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Table of Contents

PAGE	PAGE		
Church Directory.....	2	Concerning Conversion..... John Clark Hill, D.D.	17
Speak Your Love for Me To-day. Poem, Edith Virginia Bradt.	3	The Home Sunday School..... A. R. H.	17
ALL ROUND THE HORIZON.....	3	HOME DEPARTMENT :	
Bonnie Bermuda..... Theodore L. Cuyler.	4	Jesus Took the Loaves. Poem, Myrta Lillian Goodenough.	18
A Step toward Comity.....	4	The Relation of Mother and Parent, Lila Verplanck North.	18
The New Catechism..... C. F. Mussey, D.D.	5	Black Crawford..... Robert E. Buckham.	18
Mary Holmes Seminary..... Rev. Mead Holmes	5	A Well-Wisher..... Charles Frederic Goss.	19
Reminiscence..... Mrs. A. B. Stone	5	The Two Guests. Poem.....	19
EDITORIAL :		The Old Woman's Sermon.....	19
Sabbath Keeping.....	6	THE OBSERVATION CAR :	
Decision Day.....	6	When the Robins Come Again. Poem.....	19
A Peep into a Secretary's Mail.....	6	The Thrasher's Deliverance..... E. C. Goodrich.	19
The People's Tabernacle.....	7	Feeding Birds..... I. B. C.	20
EDITORIAL NOTES.....	7	The Little Seed..... Aunie E. Pousland.	20
"Half-Way House"—A Point in Practical Theology, Leonard Woolsey Bacon.	8	WOMAN'S BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS..... H. E. B.	21
The Company of Christ..... W. S. J.	8	WOMAN'S BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS... S. R. D.	22
The Atonement in Christian Hymnody, Teunis S. Hamlin, D.D.	9	The Sabbath a Delight..... Euphemia M. Olcott.	23
How about the Christian Endeavor Pledge? Amos R. Wells.	10	The Religious Life.....	24
MINISTERIAL PERSONALS.....	10	The McAll Auxillary Annual Meeting, Mrs. Benjamin T. Carpenter.	25
THE BOOK TABLE :		CHURCH MUSIC: A Good Friday Musical Service....	25
Mr. Hardy's Book of Verse.....	11	PUBLISHER'S PAGE.....	26
Book Notes.....	12	THE KING'S DAUGHTERS' SETTLEMENT : Easter at the Settlement.....	27
THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.....	13	THE CAMERA CLUB.....	28
THE SUNDAY SCHOOL :		RURAL AND FARM LIFE.....	28
The International Lesson.....	14	ONE THING AND ANOTHER.....	29
The Bible Study Union Lesson.....	15	Institutions.....	29
CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR..... Henry T. McEwen, D.D.	16	MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.....	30
		Obituary.....	31

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SPEAK YOUR LOVE FOR ME TO-DAY.

Edith Virginia Bradt.

The new-made grave is closed, and covered o'er
With tributes rare;
The fairest flowers that tender hands could bring
Are scattered there.

And underneath lies one whose life has been
So full of care;
So heavy with the burdens none had thought
To help her bear.

Whose hungry heart has oftentimes cried out
Appealingly
For love's expression, and for tender words
Of sympathy.

Ah, friends, too late you bring your costly flowers;
Too late your tears:
For her hath sweetly dawned the light of Heaven's
Eternal years.

And now it matters not at all to her,
That on her grave
Are strewn the flowers that in her life of care
You never gave.

She needs not now the love that in her life
She needed much;
She cares not for your sympathy, nor craves
Your tender touch.

She heeds not that above her coffined clay
You drop your tears,
And speak the words of praise you have withheld
Through many years.

Too late! for while you weeping bend above
The flower-strewn sod,
Forevermore she dwells in peace among
The saints of God.

Friends, speak your love for me to-day, nor let
Me vainly crave
The tribute that your hands will lay upon
My new-made grave.

All Round the Horizon.

On Friday our troops under General MacArthur entered Malolos after an engagement of three hours in which four of our men were killed and twenty-three wounded. The insurgents set fire to the city before evacuating it to follow Aguinaldo and his Cabinet, who had retired to some more northerly point two days earlier. There were many indications that the insurgents were in a state of terror, and subsequent events point to a general weakening of the insurrection. The people who had fled in terror are rapidly returning to their homes within our lines, and being kindly treated and spreading among their friends assurances of safety if they do the like. It is reported that many insurgent troops now remain such only through fear of their officers. The latest advices from General Otis say that Aguinaldo's army is "defeated, discouraged and scattered," and that the insurgent government is in a perilous condition.

