

promote our spiritual interests. Let us all agree to hear with him, and, instead of talking him down, let us go out from this meeting resolved to talk him up.'

The advice was accepted. The result you can guess. He remained in that church nearly half a century, and a remarkable success attended his ministry to the close.

A good many people talk the minister down. They discount all his doings. They misunderstand his plainest sayings. They credit him with unworthy motives. They predestinate his failure. An angel from heaven could not succeed under such conditions.

That is unwise. It is unfair. And it is wicked. How much better to 'talk up' the minister!

The world will accept him at your estimate, and respect him according to the measure of your own respect.

Talk up the minister in your home. Help him to win and save the children.

Talk up the minister among the young people. Lift not a finger to break the spell of his uplifting influence.

Talk up the minister among your fellow members. Be his solid friend. Join his body-guard. Suffer no tongue of malice to speak against him in your presence.

Talk up the minister in the social circle, on the street, in the cars, in the factory, store or office. Magnify his strong points. Minify his weak ones. Speak kindly of him, or speak not at all.

Do you know what such loyalty to the minister means? In nine cases out of every ten it means success.—'Christian Guardian.'

Religious News.

The progress in the West Africa mission is phenomenal. A letter just received at the Board rooms recounts that in the village schools near Elat, on January 10, more than 1,000 scholars were enrolled. Two of the boys from the station school are teaching the alphabet by means of a chart to 100 pupils, men, women, and children, who had just come from the bush. On the five Sabbaths of January, the average attendance at Sabbath-school was about 1,300. On the first Sabbath of February, there were 1,691 pupils at Sabbath-school, and 1,953 at church. The industrial department is busy trying to fill orders. This includes the tailoring and carpentering classes, and a class in rattan work. Tables, chairs and couches are made by boys who, two years ago, did not know how to handle a tool. In addition to their studies and other work, the boys at Elat school made 2,400 mats for the factories in the immediate neighborhood. Most of these were made by the light of the moon.

No less an authority than Jacob Riis declares:

We in New York let our city grow up as it could, not as it should, and we woke up to find ourselves in the grasp of the slum, to find the population of 2,000,000 souls living in an environment in which all the influences made for unrighteousness and for the corruption of youth. We counted thousands of dark rooms in our basements in which no plant could grow, but in which boys and girls were left to grow into men and women, to take over, by and by, the duties and responsibilities of citizenship. That was our sin and we paid dearly for it, paid in a tuberculosis mortality of 10,000 deaths a year, half of which were due directly to the dark and airless bedrooms; paid in an indifferent citizenship that was a dead weight upon all efforts for reform for years. You could not appeal to it, for it had lost hope, and we have paid for it in treasure without end. It is a costly thing to forget your neighbors.

Congregational missions in China are not wholly the work of foreigners. The Chinese Congregational Missionary Society is an organization started by the Chinese at San Francisco in 1884 for doing mission work in the fatherland, especially in the Kwangtung provinces, from which have come most of the Chinese now in the United States. While independent in its organization, this society keeps in close affiliation with the American Board, taking counsel from the American missionaries, and relying upon them for a certain supervision in both spiritual and financial administration. The Rev. C. A. Nelson,

of Canton, as its field director and treasurer, gives the following particulars about it:

It has one mission station, five out-stations, one pastor, four preachers, one Bible-woman, three schools for boys, two schools for girls, a membership of 409, with additions of forty last year, a property valued at \$24,000 silver, a contribution made from the field of \$150 silver, besides \$600 silver contributed by the Chinese in the United States.' Mr. Nelson adds: 'The work of this society is most encouraging to us, as it shows that the Gospel has taken real hold, and that the Chinese Christians are beginning to walk.'—'Missionary Herald.'

Work in Labrador.

THE REINDEER AND OTHER PROJECTS.

SS. 'Strathcona,'

Off Labrador.

Dear Mr. Editor,—On our arrival at St. Anthony, it was a great source of regret to us all that the deer were too far on the hills for us to see them. Already they are a noble herd of over six hundred, and at this time of the year are splendid with their rapidly growing antlers. However, the good reports of their progress somewhat made up for it.

One of the boys who 'drove deer' last winter, told me that his deer 'galloped so fast that I couldn't keep up if I got off to run,' and that it was as 'good as a dozen dogs.' Though this was not the case with all the stags that were driven, yet all agreed that for burden purposes they 'can't be beat,' on the snows of our winter.

Their fecundity here is almost amazing, and even the stolid Lapp herders, when they found four of last year's fawns with fawns of their own this year, said that they had never known the like before. We are sending back one Lapp family this year, and engaging four apprentices for three years, all Labrador men. The agreement is that the herd shall feed, clothe, and house them, and give them \$25, \$50 and \$100 pocket money, made each year respectively, and also five deer, four of which are to be does, the engagement to be renewable if desirable at the close.

