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# The Evangelist

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A New Serial  
by....

Mary  
Bright  
Bruce

Begins May  
Twenty-fifth

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## A YEAR AFTER.

Anna R. Moffat.

A year of silence here! No echo waketh  
To the loved voice so cheery in its ring.  
We miss the accents blithe—the daily greeting,  
Our hands fall listless, and the hot tears spring.

A year of grief! whose long months sorrow laden  
Have slowly crept their weary way along.  
Once more the birds sing and the flowers blossom,  
But wounded hearts nor beauty heed nor song.

Out of the day has faded so much brightness!  
Out of our lives has vanished so much joy!  
How can we tread earth's paths amid such darkness?  
How in the Master's work weak hands employ?

O drooping hearts, look up! In heaven's dear shelter  
Safe, happy, blest, abides your loved and lost.  
For you he waits, until, when fall the shadows  
Ye too beyond the Border land have crossed.

Among the shining ones, with the pure hearted  
Who serve their Lord and see Him face to face,  
Where earthly trials enter not he dwelleth,  
Kept by His Father's love, in peace and grace.

And though ye crave a moment of clear vision  
A little longer yet he bids you, "wait!"  
So may our Lord His patience grant, till, conquerors  
O'er death, ye enter through the heavenly gate!

APRIL 27, 1899.

## All Round the Horizon.

Though it is certainly becoming necessary to guard against the multiplication of legal holidays, it is as certainly a good thing—especially for the children—to indulge in patriotic enthusiasm, and even in a little hero worship when occasion serves. The first of May, 1898, was unquestionably one of the epoch making days of history, and the hero of that day is more than a hero of chance or occasion. It was a good thing that neither children nor business men were given a holiday last Monday, if only for the object lesson, reaching much deeper than the surface of the question, that it is not necessary to neglect the day's duties in order to pay even the highest and most enthusiastic tribute of honor where honor is due.

The children who in our public schools last Monday saluted the flag and sang patriotic songs and learned to couple the name of Dewey with that of Washington, while hearing the story of Manila Bay, received not only a moral but a spiritual uplift, such as the merriest May party could not give. Old Glory flying from the roofs and windows of buildings in which men, earnestly doing their daily duty, bore about with them the underlying consciousness of a historic deed and a historic man, made a far deeper impression upon the thoughtless public than the most imposing of processions could have done. And so all over the country; in Vermont where Dewey's Alma Mater, Norwich military school, broke ground for a new Memorial building, in Chicago where great multitudes gathered to hear the Te Deum which Walter Damrosch had dedicated to Admiral Dewey, in this city where the Daughters of the Revolution honored the hero of Manila by honoring his military ancestor, Washington, and men gathered in churches as well as clubs to celebrate the day—as far as

California, where floral parades and fire works made a sort of Fourth of July of the occasion, there was everywhere a seriousness, a spiritual exaltation, which would have been lost but for the steady performance of common duty which made so significant a part of the exercises of the day.

The week's record in Luzon is to the last degree brilliant. Notwithstanding the intense heat and the difficulty of providing the army with the necessaries of life, our troops have acquitted themselves splendidly, driving the insurgents from their strong entrenchments at Calumpit back upon the mountains, where they seem to fear another foe in the person of hostile tribes. Brave deeds were done by our troops which emphatically give the lie to the "anti-imperialist" reports that our boys object to "shoot down naked savages in cold blood" and similar foolishness. Notably the deeds of Colonel Funston's men of the Twentieth Kansas volunteers, twice swimming a river under deadly fire, two of them carrying a rope which made possible a ferry for the rest of the troops, are such as will shine in history. The desperate situation of the insurgents was indicated on Friday by the arrival in our lines of a party bearing a flag of truce. It is true that the assertion is made that General Luna, who headed it, was not an accredited representative of Aguinaldo—an assertion which receives little credit, especially in view of the request for an armistice while Aguinaldo should ascertain the wishes of the Filipino Congress. It is nevertheless believed, even by so cautious a student of the question as President Schurman of the Philippine Commission, that the days of the insurrection are numbered. As for the armistice, General Otis does not recognize the existence of a Filipino Congress, but military operations have for the present ceased, our soldiers sorely needing repose; not so much, however, but that Dewey Day was bravely celebrated. Two regiments of infantry and six troops of cavalry will shortly sail from San Francisco to reinforce General Otis.

