

International Copyright.

THis important movement, which received the support, in other days, of Washington and Clay, seems now nearly accomplished. The bill having passed the House of Representatives; and with nothing but the red tape of delay to keep it from passing the Senate, petitions urging the Senate to give it prompt attention are now in circulation. Ministers can do much to forward this measure of honor and justice by securing signatures to petitions and forwarding them to the Senators from their respective States. A good form of petition is the following :

TO THE HONORABLE.....

Member of the Senate of the United States.

The undersigned, being citizens of the State of....., believing that the interests of American literature, the highest development of American patriotism, justice to American authors as well as to American readers, and increased prosperity to the printers, type-setters, stereotypers and electrotypers of the nation will be subverted in a high degree by the passage of House Bill No. 10,881, in behalf of International Copyright, hereby express their hope that you may find it in accord with your convictions of public duty to use your efforts to secure action by the Senate at the earliest possible date on said bill.

THE "Indian war" appears to be due to a deficiency of beef and blankets. It seems to us that the "agents" who enrich themselves on the supplies the government votes for the Indians, leaving the red men to starve and freeze, are the true savages and the real enemies upon whom the military ought to be let loose. Their cruelty is more inhuman than shooting and scalping. Cannot the ministry, by a vigorous crusade of ethics, create an epidemic of common honesty that shall mould those who may be appointed as the nation's agents—and those who appoint them? A certain sternness in Washington would make things better on the reservations.

Prizes.

WE repeat here the following notice which appeared under the head of "Exchanging Views" in our last (December) number :

As the great temptation in a ministers' review is to be too solemn, we suggest some topics to lighten it up a little. We make the following offers :

We will give any \$5 book in our catalogue at the list price to each of the following :

1. To the clergyman who sends the best illustrative incident of the meanest parishioner he has ever known ; the name of the parishioner need not be given.
2. To the clergyman sending the best illustrative incident of the best parishioner he has ever known, without the name.
3. To the minister sending the best new, true clerical anecdote, after the style of those in our "Blue Monday."

All manuscripts for this competition must be in our hands on or before February 1, 1891, we to have the right to publish any or all manuscripts sent, or otherwise dispose of them, as we see fit. The names of the senders, as of all writers for the HOMILETIC, will be kept secret, when so requested.

Queries and Answers.

Questions of general interest to clergymen will be printed in this department. The questions sent to us should be put in as brief forms as possible. Answers from our readers are requested. They must be (1) brief, (2) preceded by the number of the question to which they reply, (3) the name and address of the writer must accompany each answer. The name of a writer will not be published if we are requested to withhold it.

1. Why, within fifty years, has the leadership gone from ministers to the lay members of the churches, to the extent well known to every one of moderate observation ?
2. One who had been almost fifty years professor in a theological seminary, once said to the writer: "Do you think ministers get hold of the people generally as well as before we had theological seminaries?" What would my thoughtful brethren answer to this query ?
3. Does a period of ten or twelve years of scholastic seclusion remove one from sympathy with the masses and unfit him for the practical work of winning souls ? If so, how is the difficulty to be overcome ?

ANSWERS TO DECEMBER QUERIES:

1. Maetzner's Grammar of the English Language, 3 vols. Translated from the German and published in London. The only profound and philosophic presentation of English grammar.
- Fowler's English Grammar, probably the most comprehensive American work. Green's English Grammar, best of the smaller works.