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Welsh is still spoken by 800,000 people.

Of Lord Roberts it can be said that he has never lost a battle yet.

Fifty years ago there was not a Christian in the Fiji Islands; now there is scarcely a heathen.

By a large majority the Olan Free Presbytery has decided in favor of union with the U. P. Church.

The Temperance cause has lost a consistent advocate in Provost Dick, Kinning Park, who was an elder in Pollokshields U.P. Church.

King Menelik of Abyssinia is said to be at work upon a chain of evidence to support his claim of descent from King Solomon.

The death has taken place of Rev. Thomas Underwood, senior minister of the parish of Irongray, in the Presbytery of Dumfries, at the age of 73.

One of the most painful incidents of horse sickness in South Africa is that horses, when stricken, almost invariably seek the companionship of mankind, as if asking in their dumb fashion, poor beasts, for relief.

At a meeting of Hamilton Free Presbytery the question of union with the U.P. Church was considered, and the General Assembly's overture was approved by a large majority over an amendment asking the Assembly to reconsider the subject.

The Free Church Presbytery of Dundee, remarks the Christian Leader, has expressed grave doubts as to the propriety of closing public-houses at a fixed time. Dundee and Leith seem to have been pre-empted for drunkenness, at this new year season.

Intelligence has just been received of the death at Swatow (China), of the Rev. Dr. H. L. McKenzie, the English Presbyterian Church's senior missionary, who was Moderator of the Missionary Jubilee Synod, which met at Sunderland in April, 1897.

According to the "Catholic Directory," in Great Britain there are 25 Roman Catholic prelates, 1 archbishop, 2 bishops and 3,271 priests. The Roman Catholic buildings open for public worship now number 1,883, an increase of 32 over last year's returns.

Lord and Lady Aberdeen have been celebrating the coming of age of Lord Haddo, their oldest son. The occasion has been taken to give expression to the cordial esteem entertained for both the Earl and Countess, who have the merit of dwelling among their own people.

In Glasgow U.P. Presbytery, fifty years of ministerial service will this year be completed by two of its members—the Rev. James Rennie, St. Vincent Street Church, ex-Moderator of Synod, and the Rev. Wm. Clark, M.A., Barrhead. Dr. Dalgle and Principal Hutton are also within sight of their jubilees.

In the Church of Scotland there are 1,816 churches and mission stations, with a membership of 618,476. There are 2,200 Sunday schools, with 20,831 teachers, and 227,452 scholars. The number of ministers and licentiates is about 2,000. In view of the expected union of the Free Church of Scotland and the United Presbyterian Church, the returns of these communions will probably be only issued once more in a separate form. The Free Church has 1,109 churches and mission stations in Scotland, with 1,144 ministers; the United Presbyterians have 889 congregations and 681 ministers. The membership of the former body is 393,684, and of the latter 197,476. The former raised last year £712,742, and the latter £428,106. The Original Secession Church has now only twenty-nine churches in Scotland (including "Thrums"), with a united membership of 3,770.