May day was celebrated in the Department of State at Washington by the payment to the French Ambassador of four drafts for \$5,000,000 each, to cover the war indemnity to Spain. The entire cost of the war, though it has not yet been accurately ascertained, will foot up to more than \$300,000,000, say the Treasury officials. It is a great deal of money, no doubt, but there are blessings and opportunities which are well purchased at heavy expense, not only of money but of suffering and of precious lives; and we earnestly believe that such are the opportunities and the blessings wrought out by this war for this country and the world.

The Collector of Customs in Havana has forbidden the importation of fire-arms. Although there are a few who characterize this as a high handed proceeding, and a very few who assert that it is a confession of fear, the majority of the Cuban people are entirely in accord

with the order. It is plows, not guns, that Cuba needs, says La Lucha, the most important daily paper, and it is very certain that the better element in the country—and that is always the larger element in any civilized country—recognize and desire to co-operate with our Government's effort to develop the best that is in Cuba.

The most important European event of the week, or perhaps of many weeks, is the understanding between Great Britain and Russia with regard to China. The integrity and independence of that nation are to be preserved, and provisions are made to avoid the clashing of foreign interests. It is true that certain parties in Germany and France are somewhat sceptical as to the good faith and the permanence of the agreement, and France is particularly displeased with this evidence of the hollowness of Russia's friendship; but our own Government is said to regard the agreement as one which tends to the peaceful settlement of Eastern difficulties, and to the promotion of the general trade activities of Europe and America. The "open door" policy is believed to be a part of the convention.

The latest reports of the Dreyfus matter show that the government favors the closing of the incident as speedily as may be done with general satisfaction, lest the army be more greatly discredited than is consistent with the public weal. There is a rumor that Dreyfus is to be set at liberty, and an eminent army officer, retired, has published in so prominent a paper as the *Journal des Débats* a plea for a truce in the controversy as "more generous and patriotic" than any attempt to secure the acquittal of the accused would be. The courage of the *Figaro* in publishing the reports of proceedings has greatly affected public opinion.

It is rather unfortunate that those American women, who if not more prominent are more generally in evidence than others, are taking it so much to heart that there is not to be a distinctive woman's exhibit at the Paris Exposition. It is rather unjust of them to blame Commissioner-General Peck for this state of things, since it is not he, but the French Government that has so ruled. But why cannot our discontented sisters see that in fact the French Government is paying them the highest possible compliment. Women's works are not to be excluded from the Exposition, but are to be admitted on precisely equal terms with those of men; what more would those women have who are forever clamoring for equal rights with men? It is not men only, it is the more refined, intelligent and reasonable women of the land, who are getting weary of this perpetual clamor for special privileges side by side with the demands for "rights". It will detract nothing from good work to exhibit it beside the best work, and surely if the best should happen to be woman's work it will show up all the more strikingly, side by side with the second best, performed by man.

The National Conference of Charities and Corrections is so important a convention that it is greatly to be regretted that its meetings are usually so nearly synchronous with General Assembly. The Twenty-sixth Annual meeting of the Conference will be held in Cincinnati, May 17-23. The subjects considered at these conferences are always of vital importance to the public weal, and the speakers are always men and women of large experience and great ability. The conference sermon will be preached by President Barrows of Oberlin. To the usual subjects, will be added many of peculiarly timely interest.

#### MISLEADING REPORTS.

Duncan Brown D.D.

As chairman of the Education Committee of the Synod of Missouri, and also of Platte Presbytery, which includes Park College with its large number of students for the ministry, I have been much interested in the published report of the Education Committee of the Synod of Illinois, with its appended tables of figures. In seeking the causes of the great decline in contributions for "Education," and in candidates for the ministry, I was led to examine our Assembly Minutes and our Board Reports more closely than I had ever done before; and I found some surprising things.

