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'ONE IS YOUR MASTER, EVEN CHRIST, AND ALL YE ARE BROTHERS.'

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Current Topics.

—The Catholic Mirror advocates the reading of the Bible by the Roman Catholics.

—The first female suffrage in Great Britain has been granted in the Isle of Man. Let it hereafter bear the name of Isle of Woman.

—The week of prayer was observed in Jerusalem this year, the Anglican Bishop taking charge of the service. Prayers were offered in five languages.

—Bancroft, the historian, is over eighty years of age. He attributes his vigor and health to the fact that he eats lightly, sleeps considerably, and walks several miles daily in the open air.

—It is thought in London that the Marquis of Ripon will shortly resign the position of Viceroy of India, and that he will be succeeded by the Earl of Dufferin, ex-governor-general of Canada.

—The old house of Abraham Lincoln at Springfield, Ill., was recently torn down, and a boy realized quite a fortune by turning the shingles with a steel saw into mementos, which sold readily.

—From official statistics it appears that of 13,472,213 men and boys in Italy, only 2,636,829 know how to read, and 2,320,428 how to read and write. Of 13,329,862 women and girls, only 1,697,729 know how to read, and 1,488,410 how to read and write.

—The New Testament has just been translated into the Korean language. Mr. Arthington, of Leeds, provided means for purchasing paper, and printing 3,000 copies of the gospels of Luke and John. A lady of Glasgow has promised to provide half the salary for five years of the first Korean evangelist.

—The New York Herald of Monday, April 25th, very truly says:

Colonel Ingersoll delighted an immense audience last night and can be sure of many more, for every bad character in New York wants to believe that Christianity is a fraud.

—More than nineteen years since, the daughter of Archbishop Whately established a mission in Cairo which she is said to have supported with her own private means. It includes a large mission school for Copts and Moslems, and is attended daily by more than 500. It has also in connection with it a medical mission, book depot, and Bible women.

—The Nihilists of Russia, who propose to make nitro-glycerine the minister of righteousness and the emancipator of the people, are the worst kind of fools and assassins. Society in any and every form of government, ought to exercise its legal powers to the utmost for the suppression and extermination of this horrid race of beings.

—More than one-fourth part of the income of the Basle mission, which now sustains 115 missionaries in India, Africa and China, and which has already gathered 13,245 church members, is derived from a system of penny collections. There are now about 120,000 persons who contribute a penny a week to this society. Their gifts amounted in 1879 to over \$33,000.

—The Medical Times and Gazette says that owing to successive years of

defective vintage certain German wine-growers secured the services of a "clever artist" from Paris, and set to manufacture, chemically, the "finest wines" to a larger extent than even in the years of abundant growth, which have been sold as "the real produce of the German grape."

—The Rev. Joseph Cook will not return at once to this country, but extend his tour, and finally return by way of India and Japan. The audiences at Mr. Cook's lectures in Great Britain have been very large, and he is about to give another series of lectures in London.

—The Austrian authorities have notified Rev. A. F. Schauffler, that missionaries of the American Board must not read from the Bible or pray at the grave when burying their dead. Austria might learn a lesson of toleration from the miserable bigoted Turk.

—The sum of £1,400 has been received towards the memorial to the Rev. Dr. Norman Macleod, editor of *Good Words*, and the Committee have decided to erect upon a pedestal in Cathedral-square, near the Barony Church, Glasgow, a bronze statue of Dr. Macleod. It will be unveiled in September next.

—The New English university, called the Victoria University, with its headquarters at Manchester, has decided to create graduates "without the smallest tincture of Latin or Greek." In these words a member of the University Court has emphasized his description of the innovation. The graduates thus distinguished are not, however, to be Bachelors or Masters of Arts. They are to be Bachelors, Masters, or Doctors of Science.

—Addressing a meeting in Wales recently, on behalf of the Congregational Total Abstinence Society, the Rev. Alexander Hannay said he owed all to a temperance society, and so he took a great deal of interest in the question. In 1837 he became connected with the temperance movement. This made him think on public questions, and it finally led to his entering the ministry, but he did not think he could have done his work so well had it not been for his abstinence.

—Intelligence has been received in Britain that a Portuguese gunboat having several Jesuits on board, and accompanied by officers of the Portuguese army and a force of marines, has entered the Congo River, and arrived at San Salvador. It is said that they have instructions by Papal Bull to harass and root out the Protestant mission there, and that they have secured the good graces of the Congo king with the presentation of handsome gifts. It is probable that immediate representations on the matter will be made by the Foreign Missionary Society to the Government.

—As an illustration of what may be done for the children in a church, we give the following item from the "Congregationalist": "The Rev. Eli Corwin, D. D., who has now for some months been pastor of the Presbyterian church at Racine, Wis., gives the children a short sermon every Sabbath in connection with the morning service, and no part seems to be listened to by the elder people with more plea-

sure than this. Few children were in the congregation when he began the practice, but now there are a hundred sandwiched in among the seven or eight hundred others in the congregation."

