

CHRISTIAN NATION

"**RIGHTEOUSNESS EXALTETH A NATION.**"

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THE Christian Nation appeared on the Covenanter's horizon in the year 1884, commending itself to the people both by fidelity and merit, under the guidance of Mr. John W. Pritchard, Editor, **1884** until it received the endorsement of Synod (American) and it never had a palmier day than now. Its integrity was severely tried in the conflict of 1891, yet was found to be morally immovable and editorially honorable.—Glasgow Convention, 1896.

THE Christian Nation is the officially endorsed paper of the Reformed Presbyterian (Covenanter) Church in America; is endorsed by leading ministers of the Covenanter Church in Great Britain and Ireland; and is the accepted family weekly paper of the Covenanter Church throughout the world.

WE recognize with much pleasure that the **CHRISTIAN NATION**, New York, has formally accepted and is faithfully upholding the true historic position of the Covenanter Church; and **1900** Synod realizing the urgent need at this time of a live weekly church paper, heartily commends the **CHRISTIAN NATION** to the patronage and support of the members of the Church.—R. P. Synod, Pittsburgh, Pa., June 10, 1891.

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Current Events Reviewed.

New Ocean Cables.

There are often benefits arising from disabilities. The course of censorship of the existing ocean cables during war will stimulate the laying of separate cables by the nations. There will come a time when the means of communication will be so many that misrepresentation will be more and more difficult, and harmony will come from assimilation through the influence of the Word of God and the prevalence of the law of Christ. The United States will soon have direct communication with Germany. The German direct cable from Emden to New York, by way of the Azores, will be laid by a London company. It will cost £985,000. The cable will be 4,336 miles long.

Uniform Divorce Laws.

The movement to secure uniformity in the Divorce Laws of the several States still goes on. A Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws was held at Buffalo, last summer. Their proceedings give an Act to establish a law uniform with the laws of other States relative to divorce procedure, and divorce from the bond of marriage. The latter part is as follows:

"Divorce from the bond of marriage shall be granted for the following causes arising after marriage: Adultery, extreme cruelty, habitual drunkenness, or the confirmed habit of intoxication, whether arising from the use of alcoholic drinks or of drugs; conviction of felony, with sentence of imprisonment to a State prison or penitentiary; and continuous desertion for at least—years. Divorce from the bond of marriage shall not be granted for any other cause arising after marriage."

Religion in Pittsburgh and Allegheny.

The filling of vacant pulpits and the election of an assistant pastor are always times of anxiety for congregations, but especially so, when the deceased pastor or the aged pastor has sons in the ministry. Two leading congregations happily passed this stage. We refer to the First United Presbyterian congregation, of Allegheny, so long ministered to by the late Rev. Dr. W. J. Robinson, which has chosen one of his sons, Rev. George Robinson, as acting pastor for a year; and to the First United Presbyterian congregation of Pittsburgh, so long served by Rev. Dr. William J. Reid, which has chosen his son and namesake, Rev. W. J. Reid, now of Kittanning, as assistant pastor. If the Lord spare these young men to fill out the term granted their

fathers and as efficiently, it will be a blessing to the cause of religion to the Twin Cities.

Increased Sabbath Toil.

While the Reformers have been working for the cessation of the mail service of the Government on the Sabbath day ever since the early period of our history, the evil has been increasing. There has always been some distinction between week days and Sabbath day in the service, but the Post Office Department has pressure on it, and itself exerts pressure. We have seen but little reference to the late reports of the Department, now in the hands of Congress. They are fitted to arouse Christian people to effort to stay the progress of the evil of Sabbath Postal labor. Senator Hoar has pronounced himself against the increase of toil on the Sabbath. We quote the paragraphs from the Re-

Perry S. Heath, First Assistant Postmaster General, reports to his chief on the working of the Eight Hour Law, as an iron band, and then says: "If instead of eight hours per day the law provided for six days' work of forty-eight hours, and as many hours on Sundays, not exceeding eight, as the exigencies of the service required, it would permit an equalization of the work among the carriers during the week that would result in a far more efficient service." (p. 151).

Charles Emory Smith the Postmaster General, says of the same matter and the arranging of the carriers' schedules, to save time: "This can be done by a modification of the eight hour law, which shall provide for six days' work of forty-eight hours, with as many additional hours, not exceeding eight, as the exigencies of the service may demand." (p. 20.)