The last member of the United States Philippine Commission, Col. Charles Denby, arrived at Manila on Monday, and the Commission is actively engaged in studying the situation, expressing a conviction that peace will soon be restored. At last advices the forces were resting at Malolos after a remarkably fatiguing

campaign, which has been a severe and most encouraging test of the ability of our troops to endure the climate of the Philippines. Notwithstanding fatigue the army is in excellent condition. Admiral Dewey has sent congratulations to General Otis for "the most magnificent work of the army." General Otis sailed for home on Monday by the United States transport Sherman, leaving his command in the hands of General Wheaton. The Cruiser Raleigh, which left Manila December 15, arrived at Fayal on Friday, and is expected here on the fifteenth. The Raleigh took part in all movements in the Philippines during the war with Spain. On her homeward way she has been most honorably received at all the British ports—Singapore, Bombay, Port Said and others, and at Singapore a Spanish transport lowered her colors to the Raleigh. After this the Spaniards visited the Raleigh and were received with friendliness by our sailors.

The Cuban Assembly, so called, still continues a feeble existence. The majority desire a dissolution, but the stronger minority headed by General Sanguily refuse, being sustained by flattering telegrams from the Assembly's representatives at Washington, Señors Villalon and Hevia. These despatches absurdly counsel the Assembly to refuse the \$3,000,000 sent over by our Government, and to expect from a private syndicate a loan of \$20,000,000. Meanwhile, unless the army roster is immediately delivered to General Brooke, there is an imminent probability that the \$3,000,000 intended for the payment of the Cuban army, which still remains on board the Burnside, will be sent back to this country. Who the parties are who propose to reimburse the Cuban Assembly for this loss remains a secret in the breast of the two representatives. The latter left Washington on Monday to return to Cuba without having secured any increase in the amount promised by our Government, and most assuredly without the boasted \$20,000,000.

Meanwhile the work of reconstruction goes steadily forward. All the important towns on the island have been connected with Havana by telegraph, two hundred miles of line having been constructed by the Signal Corps in the remarkably short space of sixty days. Gen. A. W. Greely gives the credit of this achievement to Colonel Dunwoodie's executive ability and constant application to work. Mr. William Willard Howard, the general manager of the Cuban Industrial Relief fund, has returned to this country for the purchase of implements and seeds for his industrial relief station at Guines in the province of Havana. Public order is not yet entirely established, especially in the province of Santiago, bandits being still busy. Four were captured on Sunday. Assistant Secretary of War Meiklejohn has issued an order to all department commanders not only in Cuba and Puerto Rico, but in the Philippines, to present precise reports upon civic conditions in their departments. Such exact

knowledge will greatly facilitate the work of reconstruction.

Word comes from Puerto Rico of two interesting movements. One is for greatly needed reforms in the administration of justice, by which secret trial will be abolished, delay in trying petty cases will be avoided and the marriage laws will be reformed. The other is the organization of a new political party, called the Republican, though with no thought of affiliation with the party of that name in the United States. The party was originated by the Radical leaders, its object being to promote American political ideas. It has drafted a platform which declares loyalty to the American flag, "hails with pride" the annexation of the island and makes declarations on the subject of freedom, education, taxation, commerce, money, agriculture and the judiciary, very much in harmony with American ideals. General Henry, it is said, approves of the formation of the party.

The public was taken entirely by surprise last Thursday by the news that the British and American ships at Samoa had opened fire upon the island. Particulars of the event with the reasons for it are not yet received, but it appears that the act, regrettable as it was, since it entailed considerable loss of life, was a necessary police work in the interests of law and order. There is no reason to anticipate that complications will ensue between the German government and our own and that of Great Britain. All three governments exhibit a calm and conciliatory temper, and the difficulty which really exists and is not a small one will surely, it is believed, yield itself to diplomacy. The government at Berlin proposes appointing a Joint High Commission of three members, one from each government, to go to Samoa and there settle the difficulty, and the other two governments are expected to accept the proposition.

Affairs in Spain are more hopeful than in years past. There is not the slightest reason to fear either a Carlist uprising or a military dictatorship; the Conservative government is gaining strength and especially is winning the confidence of the Chambers of Commerce. Premier Silvela will have the support of the most influential citizens in his very difficult task of reform in internal affairs.

