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OVER LAND AND SEA.

When a minister does a specific duty for a church, either in supplying the pulpit, or dedicating a new church, or officiating at a funeral, he should be paid what is right and proper, and not be asked "if he has a half-fare permit on the railroad," that his remuneration may be proportionately discounted. This is getting down to small things. He is God's servant, and should not be imposed upon, nor taken advantage of. He is entitled to full and honorable compensation, and should be rewarded according to the ability of the recipients of his services. He makes out no bill, as do the lawyer and the physician, but it is only fair, just and Christian-like that there should be a proper recognition of the time, labor, expense and sacrifice he is at in doing work for others' benefit.

Frequent newspaper articles appear explaining why young men do not attend church. Of course, it is true that a great many young men do not, but it is also true that a great many do attend church. A good many men do not either, and a good many women, and a good many children. It would be well if all of the members of all these classes would go to church at all proper times, but it is a fact that there never has been a time when they all did and it may be a long time until they all will. Suppose the same writers discuss learnedly why men do not go to church and why women do not, and why many of the churches are empty and deserted.

"The Scottish Psalms," which are disliked in many of our congregations, are not Scottish at all, but English. This metrical version was the work of Mr. Francis Rous, Member of Parliament for Cornwall in the time of the Commonwealth. Mr. Rous's version having been completed, the House of Commons asked the Westminster divines, then in session, if it might be wisely used in churches in England. The Westminster Assembly directed its three Standing Committees to examine the metrical psalter and report. The Committees, each having revised 50 of the psalms, reported favorably on their use; and they were then sanctioned by Parliament. As only six Scottish divines sat in the Westminster Assembly, both author and revisers of the "Scottish Psalms" were Englishmen; and it ought to be regarded with more favor on this side of the Tweed than in Scotland.—*The Monthly Messenger.*

Until within a short time ago, and perhaps it is continued in some form at the present day, says *The Herald and Presbyter*, the Greek Catholic Church of Russia issued passports to a happy eternity. The document was given by the priest, naturally for a money consideration, and it was buried with the deceased, who, or his friends, had applied for it. It was expressed in these words: "We (the priest) hereby testify that the bearer, N.N., lived as an upright Greek Christian among us, and although he occasionally sinned, yet he confessed his sins, received absolution and holy sacrament to the

forgiveness of his transgressions. He also revered God and his saints, fasted and prayed, and also reconciled himself to his father confessor, so that he, his pastor, could forgive his sins, and would have no more fault found with him. For these reasons we have prepared this passport, which he may show to St. Peter and other saints, and hence be admitted into the gates of the heavenly Jerusalem without hindrance."

The New York papers contain articles on the Roman saint Peregrinus, who was tortured to death 1,708 years ago and his body was placed in the catacombs at Rome. It is in a good state of preservation and has been brought to America by the Benedictine Fathers, and is now awaiting proper ecclesiastical authentication. They already claim one remarkable cure as a result of contact with the body. It is hoped that one of the skulls of St. Peter will be brought to America. They claim to have the one he used when he was a boy and one when he was a man. Certainly Rome with its thousand relics can spare one of these to America, where we have so little to boast of.

Archdeacon Farrar, in a speech at Devonshire House, said: "In London alone at least a thousand babies are suffocated by drunken mothers every year." That fact of itself ought to count out that stale argument that a man or woman has the right to drink if he or she pleases. Even babies have rights that older people are bound to respect. And the right to life is one that must not be ignored.

A clergyman in New York, says the *Chicago Inter-Ocean*, visited a number of the best liquor stores in his neighborhood, and bought pint samples of their best gin, whisky, port wine, etc. In the analysis of the 'pure Holland gin' were found neutral spirits, rotten corn, juniper berries, turpentine and vitriol. The fine old hand made Kentucky whisky contained neutral spirits, glycerine, sulphate of zinc, chromic acid, creosote, unslacked lime and fusel oil, and the rare old port had licorice, zinc, mercury, antimony, muriatic acid, and alum. The man who takes mixed or straight drinks should make no complaints against the ordinary microbe, after dissipating with these tissue and brain destroying elements."

A deputation representing the native races, together with a committee from the liquor men recently waited upon Mr. Cecil Rhodes, the representative of the English Government in South Africa, to learn his position upon the subject of the liquor traffic. He stated that "even from a commercial point of view he was against the licensing of any sale of liquors among the Africans. To a very large extent the government is dependent on the native labor for the carrying out of its public works, such as the construction of railways, and it would be bad policy, resulting in pecuniary loss, to demoralize and degrade the workers by drink."