These recommendations have had effect, and the Washington despatch of April 14, is as follows:

"General Bingham has introduced a bill to fix the hours of labor for clerks and employes in first and second class post offices. It provides that such clerks and employes may be required to work not exceeding forty eight hours during the six working days of each week, and not more than eight consecutive hours during any one day, and such number of hours on Sunday as may be required in the interests of the service. Work on a legal holiday is to be counted as eight hours without regard to the time actually employed. If any clerk or employe is employed for a greater number than forty-eight hours during the working days in any week, or more than eight consecutive hours in any one day, he is to be paid extra in proportion to his salary as fixed by law."

We have been assured by Post Office employes that many professing Christians are directly responsible for the increased Post Office toil on Sabbath day, by frequenting the Post Office, and asking for mail, as well as depositing mail.

Facta Actaque.

King Otto, of Bavaria, is said to be dying.

No cars are running as yet in St. Louis. The strike is still in force.

The English are said to be overpowering the Boers, and are marching steadily forward towards Pretoria.

A prominent officer of the United States Navy has invented a shell which no armor in the world is able to withstand.

Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt formally announced the betrothal of her second son, Alfred G. Vanderbilt, to Miss Elsie French. They will be married in a year.

Harriet V. Gridley, widow of former Captain of the Olympia, has been granted an increase in her pension. From \$30 per month it has been raised to \$50.

At the Quadrennial Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a strong effort has been made to permit the entrance of women as regular delegates, but so far nothing has been decided.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, which opens on Thursday in St. Louis, will in all likelihood take up the question of revision of the Shorter Catechism. About thirty Presbyteries are said to have petitioned for it.

Lord Salisbury, in a speech before the Primrose League, denied that the visit of the Queen to Ireland had any promise in it of better times for Ireland, but declared that Ireland would never get home-rule, and that her people were disloyal subjects.

Dr. Frank Smalley, chairman of the Athletic Committee of the Syracuse University, said that the Syracuse track team would abandon its Paris trip if any college games are held on Sabbath at the Exposition, whether the Sunday games are those in which Syracuse is entered or not.

By the death, at Naples, of the venerable Prince Colonna, in his ninety-first year, Ferdinand Colonna, who married the daughter of Mrs. John W. Mackay, succeeds to the titles of Prince of Stigliano, Prince of Aliano, Marquis Castelnuova, Lord of Ilienello, of San Arcangelo, of Roccanova, of Melito and of Guigliano. He becomes a patrician of Rome, Venice and Naples and succeeds to the headship of the Neapolitan branch of the Colonna family.

An all day meeting will be held at Prohibition Park, Staten Island, on June 5, which will combine the State Conference with a farewell reception to the delegates to the World's Convention of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, in Edinburgh, in June. Addresses will be made by delegates, and music will be furnished by Mrs. Frances W. Graham, musical director of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union. Countess Schimmelman will give the address of the evening. All delegates to Edinburgh will be entertained over night free of charge, and a large delegation from the city will accompany them to the steamer the next morning.

SUNPASTE IS CHEAP.
WILL LAST, WILL KEEP,
GIVES TIME TO SLEEP,
OR REST, OR SWEEP,
SO LUSTROUS, TOO,
OLD STOVES LOOK NEW.

SUN PASTE STOVE POLISH

STAR NOTES

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* On Sabbath last Rev. W. McLeod George assisted Dr. S. G. Shaw at Cambridge, Mass.

* I moderated in a call at Hopkinton, Ia., May 1st, which resulted in that congregation extending a unanimous call to Rev. Louis Meyer, of Lake Reno congregation.—T. P. ROBB.

* Will Session please not fail to send certificates of delegates to Synod to the Clerk? Only a few, have been thus far, received—Direct to F. M. FOSTER, 341 West 29th Street, New York.

* The communion in the Eighth Street Pittsburgh church is May third Sabbath. Rev. R. H. Martin is the assistant.

* Married: At the parsonage, New York City, on May 10, 1900, by the Rev. F. M. Foster, Ph. D., Mr. Hugh Ferguson Pollock, of New York City, and Miss Julia S. Allen, of Spring Valley, N. Y.

* Rev. R. J. Gault, of New Alexandria, Pa., assisted Rev. R. C. Reed, of Walton congregation, during communion services the first Sabbath of May. Eight new members were received into the Church.

* Rev. R. C. Reed assisted Rev. R. M. Sommerville, of Second New York congregation, and Rev. K. C. Montgomery, of Third Philadelphia congregation, during communion services. The former the third Sabbath and the latter the fourth Sabbath of April.

* Licentiate James McCune, whose call to Bear Run has already been noted, was previously called to Eskridge, Kansas. We note that he has been certified to Kansas Presbytery, at his own request. For the past two Sabbaths Mr. McCune has been preaching at Hopkinton, Iowa.