A war cloud is, however, arising in Eastern Europe. For some months relations between Turkey and Bulgaria have been strained and there is every reason to fear an outbreak in the Balkans. There was a collision on Sunday between the frontier guards, not far from the important strategic point, Adrianople. All the country is in a state of unrest. The trouble appears to arise from a conviction in the Ottoman mind that Bulgaria, incited by Russia, is fomenting revolution in Macedonia. Turkey has 100,000 men under arms ready to act at short notice.

More serious from another point of view, because it discredits the Czar at the very moment when he is taking a high stand as a world pacificator, is the recent ukase for the Russianizing of Finland. This little country has for generations been remarkable for the superior character of its civilization, the bravery with which for six hundred years it has maintained its right to independence, conquered at last ninety years ago, and for its superior education, morals, manners and public order. By solemn oath repeated for at least three generations the Czars of Russia have bound themselves to Finnish independence. Now, that oath has been broken. Finland is to become a Russian province, its parliamentary government overthrown and its citizens made subject to Russian military law. It is not to be expected that the Czar's high-handed repudiation of faith will pass without a protest from the civilized world. Already the protest is beginning to take organized form.

It appears to be probable that Italy will obtain the coveted possession in China, the Bay of San Moon in the province of Chi-Kiang. It is reported that the British and Italian governments have come to an agreement upon the matter. German reinforcements have been sent to South Shantung, not, it is asserted, with the intention of annexing the Province, but in answer to the appeals of German missionaries and engineers, who demand protection for their lives and property. Great Britain is asking for more territory in Hong Kong, land being needed for new government buildings.

Last Wednesday a man who was probably insane mistook a certain Touret for President Loubet and shot him dead.

For the first time in our history the Federal Government has taken up a lynching trial. The case is that of the negro postmaster of Lake City, S. C., who was brutally murdered a year ago for no crime except that of being a negro in the employ of the Federal Government. Lynchings are becoming frequent enough in various parts of the country to demand not only a public expression of disapproval, but the most rigorous treatment.

The past week has brought hopes of rapid transit startlingly near to New Yorkers. On Tuesday last the Metropolitan Elevated Railroad Company made an offer to build an underground road from the City Hall to the Bronx and the Harlem, equip and run it under certain conditions which included a franchise in perpetuity. In consequence of this offer, the Rapid Transit Commissioners sent a memorial to Albany asking for statutory power to consider and deal with the company. As the terms of the offer became known, a degree of opposition was aroused. From all quarters come protests against granting the rapid transit franchise to the Metropolitan Street Railway Company, on the inadequate terms which that corporation offers for the enormous privileges which it seeks to acquire. The labor organizations have loudly protested, and have put themselves on record as in favor of municipal ownership and opposed to the plan of using private capital for the construction of the road. To this protest it has been answered that the municipality has not and cannot legally acquire the funds needed for such an undertaking, and that as no other offer had been made the alternative lay between treating with the Metropolitan Company or indefinitely postponing Rapid Transit. On Monday, however, a formal proposition was made by the Metropolitan Contract Company which on its face is far more advantageous to the city, which promises rapid transit in a shorter time—two and a half years—and by which the entire property of the underground road will become the possession of the city.

BONNIE BERMUDA.

Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler.

Many of my readers have doubtless admired old Puritan Andrew Marvell's 'fine lines on Bermuda where

"He hangs in shades the orange bright,
Like golden lamps in a green night,
And does in the pomegranates close
Jewels more rich than Ormus shows."

I have long wanted to see these enchanting islands, and at last my desire is gratified. With a part of my family we left New York on last Wednesday morning in the Quebec Company's steamship "Trinidad," a stout, well-manned British craft, about in size and speed like the Cunarders of twenty-five years ago. The average time made is about forty-eight hours; but a very scurrilous East wind smote us so spitefully in the face that we were five hours behind the usual run. This is the height of the season, and the boats are crowded.

The Bermudas are a group of coral islands numbering a couple of hundred; but the five largest contain the whole population of fifteen thousand people. Their area is about ten square miles, and within that space is packed an immense amount of picturesque and unique loveliness. Our steamer approached the extreme northeastern end of the group, called "St. George's" and coasted along down to "Ireland Island," which is occupied by the vast British navy yards, and some of John Bull's saucy iron-clads are anchored off shore. At that point we swung into the magnificent Bay, studded with islands, and I wonder that its praises have not been more widely "said or sung;" for, with the possible exception of New York harbor, we have not its equal on our whole Atlantic coast. At the head of this Bay, on a sloping hill-side, stands the chief town of the Colony, and as it contains a cathedral it has the English right to be called the "city of Hamilton." There are two large and well-appointed hotels; we are pleasantly quartered at the "Princess," and among the guests we find some of our mid-summer friends from Lake Mohonk. The hotel stands immediately on the water-side, and across the Bay the view of the white villas and cottages ensconced among the foliage of Paget is a perpetual feast to the eye.

