

# THE ECUMENICAL CONGRESS

## The Biggest Christian Conference the World has Ever Witnessed.

### THE REV. J. W. MCCONNELL IN ATTENDANCE

#### He Describes the Gathering of Missionaries From all Parts of the Habitable Globe.—Dr. Paton, who Visited Charlottetown a few Years Ago, one of the Speakers.

Crowds! Crowds! Crowds! After being pushed and squeezed and carried along by that good natured crowd in Carnegie Hall last Monday morning I found myself at length in the front part of the 4th gallery looking down upon what was every where to be the most magnificent and representative gathering of this century. "Since the ascension of Jesus Christ"—said Dr. A. T. Pierson, there has been no such conference—and the statement there is supported from every side. What a mighty inspiration as we look down upon that platform.

There are seen hundreds of the missionaries that have come from all parts of the habitable globe of the Cross of the Son of God. They bear on their body the marks of the Lord Jesus. For ten, twenty, thirty—even fifty years some of them; have been witnessing the triumphs of the Gospel in distant lands. There are men and women who know whereof they affirm. They have seen pile after pile of idolatry not and tumble to its fall—they have beheld temple after temple of priest-craft purged; and turned into the very vestibule of Heaven they have witnessed myriads of precious souls starting from their death sleep and coming into a purer light—a better faith—a nobler worship. And here they are to tell

us that which must surely send a thrill through the church of God and stir it up to an intenser, holier activity in the glorious work committed to it by its living head.

The Ecumenical Conference on Foreign Missions opened on Saturday afternoon, April 21st at 2 o'clock. The President of the United States and the governor of New York were to address the meeting and welcome the delegates. Every available inch in that immense auditorium was in use—at least it was said to be taken up—for after making every effort to get in and resorting to every fair scheme I could think of to gain admission—I was obliged in company with thousands of other to go elsewhere. The real work of the conference didn't, however, begin until Monday morning. On Sunday a good many of the pulpits were occupied by the missionaries, and the services were all largely attended. In the morning I heard Dr. King of Australia, in the afternoon, Dr. Cardman one of New York's most eloquent preachers—in the evening I listened to Dr. John G. Paton of New Hebrides fame and also to Dr. and Mrs. Taylor of the China Inland Mission. It is needless to say that the addresses were most helpful and interesting. Mrs. Taylor is the most effective lady speaker I ever heard.

On Monday morning in Carnegie Hall, Dr. Strong, President of Rochester Theological Seminary, Rev. J. Hodson Taylor, (Dr. Taylor's father) founder of China Inland Mission and Mr. Robt. E. Speer, secretary of Board of Foreign Missions of Presbyterian church in United States, were the speakers. The general subject was the "Authority and Purpose of Foreign Missions," and the speakers were equal to the tasks assigned them.

In the afternoon I heard Dr. Wm. G. Paton, Dr. Gulik of Hawaii—Bishop Hurst, Canon Edmonds of England and others in the Broadway Tabernacle. This meeting was for a general survey of the Island World, Hawaii—Micronesia, Malagasia—Philippines, and New Hebrides—Madagascar. The addresses at this meeting were of the highest order. In the evening at Carnegie Hall Mr. Eugene Stock, Editorial Secretary of the London Missionary Society, Dr. Jas. S. Dennis, author of "Christian Missions and Social Progress" and Dr. A. T. Pierson, Editor-in-Chief of "Missionary Review of the World," were the speakers. At this meeting there was a review of the century just closing—its triumphs, occupation of strategic points, expansion of the problem and development of methods and also a statistical summary showing the leavening influence of missions upon the world.

Tuesday morning at 9.30 I was present at the prayer meeting at headquarters. Bishop Ridley of British Columbia was the leader. To simply hear some of these grand old missionary hymns sung by the vast audiences that assemble is worth a good deal. At 10 o'clock the chair is taken by Bishop Andrews of M. E. Church, New York. The first speaker is one that a person might well travel miles to hear—a mighty man of God—Bishop Thoburn of India, who spoke eloquently and powerfully of "The Character and Importance of Evangelistic Work and the Conditions of Success in the Mission Field." Following him were other able speakers—Dr. Oldham of Malaysia. Then came Dr. Gordon of Japan, Dr. Richards of Africa and Rev. J. T. Hamilton of the Moravian Church. After these men had spoken, the meeting was thrown open to a number of speakers of five minutes each. Here came in Geo. Owen of Pekin, Dr. Guinness—one of the best speakers in this Conference, Dr. Wyman, Rev. Richard Windsor, for the last 30 years a missionary in India, and last but not least, Dr. Geo. F. Pentacost.

