know the principles and daily lives of those who come in their employ, and the young man who frequents the saloon and the race track, who drinks

and gambles, hazards his position. Great corporations and industrial companies employing men by the hundred thousands are probably the most powerful temperance societies as yet organized. They supplement most efficiently the teaching of the Sunday school and the Church." Young men should take note of facts of this kind.

"There is something pathetic in the fact," says the Presbyterian Standard, "that Ira D. Sankey, in his blindness, has sold his beautiful country home and gone to live with his son in the city. The beauty of earth can no more touch his senses. But there remains, after his life of usefulness, the opening of his blinded eyes to the glorious vision of Heaven." The misfortune that has overtaken the great singer, so long D. L. Moody's companion in Christian work, recalls that another great singer and Christian worker, the late H. Thane Miller, of Cincinnati, became blind when well up in years.

A good deal of interest has been excited by the report of an interview said to have been given by Cardinal Gibbons to the New York American on the train between Civita Vecchia and Rome. He is represented as having said that whoever may be elected Pope, the church was committed forever by Leo XIII, to the support of social democracy in the Christian sense and that the church never goes back. This statement is remarkable in view of the reserve which members of the sacred college are expected to maintain on such occasions as the election of a Pope.

Through the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Auburn, New York, a donation of £200 has recently been forwarded to the C. M. S. funds for use in Uganda. The donor is a florist from Yorkshire, who has crossed the sea and become a member of that church. His contribution has been made up by savings from much hard work and strict economy, and "he is desirous," writes Dr. Hubbard, in enclosing the money, "that the sum sent be compelled to work as hard for the Lord Jesus Christ as he had to earn it. He feels a great interest in the work in Uganda, and it is possible that you can use his contribution to good advantage."

On the subject of general education, the reports from Japan are a surprise. The Minister of Education is Baron Kikuchi Dairoku, who, thirty years ago graduated at the University of Cambridge, Mass. Under his management the percentage of children of school age receiving elementary instruction is over 90 per cent. for boys, and 71 per cent. for girls. There are over 4,683,000 children in the schools under 9,000 teachers. There are seven secondary schools offering courses preparatory to the universities. The two great universities are worthy of the name, and are a source of power. And this is the land which, half a century ago, would not even allow the Westerner to dwell within its borders.

We cannot lift another above our own level. The higher we would raise society the higher we must rise.