

for a republic. The United States decides to build the Nicaragua Canal. Pope Leo XIII dead, succeeded by Cardinal Serafino Vannutelli. Threatened native uprising in India, with Russia in the background. Completion and opening of the Siberian railroad. Germany seizing more land in China. Trouble between England and France in Middle Africa. Change of Prime Ministers in England. Representative of Gladstone becomes Premier. Secretary Sherman retires from the Cabinet. Queen Victoria abdicates, Edward VII King. Success of a submerged torpedo boat in United States Navy. First appearance and use of a motor cycle. Great rush to Alaska. Population increased by hundreds of thousands, 70 per cent from the United States. First railroad built in Alaska. Decease of Cornelius Vanderbilt at Newport. Race for the America cup won by the American yacht. Russia and the United States supreme on the Pacific. A little war between Russia and Japan. Altogether the year is not more remarkable than previous ones. It is perhaps more eventful than calamitous. Fewer accidents than in 1897, and more natural changes in the geographical and political conditions of governments. Literature still continued at a low ebb, with but one or two remarkable works as in 1897. The stage notable for but two productions meriting long runs. As in 1897 there is still room for very much improvement in the fiction department of the newspaper magazine, though this is equally true of the best periodicals. Altogether 1898 is a notable year for the close of this century, but not an epoch-making twelvemonth. Many things are at a standstill, but the new year, as usual, is full of promise.

Mortimer Delano.

—Pierson or Pearson—

The first found is David Perisone (Pierson) merchant of Forfarshire ? Scot. he held an Eng. safe-conduct in 1369 [I am inclined to think this house originated in France and went to Scot, sending branches to Eng.] 1440 William Pereson was rector of Thoresby (York ?) 1452 Thomas Peirson was sheriff of York 1554 Robert Pearson commoner & freeholder of York and a noted Burgess, died. Armes of Pearson (Pierson) Yorkshire: Called also of "Tyer's or Tyre's Hill" this place not found is probably some ancient country-seat now unknown. Az., bet 2 pallets wavy ermine, 3 suns or, placed in pale. Crest: out of cloud a sun. (Abram) Abraham Pearson (Pierson) of Thornton Yorkshire Eng m. July 23 1607 Mary Drake he d Nov 24 1636—they had 1 ch. bapt. 1611 & another 1614 [? son of John Pearson of Thornton bur. at Paris Ch of Bradford York May 25 1622 son of James Pearson of Thornton (1550 ?)—also Abraham son of John bapt. 1647 & Abraham 1676] supposed father of Rev. Abraham 1 Pierson b. or bapt. at Bradford 1613 in the West Riding of Yorkshire [Bapt. on register at Bradford Parish ch does not mean birth was at Brad.] Grad. Trinity coll Cambridge 1632—to New Eng before 1639 Boston 1640 Southampton L. I. 1640-7 founded Branford & also Newark N. J. 1667 d. there Aug. 9 1678, m. Eng. Abigail dau. of Rev. John Wheelwright of Lincolnshire Eng & New Hampshire (Wheelwright Armes—used in Amer. 1740—erm. on a fesse or, bet. 3 wolves heads; 3