We have lost from the herd our volunteer manager, Lieutenant W. G. Lindsay, who has given us two years' service of the most valuable kind. We have all learned to love him and his peculiarities, and there seems now a big gap left. We have, however, his promise to come back later if we really are in need of him. George Ford, Esq., formerly in charge of the Hudson Bay Company's post at Nachvak takes his place. As a Christian gentleman, and a good all-round sportsman, and as an ardent lover of every kind of animal from Homo Bimana downwards, and as a man with an overflowing fund of humor, we could expect no better substitute. Mr. Ford has already had one year with the reindeer under Mr. Lindsay.

Our reindeer wander very considerably more this winter than the previous one. The Lapps say that it is because they have learned that there are no wolves in the country to fear. This has, however, made us short of men with the home herd, and our dairy experiments will be somewhat interfered with. A new development in this line is due to the fact that some of the reindeer milk sterilized and bottled last autumn was found to be perfectly fresh and palatable at St. Anthony Hospital six months later. Glass bottles, however, are expensive, are heavy, and have to be returned, so we have gladly welcomed a most generous gift of unlimited bottles from the 'Single Service Bottle Company,' of Chicago. The bottles are made of paper, are lined with waxed surfaces, and are used largely for milk and cream. They seal themselves airtight, with a packed wood stopper. The advantages are that they are ridiculously cheap, are of almost no weight, and can be destroyed instead of returned after once being used. If this log falls into the hands of anyone willing to help in this reindeer experiment I should be more than grateful, as we need badly some more equipage, we need a couple of good tents, a good portable house for herders' headquarters, and also some addition to the fund for maintaining the herders. Our experience is that the experiment promises already to be event-

ually successful, and if so it will be of the greatest possible benefit to Labrador. Indeed, it could be a basis for maintaining a really large population, and would provide Labrador with just that second line of defence which is so absolutely needed in years like this when the fishery on the outside fails. The fact is that unless some such industry grows up, or the pulping or minerals are developed, Labrador will be depopulated entirely, while it could maintain as valuable a population as Norway or Finland.

The great attraction to the clinic of this hospital has been due to the surgical work of Dr. John Mason Little, of Harvard, who has now been two years with us. An exponent of the wonderful possibilities of modern surgery, has at last made some impression on the fatalism of a people, who, like all fishermen, are conservative to the last degree. I have seen ordinary cases of children with club feet, condemned to perpetual crippledom by parents who love their children so well that they 'wouldn't have the Lord's work interfered with,' and who have lost lives and functions that a single incision would have saved. It is little wonder, therefore, that, when from one small village an epileptic woman has been cured by a portion of the skull being removed, another with an abdominal tumor restored to life after she had received the last unction, another been given back his sight after he had been for many years blind, another, hopelessly crippled, enabled to get up and walk, and so on, the talk should be all along the coast that wonderful things are done at St. Anthony.

The professor of surgery from Cornell University, with an assistant surgeon, is now at St. Anthony as a volunteer with Dr. Wakefield, during Dr. Little's absence on the 'Strathcona.'

Among other gratifying features of work here has been the growing interest in the industrial department. As we approached the harbor my host on the yacht said he very much wished to carry back to New York some specimens of Newfoundland homespun. As our weaving department had been in the care of only a Labrador girl this winter I was much afraid he would not find any; so I was the more rejoiced to see him coming down the wharf later carrying no mean supply of it that he had purchased, and to hear also that the branch started under another local girl fifty miles to the south had been equally successful.

One more effort we were able to direct before we left in the night again for Labrador. We are about to build a school for the children. Over eighty children now live in the harbor; and the 'pigsty,' as we have learned to call the ancient shack, which they tried to gather in, has long since been outgrown. We have decided to build one of logs, and the people have hauled out quite a number already for that purpose. It will cost a little more than the conventional clapboard one, but the aesthetic aspect is worth considering; and if the place is made the most attractive of any known to the children, we shall expect it to afford them an incentive to that invincible spirit of esprit de corps and loyalty to one another, which are no mean assets in the valuation of a college course, and which are sadly lacking emotions in most scattered communities.

WILFRED T. GRENFELL.

Acknowledgments.

LABRADOR FUND.

Received for the launch:—W. F. M. S. of Little Shemogue, N.B., per Rev. Jos. H. Brownell, \$5.00; Upper Ormstown Sunday School, per R. J. McNeill, \$5.00; A Friend, Ormstown, \$2.00; A Friend, Los Angeles, \$5.00; Total.....\$ 17.00

Received for the cots:—Mrs. A. MacMillan, Gould Station, Que.....\$ 2.00
Previously acknowledged for all purposes.....\$ 523.14

Total on hand Sept. 15.....\$ 542.14

Address all subscriptions for Dr. Grenfell's work to 'Witness' Labrador Fund, John Dougall and Son, 'Witness' Office, Montreal, stating with the gift whether it is for launch, komatik, or cots.