—Letters have been received from Norfolk Island in the Pacific, describing the consecration of the memorial church to Bishop Patteson, who was murdered by the natives a few years since. About 50 friends came from New Zealand in a steamer, and were received by Bishop Selwyn, who steered coatless the boat which landed them. On the morning of the consecration of the new church, dedicated to St. Barnabas, which has cost £5,000, the islanders in gala dress—the men in blue trousers, white shirts, and bright-coloured neckties, and the women in white jackets and fancy petticoats—breakfasted with the bishop.

—A curious bequest has just been made public in Salzburg. The widow of a certain lieutenant-general has just died there. She was formerly Countess Firmian. In her will she leaves money to found an evangelical orphan school, children from Salzburg and vicinity only to be admitted. "Thus, I believe," she says, "I may atone for the sin of one of my family, who in the last century, perhaps too fanatically, drove Arch-bishop Firmian in 1731, as is well known, banished thirty thousand people from Salzburg on account of their evangelical belief."

—Travellers who have visited Egypt and have had occasion to regret the frequent disfigurement of ancient monuments there, or such a crilegious destruction as the chipping away of the sarcophagus in the King's Chamber of the Pyramid of Cheops, will be glad to learn that the present Khedive has appointed guardians for all the chief temples, tombs, and other antiquities of the country, for their protection and conservation. And not only these; but such mediæval monuments—such as the tombs of the Mamelukes and of the Khalifs—are to be preserved from natural decay, as well as from profane damage. Also the roads to the Pyramids, which of late has fallen into such a state as to be impassable over the last mile, is now to be restored by thorough repair.

—In the course of the excavations necessary for the reconstruction of the baths at Durkheim, in the Palatinate, the workmen have come upon an enormous iron chest containing the celebrated treasure of the Abbey of Limburg, which disappeared after the siege of the Abbey in 1504. The treasure is supposed to have been put in safety by the Abbot out of fear of an attack. It is composed of a large number of vases and other objects of gold and silver, of precious stones, and a host of coins of the fifteenth century. There are also a number of articles for worship, dating from the commencement of the Abbey, which was constructed by Conrad the Salic, and his wife, Queen Gisela, and opened in 1030. By the law of the Palatinate, half the treasure goes to the State and half to the French company which has the working of the baths.

—There are now supposed to be in Paris, says *Evangelical Christendom*, 75,000 Protestants, among whom are 35,000

Reformed, 30,000 Lutheran and 10,000 other denominations. The Salvation Army has quietly begun its work in a hall holding 600 persons, near the Boulevard Voltaire. Miss Booth and her band of workers speak French well, and a good work is evidently before them. The same magazine tells of an interesting work among the blind in Syria. Nothing so impresses the Mohammedans as this effort for the relief of the sightless, and they say this must be the true religion. A man in Damascus had lost both sight and property, and refused at first to come to the Blind School. At last he was converted. His friends gathered about him in wonder, and seventy enrolled themselves to read the Word of God. One of the blind erected a simple house of worship, and many have joined the church.

—The Minneapolis Tribune publishes an extract from a private letter of ex-President Hayes to its editor, respecting certain ill-favored remarks in the papers, charging him with not being consistent in his practice with his temperance principles. The accusations referred to were transparently malicious, if not also mendacious. But apart from the refutation of the slander, ex-President Hayes' statement is of interest. "When I became President," he says, "I was fully conscious that whatever might be the case in other countries and with other people, in our climate, and with the excitable, nervous temperament of our people, the habitual use of intoxicating drinks was not safe. I regarded the danger of the habit as especially great in political and official life. It seemed to me that to exclude liquors from the White House would be wise and useful as an example, and would be approved by good people generally. The suggestion was particularly agreeable to Mrs. Hayes. She has been a total abstinence woman from childhood. We had never used liquors in our home, and it was determined to continue our home custom in this respect in our official residence in Washington as we had done in Columbus. I was not a total abstainer when I became President, but the discussion which arose over the change at the Executive Mansion soon satisfied me that there was no half-way house in this matter. During the greater part of my term, at least during the last three years, I have been in practice as in theory a consistent total abstinence man, and shall continue to be so. All statements, including the one you send me, inconsistent with the foregoing, are untrue and without foundation."

—Rev. C. B. Ramsdell, of the North Presbyterian Church, Washington, D. C., has been brought before Presbytery for marrying a Roman Catholic wife (two years ago). She was formerly one of his Sunday school scholars, but being sent to a Catholic school became a Romanist. The matter was referred to a committee which reported that "no Presbyterian has a right to marry a Romanist, for her religious training teaches her to look upon all Protestants as heretics, consequently her husband's usefulness as a minister is seriously impaired." The wife attends mass and the confessional, but goes to her husband's church Sabbath mornings. The case is said to be appealed to the "general meeting" of Presbytery. If many instances of this kind were to occur the Romish priests would have an excellent opportunity of learning the inner workings of Presbyterianism, through the confessional.