

in overcrowded China, has a population of 3,700 to the square mile. New York, taking all its area, has a population of 54,000 to the square mile, and leaving out the uninhabited portions it has a population of 85,000 to the square mile. In the Sixth Ward there is a population of 145,000 to the square mile. In the Tenth Ward there is a population of 276,000 to the square mile. In the Thirteenth Ward there is a population of 224,000 to the square mile, and this includes in the square mile roads, squares and all open places. There is one block in this city which ordinarily contains 2,500 inhabitants, and every living-room in it is also a work-room. There is in one ward a tenement covering one-quarter of an acre

which contains an average of 1,350 people. At that rate a square mile would contain 3,456,000. Nowhere else in the civilized world to-day are human beings packed so closely. Nowhere else in the civilized world to-day is the mortality, and especially infant mortality, so terrible. In that district known as Mulberry Street, there is, according to the report of Charles F. Wingate, the Commissioner appointed by the Legislature or Governor (I forget which), to make an investigation of the sanitary condition of the district, a death-rate of 65 per cent., and in the tenement district it is said that 90 per cent. of the children die before they arrive at the age of five years!"

#### EDITORIAL NOTES.

##### HOMILETIC REVIEW FOR 1887.

OUR arrangements for the coming year are on a scale commensurate with the high position and wide influence already achieved by the HOMILETIC REVIEW during the ten years of its existence. Encouraged by the strong encomiums of our patrons, and by the high appreciation of the religious public, we have made a more liberal and varied provision for the literary and spiritual instruction of our readers for 1887 than ever before—more liberal, we think we may safely say, than any other religious monthly in the world. We present below, in proof of this, a list of the leading subjects that will be discussed in the REVIEW during the year, and the names of the respective writers, so far as we are able to give them at this early date. There has been time as yet for only a very partial response to our letters of invitation; but we can safely say that each and all of the topics herein announced will be discussed during the coming year by writers eminently qualified to do justice to them.

##### SYMPOSIUMS.

##### I. How can the Pulpit best Counteract the Influence of Modern Skepticism? The subject to be discussed in its scientific, historic, moral, social, ecclesiastical and practical aspects.

This important and eminently timely theme will be presented by 12 or 15 of the most eminent writers of the day, American and English, chosen with special regard to fitness. J. B. Thomas,

D.D., A. J. Gordon, D.D., Henry A. Buttz, D.D., Wm. A. Snively, D.D., Pres. E. G. Robinson, and others to be announced.

##### II. The Danger from Excluding Religion from Secular Education. To be discussed by 2 eminent Roman Catholic writers and 2 Protestant divines, Herrick Johnson, D.D., Samuel T. Spear, D.D.

##### III. Should Women be Licensed to Preach? 4 papers by those competent to discuss the question.—Francis E. Willard and others.

##### A SERIES OF PAPERS

On the following subjects, every one of which is a live theme, and many of them of transcendent importance.

I. Under the general title of APPLIED CHRISTIANITY, the 12 topics named below will be treated, each by the best qualified writer we could find on that particular subject:

1. The Relation of the Church to the enormous growth of our Cities. J. M. Sherwood, D.D.
2. The Relation of the Church to the conversion of our Great Cities. George F. Pentecost, D.D.
3. The Relation of the Church in our Wealthy Cities to the Waning Churches in our Rural Districts. Rev. R. W. Dale.
4. The best way to reach and interest the Laboring Class in Religion and the Church. A. J. F. Behrends, D.D.
5. The "Labor" Problem. T. T. Eaton, D.D.
6. Uniform Marriage and Divorce Laws. Judge Noah Davis.