The transformation of the last few days has been wonderful. On the day before we left New York we saw snow in the streets. In fifty-six hours we found ourselves surrounded by the teeming verdure and foliage of June! The lawns are in their attire of living green. The gardens are ablaze with flowers—geraniums, nasturtiums, pinks and roses of every hue. Clumps of oleanders are in every yard, and the most gorgeous flowering vines overhang the walls of coral. White lilies are almost as abundant as May-weed in an American pasture-field. While Florida is all sand, Bermuda is all coral. The smooth roads are all coral-beds, and the sun reflected from the white surface is almost as trying to the eyes as the flashing streets of Athens. The houses are built of coral, and if they become slightly discolored they receive a fresh coat of white-wash. The bright contrast of intense white and deep green gives a most picturesque effect to the landscape. In this porous coral formation wells are impossible; wherefore the inhabitants are dependent upon the rains of heaven, and the methods of catching and storing the rainfall in cisterns and reservoirs are very ingenious.

As the atmosphere of Bermuda is so delightful and vitalizing, we visitors live mostly out of doors—walking, driving, cycling, or boating among the innumerable islets and coves. The Gulf Stream shields us from the cold North winds, and the average temperature of the year is about seventy. We took our first drive

on Saturday out to "Fairy Land" and soon imagined ourselves in the tropics; groves of bananas were growing by the road-side; palmettos were mingled with the paw-paw trees with their queer clusters of fruit at the top; and in the pools of water were mangroves with their innumerable roots. When driving through the grounds of General Hastings's "Soucy Park" we passed a lofty hedge which was gorgeous with the scarlet hibiscus. The rich soil which overlies the coral yields great crops of the Bermuda-potato, of onions, and of lilies by the millions. To-day's steamer, which carries this letter, will go freighted with a great cargo of lily-buds, which will grace hundreds of American churches on the coming Easter-morning.

Yesterday we worshipped with the Presbyterian Church of St. Andrew's, whose faithful pastor, the Rev. Mr. Burrowes, has been here for several years. Many pleasant features of the services reminded me of old Scotland; but the admirable "Presbyterian Hymnal" that was used would be accounted a great innovation by the sticklers for the ancient Psalmody. It is the hymn-book prepared by the Presbyterian Churches of Canada, and is about as near perfection for practical purposes as any hymnologic collection I have yet seen. As Bermuda is a British colony, Episcopacy is the predominant faith; and there is a small cathedral here, in which the Bishop of Halifax conducts his official services on certain Sabbaths in every year. One of the most flourishing congregations in Hamilton is Wesleyan Methodist, and I was told that some of the most influential members of the church are well educated and prosperous negroes! There is probably no spot on the globe in which the colored people can boast of as much culture, thrift, high moral character and social influence as here in Bermuda. Slavery disappeared long ago, and no barbarous and un-Christian color-prejudice weighs down the worthy and industrious negro citizens. Of the naval and military establishments here, and of several ecclesiastical and social matters, I will write in my next; this hurried epistle must go by this morning's steamer.

PRINCESS HOTEL, HAMILTON, March 27, 1899.

A STEP TOWARD COMITY.

At a conference of Secretaries of the American Missionary Association, the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the American Baptist Home Mission Society, the Missionary Society of the United Brethren in Christ and the Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church, held at the office of the Presbyterian Secretary, March 27, 1899, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, First: That the Secretaries of the Boards here represented believe our churches called on to enter the island of Porto Rico for Gospel and educational work.

Second: In order that there may be the utmost economy of forces and that the spirit of Christian unity may be made manifest to the people among whom we shall labor, we will engage in this work on principles of denominational comity.

Third: In order to this we will meet in September at the call of the Secretary and stately thereafter in order that we may keep each other advised of all steps taken toward the Christian occupation of the island and agree so to respect such advances as not to duplicate forces in the same community beyond manifest necessity.

Fourth: That in the opening of evangelistic work in Porto Rico a statement be published to the people of Porto Rico to be signed by the representatives of the different societies expressing the fellowship and unity of these societies in this work.

And we recommend that the mission workers in Porto Rico of the various societies organize an evangelical conference which shall meet at stated intervals for conference, and mutual assistance in their common work.