* Communion was held in Brooklyn congregation on Sabbath, May 6. The assistant was Dr. J. C. McFeeters, and Rev. P. J. McDonald, of Seattle, also took part. Fifty-six persons communed, the largest number since the defection of 1891. The congregation is doing splendidly. During the past year every scheme of the Church was paid in full, and at least one scheme overpaid. The average contribution per member for the year was nearly forty dollars.

* Pittsburgh Presbytery met in the Wilkesburgh church, Rev. Dr. R. C. Wylie, pastor, on Tuesday, May 8, at 10 A. M., and had a pleasant all day session, closing at 10 P. M. Rev. B. M. Sharp was Moderator and Rev. J. S. Duncan clerk, and Rev. F. M. Wilson, assistant clerk. W. J. McBurney and Hugh McCarroll, students of The-

ology, gave specimens of improvement. James T. Mitchell gave his trials for licensure, and was licensed to preach. James McCune, licentiate, was certified to Kansas Presbytery, at his own request. Presbytery adjourned to meet at College Hill on the 4th Tuesday of October at 10:30 A. M.

* The *Pittsburgh Dispatch* of May 5, has this note: "The President has honored himself and the newspaper profession at the same time by the appointment of Henry B. F. MacFarland, Washington correspondent of the *Boston Herald*, as one of three commissioners to govern the District of Columbia. Mr. MacFarland is one of the brightest and ablest of the corps of correspondents there, as his father was before him, and was born into the profession which he adorns. He was not a candidate for the office." Mr. MacFarland bears as his Christian name the name of his mother's father, Henry B. Floyd, long a ruling elder in the First Philadelphia congregation.

Reports of Synod.

The daily proceedings of Synod will be published in *The Xenia Gazette*. Those desiring to obtain the paper can do so by remitting ten cents to the Xenia Gazette Office, Xenia, Ohio.

Selma, Ala.

The Lord's Supper was observed in our congregation one week ago, it was indeed to us a time of refreshing.

Notwithstanding the fact that the weather was unfavorable, and much sickness in our midst; yet the Lord was good to us, and as many as sixty-three found their places at the Lord's Table.

At our fall communion we had an accession of nine, one of these a prominent young business man, who had been for a long time a member of the masonic lodge. There were quite a number of young people who desired to unite with us at that time, some of them were kept back because their parents would not give their consent. Mission work even in our enlightened land has its difficulties.

We had an accession of three adults at this our last communion, one, Rev. W. Harison Lane, a talented young man, graduate of Straght University, comes to us from the Presbyterian church. Rev. J. T. Helem, from the Baptist church, he and his wife. Rev. Helem is a young man twenty-four years of age, and very anxious to prepare himself for usefulness among his people. His advantages in school have been quite limited, yet he has been preaching to nearly fifteen hundred people in the community in which he

lives, his only help to the study of the Bible being an old copy of Webster's dictionary. Rev. Helem lives in a thickly populated portion of the Black Belt about fifteen miles west of Selma, and from what Mr. Helem has said to us, the people are in ignorance dark as the night, but he is quite sure that they would gladly welcome the light of God's Word. Here is an open door. Shall we enter? Shall the desert be made to blossom as the rose?

Yours in the work,
SOLOMON KINGSTON.

L. M. S., Slippery Rock.

Report of the Ladies' Missionary Society, of Slippery Rock congregation, for the year ending March 1899. There have been twelve regular meetings held during the year and one special meeting. We have held our meetings during the past year at the homes of the members of the society, and have had very pleasant and enjoyable meetings and much interest has been manifested. We have done very little work during the year. We sent six dollars to furnish a bed in the Indian Mission, although we feel as though we have not done as much as some others or perhaps as much as we might have done, yet we are thankful that the Master has permitted us to be workers together with Him. Our society has cause for thankfulness in that it has not been visited by death during the past year. We now have twenty-six members and remembering God's goodness to us in the past, we lift up our heart to Him in praise for all His goodness and trust that when our work is done here we may hear the welcome, "Well done."

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Balance from last year,	\$1.85
Dues collected,	36.04
For Indian Mission,	17.85
Donations,	1.75
Total,	\$57.45
DISBURSEMENTS.	
To Indian Mission,	\$25 00
To J. B. Dodds, to be used in his work,	10 00
Jewish Mission, Cin.,	5 00
For bed in Indian Mission,	6 00
Memento to Miss Cunningham,	.50
Registered letters,	.50
Total,	\$47.00
MYRTLE McCASLIN, Sec.	
MRS. MARTHA FORBES, Treas.	

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