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## TO-MORROW AND TO-DAY.

To-morrow hath a rare, alluring sound ;  
To-day is very prose ; and yet the twain  
Are but one vision soon through altered eyes.  
Our dreams inhabit one ; our stress and pain  
Sarge through the other. Heaven is but to-day  
Made lovely with to-morrow's face, for aye.

## OVER LAND AND SEA.

Mr. Gladstone has made many a worthy and memorable declaration, says the *Philadelphia Presbyterian*, but rarely has he borne a more telling testimony than when he recently uttered in a phonograph the following sentence, to be repeated in fifty years, in connection with the utterances of fifty of the leading men of England : " I owe my life and vigor through a long and busy life to the Sabbath day, with its blessed surcease of toil." A half a century hence, let us hope that it will not be a lone voice from the past to the value of Sabbath observance, but a confirming testimony to a generation which knows from happy experience the worth of God's holy day to body, mind and soul.

When Rev. John Newton went to India in 1835, he took out an old-fashioned wooden printing-press. It was the foundation of a publishing establishment which in the course of fifty years, issued two hundred and sixty-seven million pages in *ten different languages*. The earliest religious literature in Punjabi was the fruit of Dr. Newton's labors, and of Rev. Dr. Janvier afterwards associated in the same. The works produced included the New Testament, a Punjabi grammar, dictionary and numerous tracts. That press at Lodiana, as well as another in Allahabad, were long ago rented to Indian printers.

The Session of the Japanese Parliament which lately closed, marked an epoch in that nation's history. After the fall of the Ito Cabinet, no statesman could be found to take office, and Japan was without a ministry for an entire month. The demands of the popular party were so great that no responsible statesman felt himself prepared to give them effect. The Matsukata Cabinet has, however, undertaken the task, and has carried a number of measures which constitute a peaceful revolution. Previously the Press was in bondage. Any paper or magazine could be suppressed at the will of the ministry without the offence being specified. It has now been enacted that henceforth Press offences, like all others, will be tried in the law courts.

Last year nearly seventeen thousand tons of freight were transferred over the railway between Jaffa and Jerusalem. Commercial travellers even now visit Jerusalem. This marks a decided commercial change over the New Testament days, when the only trade between Jaffa and the City of David consisted, perhaps, of a few " fish routes " between the coast and the interior.

The Piræus, the seaport of Athens, may be taken as an illustration of the advance made since the rule of the Turk ceased. In 1834 it was a small disreputable looking town with a population of 2,000. It has now multiplied its popu-

lation by twenty, and has reared magnificent streets, squares, hotels, hospitals, and other public buildings. Another illustration. 90,000 of the inhabitants of Scio, one of the most fertile of the Greek islands, were massacred by the Turks. The survivors took refuge in Syra. This was a barren island which had only a few huts and an unsafe harbor, but it was free from the Turk. I has now a spacious and well-protected harbor, splendid buildings, schools and college, industries and commerce, and a population of 30,000.

Of India *The Asiatic Quarterly Review* says : " India is essentially a nation of agriculturalists. Of the 280,000,000 of inhabitants of British India, no less than 72 per cent. of the adult males are directly dependent upon agriculture for the necessaries of life. The dwellers in towns form but a small fraction of the total population, for those living in towns of over 20,000 inhabitants do not number above 5,000,000. Conservative to the backbone, these people cling to their hereditary homesteads, too often indifferent to the fact that their acres have long ceased to afford adequate support to their increased number.

Romanism remains in spirit what she was centuries ago. Another incident in Britany has a like note of warning in it. The island of Molene, near which the " Drummond Castle " recently went down, is inhabited only by Roman Catholics. In view of the recent disaster the Committee of the Trinitarian Bible Society sent some colporteurs to the island for the purpose of presenting a copy of the Bible to every inhabitant. They were heartily welcomed by all except the parish priest, who was furious at this interference with his special domain, and spoke against it from the pulpit. Next day the priest went to pay a visit to the Mayor, and saw a copy of the Bible. He said : " Mons le Maire, you have one of those Protestant books." " Yes Mons. le Cure," replied the Mayor, " and yesterday you surprised us all very much by saying that the book was a good one, and yet you asked us to destroy it. Please explain this."

Boston, New York, and Pittsburg clubs refuse to play baseball on Sunday. Iowa is passing a law to prevent the profanation of the day. Minneapolis drove the game out of the city on Sundays. The noise is a nuisance. The tendency is demoralizing.

It is told of an old Baptist parson famous in Virginia that he once visited a plantation where the colored servant who met him at the gate asked which barn he would have his horse put in. " Have you two barns ? " asked the doctor. " Yes, sah, " replied the servant ; " dar's de ole barn, and Mas'r Wales has jest built a new one." " Where do you usually put the horses of clergymen who come to see your master ? " " Well, sah, if dey's Methodist or Baptist, we gen'ally puts 'em in de ole barn, but if dey's 'Piscopals we puts 'em in the new one." " Well, Bob, you can put my horse in the new barn : I'm a Baptist, but my horse is an Episcopalian."