In the evening again the Hall is packed. Bishop Hendrix of the M. E. Church South is in the chair and after making a splendid speech introduces one of the most brilliant speakers to be found anywhere, Canon W. J. Edmonds of Exeter Cathedral, who represents the British and Foreign Bible Society. Next to him is the veteran missionary of India Jacob Chamberlain M. D. D. Then there is introduced a man who has spent 30 years of his life in missionary work in China. Dr. Wm. Ashmore. It has been my privilege to listen from time to time to some of the greatest speakers on this side of the Atlantic—but Dr. Ashmore, I believe, will hold his own with any of them.

What has impressed me very much is the fact that in this Great Missionary work among these people that dwell in the blackness of heathenism and of paganism we have some of the most scholarly and eloquent and consecrated men in the church of Jesus Christ. But I have written enough for the present, if I have time before leaving here I will send you something more. The Conference does not close until May, 1st, and the program is scarcely touched as yet.

# That Satisfied Well-Dressed Feeling

Comes to every lady who buys her spring Dress and Hat at the big store, and besides there is a gratifying sense of security in buying a dress where you know none but reliable kinds are offered. Every yard of dress goods and every hat is guaranteed to give satisfaction according to price paid, or money back every time, and we always allow the customer to be the judge. We trust you, you trust us.

## Black Dress Goods. Colored Dress Goods.

We've an extra value 40-in wide, in plain and brocade patterns... 22c  
Very substantial T.V. and Brocade stuff... 35c  
Brocade Monair, the kind that will wear... 55c  
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Many beautiful effects in the ever popular Crepons, Silk Lenz, etc., no two alike, prices range from  
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One line 40-in wide, heavy twill, nice colors, only... 15c  
Another line of fabrics very complete a show in themselves at the price... 22c  
A new and complete line of all wool Plaids, in large and mixed effects, dark and medium, light colorings cheap at 40c. H-rs only... 25c  
A rare line of special wool serge, 54-in wide plain, fancy spot, rich colors. It's worth 85c but we got it cheap... 50c  
Camel Hair Cheviots in cross bias and plaids 48 in wide, the popular novelty, beautifully woven and shaded, these will surprise you. Up to... 1.50

## Ladies' Hats

Many trimmed in Paris, London and New York. A little expensive, but oh, how nice.  
**\$4.50, 5.50, 6.50.**  
Many copies made in our own work-room. Just as pretty, just as good and much cheaper.  
**2.50, 3.50, 4.50.**  
A large amount of Millinery in the latest Hat shapes, Lace Caiffon, Flowers and Ornaments for those who wish to create their own hats. And the prices are very surprising in their liteness. We ask only a living profit, some ask more.

# PROWSE BROS.

## WHAT A FIGHTING BOER LAAGER IS LIKE

Described by C. Hales, an Australian Correspondent Who was Captured By the Boers and Afterwards Released.

"Possibly it may interest Englishmen and women, too, for that matter, to know what a fighting laager is like," writes A. C. Hales, an Australian correspondent who was captured by the Boers and released by Steyn, in a letter to the London Daily News. "In war time the Boer never, under any circumstances, make his laager in the open country if there are any kopjes about. No matter if there is not a foe within fifty miles, the Boer commander always pitches his laager between two parallel lines of hills, so that no attack can be made upon him without giving him an immense advantage over the attacking force, even if the enemy is ten times as strong.

"If the Boers have a choice of ground they pick a narrow ravine, with a line of hills front and rear, covered with small boulders and bushes. They drive their wagons along the ravine, and make a sort of rude breastwork with them, between which the women are placed for safety. It is a noticeable fact that large numbers of women have followed their husbands and fathers to the war—not to act as viragos, not to play the wanton nor to handle the rifle, but to nurse the wounded, to comfort the dying and to lay out the dead.