First, as to "Education" contributions. Dr. Bryan's table shows a loss of \$130,581 in three years; that is, a drop from \$214,637 in 1895 to \$84,056 in 1898, or nearly 61 per cent. But a closer examination shows that of this large amount \$101,208 was given by one church in Chicago, \$20,075 by one in Cleveland and \$6,239 by one in Pittsburg. At least \$125,000 of this was special gifts that year, mostly for McCormick Seminary. As there were no such gifts in 1898, this would make the real drop less than \$6,000, or about six per cent.

In the Board's receipts the tables show a drop of \$49,629, or from \$125,254 to \$75,625. But the receipts in 1895 included "investments paid in, \$23,275; legacies, \$33,666, and loan, \$4,000," or \$60,741, as against \$18,653 of the same items last year, a difference of \$42,088. Take this from the \$125,254, and we have \$83,166 to compare with the \$75,625 of last year, making the real drop here only \$7,431, or about nine per cent.

The decrease in receipts to the Board from churches, etc. is the most discouraging of all, amounting to about 15 per cent., but even here there is some light. Eleven Synods show a loss, but eighteen a gain. Indeed, if we take out the five great Synods of Illinois, New Jersey, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania, each containing one of our leading seminaries, the rest of the church actually gave an increase of \$182. Almost one-third of the loss was in the six Presbyteries containing these seminaries, Chicago alone losing \$1,241, or nearly one-sixth. Still, the figures are bad enough, and have been steadily growing less for more than ten years.

Second, as to the candidates. I could not understand the sudden drop from 1,433 to 1,161 in one year, and in looking it up I found that nearly forty Presbyteries had failed to report all their candidates last year. By the Board's report, 37 Presbyteries had 109 more candidates receiving aid than they reported altogether! More than one-eighth of the Board's candidates were not reported by the Presbyteries at all. If the reports were complete, they would show at least thirteen hundred candidates; probably more. Some of these reports are amazingly inaccurate. Shenango Presbytery with seven candidates under the Board reports none; Allegheny with 14 reports 7; St. Clairsville with 12 reports 3; Newton with 9 reports none; Wooster with 13 reports 2; and Transylvania with 19 reports

none. Similar inaccuracies have occurred in other years, but not to so great an extent. The number of licentiates might make a little difference here, but very little. This throws some light on the decrease of candidates. Here is some more: The seven seminary Synods of California, Illinois, Kentucky, New Jersey, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania, with 837 candidates in 1895, lose 267, or nearly one-third, in 1898; while the other twenty-two Synods, with 640 candidates, lose only 49, or less than one-thirteenth. These same seven losing Synods contain all the Presbyteries which give the most inaccurate reports, and five of them lose \$7,715, or \$182 more than the whole loss in contributions from the churches. The same five Synods show \$130,416 loss, or all but \$165 of the whole decrease in general "Education" contributions. Whether their closer contact with the seminaries causes any of these results must be left to those who know more about it than the writer. It is but just to say, however, that these same five Synods give three-fourths of what is left of the general contributions, and three-sevenths of all that goes to the Board from the churches.

While the case is not so bad as the Illinois tables seem to show, it is bad enough, and certainly needs some remedy. The appointment by the next Assembly of a special committee, in accordance with the overture of Chicago Presbytery, would seem to be a wise action. Such a committee, if not too large, could thoroughly investigate the whole subject, and could certainly suggest some improvements.

Two other important facts are shown by a careful examination of the reports. One is that our most serious losses come between licensure and ordination. In ten years 363 more licensures are reported than ordinations, or an average of 36 each year. What becomes of the others?

The other fact is that the number of students in our theological seminaries has decreased from 959 in 1895 to 833 in 1898, or over 13 per cent. in three years. This seems to show that the main point in Dr. Bryan's report, the decreased number of young men seeking the ministry, is well taken. A partial explanation of all these losses, however, may be found in the fact that 1895 showed the first results of the great revivals of 1894, which added 116,469 members to our churches, while 1897 only brought in 94,498, a decrease of nearly 19 per cent., which is greater in proportion than that of either candidates or contributions. Changes of plan or method may be needed, but what we need most is an earnest, gracious, Scriptural revival through all our churches.

