

has been secured by the unanimity of action on the part of Christian people, that if those who profess to have at heart the interests of truth and morality were to take the same attitude in regard to other threatening evils by which the foundations are now being shaken, a similar result might be secured. Such unanimity with reference to the traffic

in strong drink, for example, would speedily put an end to it. Strong conviction as to good will issue in the eviction of evil. Now that the power of Christian sentiment in our land has shown itself, why not make a determined effort to deal with other public dangers in the same radical—wisely radical—way?

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### EDITORIAL NOTES.

#### **The International Missionary Union.**

THE International Missionary Union will hold its tenth annual meeting at Clifton Springs, N. Y., June 14th-21st.

The purposes of the Union are the mutual acquaintance and conference of missionaries and the promotion of the work of foreign missions in Christian hearts at home and on the wide field abroad.

The Union is primarily a missionaries' club, meeting publicly for one week in each year (beginning the second Wednesday evening in June); "international" in its membership, not only from both sides of the Canadian border and beyond, but also from all missionary lands where any work of evangelical churches has occupied a field. All persons, male or female, who are or have been foreign missionaries of any evangelical denomination are as such recognized without further invitation or introduction as members of the Union (membership fee, fifty cents), and are the only persons having the rights of discussion and voting, and of free entertainment.

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#### **The New Palimpsest.**

BIBLE scholars in all lands will look with eagerness for the publication of the complete Syrian version of the four Gospels recently discovered in the Convent of Mount Sinai by Mrs. Agnes Smith Lewis, of Cambridge. Already nearly the whole of the Gospel of Mark has been transcribed, and the others will follow in due time. As Professor J. Rendel Harris says, the recovery of

this codex will mark an epoch in New Testament studies. The fact that this is the oldest authenticated text in existence of this portion of the Divine Word gives it an importance that cannot be overestimated.

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#### **Interest in Bible Study Increasing.**

It is a most significant and promising fact in the religious world that individual interest in Bible study is increasing with every year. It is difficult to prove this by statistics, but some statements made by the American Institute of Sacred Literature bear strongly upon the question.

Since the organization of that institution, whose sole aim is to advance Bible study, thousands of students have been enrolled for individual instruction in the English Bible and the original tongues. This work has not been confined to the United States or even to America. Missionaries in foreign fields, and others who by circumstances are placed beyond the reach of good instruction, have availed themselves of this help. Students in appreciable numbers are enrolled from Great Britain, Italy, India, Japan, Corea, China, Hawaii, South Africa, Burma, Assam, Australia, Bermuda; besides Mexico, South America, and the Canadian provinces on this continent.

Since the organization of the Hebrew schools in 1878, and the New Testament Greek department some years later, three thousand persons have enrolled for thorough study of these languages, and a fair proportion have grad-