"The Boers never, if he can help it allows himself to be separated from his horse, and these hardy little animals are picketed close to the spot where the rider deposits his rifle and blankets. The oxen and sheep to be used for slaughtering purposes are driven up close to the camp, a wagon or two is drawn across the ravine above and below them, so that they cannot stampede.

Having pitched his laager, the commander sends out his scouts. Some go off on horseback at a pace they called a "trifle"—a gait which is not exactly an amble—but a cousin to it, marvellously easy to the rider, while it enables the nag to get over a wonderful lot of ground without knocking up. The foot scouts take up their positions among the rocks on the hills in front and rear of the laager. Each

scout has his rifle in his hand, his pipe in his teeth; his bandolier full of cartridges, over his shoulder, and his scanty blanket under his left arm. No fear of him sleeping at his post.

"When the scouts are out, the laager is fixed for the night—not an exhaustive proceeding, as the Boers do not go in for luxuries. Here a tarpaulin is stretched over a temporary ridgepole, blankets are tossed down on hard earth, saddles are used for pillows, and the couch is complete. A little further down the line a rude canvas screen is thrown over the wheels of the wagon, and a family, or rather husband and wife make themselves at home under the wagon. The single men simply throw themselves at full length on the ground, wrap their one thin blanket around them and smoke and jest, while the Kafirs light the fires.

"The coffee is soon made, and the simple meal begins. It consists of 'rusk' a kind of bread baked until it becomes crisp and hard, and plenty of hot coffee. I never saw any people so fond of this beverage as the Boers are. They live, when in laager, like Spartans. They dress anyhow, sleep anyhow, and eat just rusks and coffee, and precious little else. Talk about Tommy and his hard times! Why, a private soldier at the front sleeps better, dresses better and eats better than a Boer general.

"After tea the Boers sit about and clean their rifles. The women move from one little group to another, chatting cheerfully but I saw nothing in their conduct or in the conduct of any man toward one of them that would cause the most chaste matron in Great Britain to blush or droop her eyes.

"There is in the laager an utter absence of what we call soldierly discipline. There is no saluting of officers, no stiffness, no starch anywhere. The general lounges about with hands in pocket and pipe in mouth. He talks to the men, the stripplings and the women, and they talk back in a manner which seems strange to a Britisher familiar to ways of military camps.

After the chatting the parson, if there is one in the laager, raises his hands and all listen with reverent faces while the man of God utters a few words in a solemn tone. Then all kneel and a prayer floats up toward the skies. A few moments later the whole camp is 'wrapped in sleep. Nothing is heard but the neighing of horses, the bellowing of cattle the bleating of sheep and the occasional barking of a dog.

"At regular intervals men rise silently from the ranks of the sleepers, picked up their rifles silently like ghosts, and slip out into the shadows of the kopjes. Other men, equally silent, glide in from posts they have been guarding and stretch themselves out to snatch slumber while they may. At dawn the men toss their blankets aside and spring up ready dressed. The everlasting rusks and coffee are served, horses are saddled, cattle are yoked, and in the twinkling of an eye the camp is broken up, and the army is on the march again, with scouts guarding every pass in front, scouts watching (themselves unseen) on every height."

## ARE YOU DEAF?

Do you hear that buzzing, roaring sound in your ears? Catarrh is the cause. Japanese Catarrh Cure stops these noises and restores your hearing. It permanently cures Catarrh wherever located.

### HEARING RESTORED AFTER SPECIALISTS FAILED.

Mr. D. X. Spencer, 11 Coolmine ave., Toronto, writes:—"I have been troubled with catarrh and deafness for a number of years, finally I could not converse with any person at any distance. I spent much money on advertised remedies, and doctored with specialists in Toronto and Winnipeg (while there three years ago), but my hearing became no better. About a year ago I procured a sample of Japanese Catarrh Cure. It afterwards followed up the treatment as directed, and shortly I found my hearing completely returned, and my catarrh does not trouble me now in the least. I can conscientiously recommend it.

Japanese Catarrh Cure is a volatile poultice that reaches, soothes, and heals every catarrhal diseased portion of the mucous membrane. A free sample and book on catarrh and deafness mailed free. Enclose five-cent stamp. Address: The Griffiths & Macpherson Co., Limited, Toronto. Sold by all druggists, 50 cents, 6 for \$2.50, or mailed on receipt of price.