TARKIO, Mo.

#### A VENERABLE PRESBYTER.

At the April meeting of the Presbytery of Troy, at Lansingburgh, letters were read from absent members of Presbytery. One of the most interesting of the several missives was that from the Rev. Samuel R. House M.D. of Waterford, who was one of the founders of the mission to Siam over fifty years ago. He and his colleague, Dr. Mattoon, began a school for boys, of which for many years he was principal. Dr. House left Siam in 1876. Last year he received from his old pupils 183 silver dollars as a birthday present. Among the contributors were an army surgeon, officers of the government service, the pastor of the native church, preachers, teachers, clerks, many of whom he had baptized. This is the letter which accompanied the gift:

SUMRAY, BANGKOK, June 15, 1898.

Rev. S. R. HOUSE, M.D.—Sir: We having learn that your old age coming to eighty-one on the 16th October next. On this occasion we were glad to subscribe among your oriental scholars of Siam to offer you a small present

which we obtained for your birthday.

We herewith requests you to accept this small sum for your birthday's present for the recognition of your Siamese scholars, and we beg to thanks you for the knowledge which we obtained from you when you be with us in our lovely country, and we noted you are the foundation of our knowledge, and we will place your name on the stones of our hearts long as we lives.

We pray God to bless to comfort and to help you in any circumstances, and we hope to meet you again in the kingdom of Our Father.

We have the honor to remains sir your affectionate scholars

(Signed by over thirty names.)

#### THE CANTEN LET LOOSE AGAIN!

Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler.

During the last session of Congress the National Temperance Society and other kindred organizations poured in petitions urging a law to banish the canteen. The following stringent law passed both Houses—with the evident intention to drive the sale of intoxicants to soldiers and sailors off of every acre that is under Government control:

"No officer or private soldier shall be detailed to sell intoxicating drinks, as a bartender or otherwise, in any post exchange or canteen, nor shall any other person be required or allowed to sell such liquors in any encampment or fort or on any premises used for military purposes by the United States; and the Secretary of War is hereby directed to issue such general order as may be necessary to carry the provisions of this section into full force and effect."

There was great rejoicing over the land when this excellent measure passed so triumphantly, through the ordeal of Congress; yet apprehensions were expressed that somehow this righteous enactment would be broken through or else entirely broken down. This latter short process of the guillotine was applied to it as soon as it fell into the hands of the chief law officer of the Government, Mr. Griggs. He has decided that the law which Congress intended to prohibit the canteen-sale of liquors, and which everybody supposed would prohibit such sale, is *not prohibitory at all!* According to Attorney Griggs, it is a mere sham. He says that the provision "no officer or private soldier shall sell intoxicating liquors" means that other persons may sell liquors! He furthermore says that "nor shall any other person" does not mean what it clearly declares, but means something entirely different! This mischief making Attorney has racked his brains to devise a cunning argument by which the noble and humane and patriotic aim of Congress might be nullified. Our War-Secretary, Mr. Alger, makes haste to adopt Griggs's decision and the evil spirits of the canteen are let loose again! These two men are Cabinet-officers for whom President McKinley (for whose election some of us strove so zealously) is directly responsible; will he not as "commander in chief" lay hands on them?

What can be done? The battle against the canteen must be fought again, and with more zeal than ever. The next Congress must be plied with petitions and appeals, with the hope that a law can be enacted that even Attorney-General Griggs cannot undermine. The temptations to which our American soldiers are exposed are as full of peril as the diseases bred in Cuban climates or Philippine jungles. Already saloons have been opened in great numbers in Manila. The drunkenness into which some of our men have fallen has produced an emotion of disgust upon intelligent Filipinos—many of whom as Mussulmen abhor all intoxicants. The curse of the drink is added to the curse of war; and to both these curses thousands of men from our American homes are now exposed! A strange method this of "spreading the Gospel" in heathen lands!