## OPERA AND CONCERT COMBINED.

### Mr. S. N. EARLE'S GRAND...

## ENTERTAINMENT

## OPERA HOUSE

### TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 1.

PART I.  
Will consist of 10 choice numbers consisting of Choruses, Quartettes, by Students of St. Dunstan's, Orchestral Music, Vocal Solos, Dances and Solo by Miss Amy Earle.

PART II.  
A beautiful operetta in 2 acts entitled "The Bell of Santa Cruz."  
CHARACTERS:  
Supra-Canon—The Bell of Santa Cruz... Miss Florence Earle.  
Canon Rival—Her Rival... Miss Amy Earle.  
George Ardent—A French Student... Tenor Mr. Belleau.  
The Chaire's Granis-eil—An English Tourist... Mr. H. W. Brown.  
Mr. W. term, a retired officer—Father of Paoine... Mr. Charles Earle.  
Grand at the Hotel.  
Ladies—The Misses Collins, Stewart, Walker, Rose, Brown, McPherson, Earle.  
Gentlemen—Dr. Maloney, Kennedy, Messers Le Roy, Espilon, Le Pargo, Parent, Collings.

Reserve 1 seat's 35 unreserved 25.  
Full particulars see Program.

## HENRY R. LORDLY, C. E.

A. M. Can. Soc. C. E.  
Graduate College of Civil Engineering Cornell University.  
Consulting Engineer for General Work. Specialties—Hydraulic, Sanitary Engineering and Office—Charlottetown and St. John.

## DIED.

At Uigg, P. E. I., April 22nd inst., after a short illness, of bronchial croup, Sadie Jeannette, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Campbell, aged 2 years and six months.

"In a world of pain and care,  
Lord, Thou wouldst no longer leave it;  
To Thy meadows bright and fair  
Lovingly Thou dost receive it;  
Clothed in robes of spotless white  
Now it dwells with Thee in light."

"Lost awhile our treasured love  
Gained forever, safe above."

## YOU MAY HAVE ONE FREE!

## The Illustrated Diamond Dye Rug Book.

Have you ever tried to make a handsome Hooking Mat or Floor Rug from old rags or yarns dyed with Diamond Dyes? If you have not tried the fascinating work, send for a free copy of our illustrated "Diamond Dye Rug Book," that fully explains how to do the work and how to procure the Scotch Hessian patterns made by us.

The "Diamond Dye Mat and Rug Designs" are the newest and most popular sold in Canada. Orders are pouring in each day from all parts of the Dominion. Send address to Wells & Richardson Co., 200 Mountain St., Montreal, P. Q.

# REMOVAL

We have moved into our new quarters on Kent Street formerly occupied by Mr. R. C. McLeod where we shall be pleased to meet all our old customers and as many new ones as will favor us with their esteemed patronage. We have just received our Spring supply of

## RENNE'S FARM SEEDS.

consisting of White Russian and White and Red Fife Wheat (North West) Peas, Vetches, Corn, Timothy, and Clover Seed, Mangel, Carrot and Turnip Seed—We can name specially low prices on the above to Wholesale Customers.

Also Maun Man'g Co's, one Horse Seeders, "Giant" Seeders and Harrows combined, Grain Drills, and Disc Harrows, all with latest improvements.

Frost & Wood Co's, Steel Plows, and Spring Tooth Harrows, Windsor, American, Disc Harrows, with ball bearings.

The Tudhope Carriage Co's, Fine Grade Vehicles arriving daily—The nicest line of Carriages on the market—Something entirely new in style and finish for 1900.

Adams & Son's, Truck Wagons, and Cart Wheels—

The Provincial Chemical Co's, Chemical Fertilizers and

SWIFTS American, Animal high grade Fertilizers.—

Harness in Single and Double—a full line to select from.

Low Prices, and easy terms on all the above goods.

Agencies, at all the principal points on the Island.

You Are specially invited to call and see us at our new show rooms and will be made welcome whether you buy or not.—

## A. HONRE & CO'Y. Kent St.

Always in Stock, best brands family Flower, Cornmeal, Oatmeal, Rolled Oats, Blended Teas (in 5, 10 and 20, lb packages. Bran, Shorts, and Chopped Feed.—A. HORNE & Co.