

CONTINENTAL.—The death is announced of *Dr. Theodor Christlieb*. He was born in Birkenhof, Württemberg in 1833, was seven years pastor of a German congregation in London, and in 1868 was appointed Professor of Theology and University preacher at Bonn, Prussia, and has passed away at the comparatively early age of 57. Few men of this century have left behind them a more enviable record. He was a ripe scholar, a sound theologian, a brilliant writer, and a most eloquent speaker. His contributions to missionary literature have been especially valuable, and it will not be easy to fill his place as the leader of evangelical thought in Germany. In private life he was beloved by all who had the privilege of his acquaintance as a genial, warm-hearted, unassuming man. *The Rev. J. B. Will*, for many years the indefatigable agent of the Italian Evangelical Publication Society at Florence, has also been removed by death in the prime of his life and in the midst of a career of eminent usefulness. He was gifted with uncommon administrative ability, and rendered invaluable services to the cause of evangelical religion in Italy. The venerable *Dr. Murray Mitchell*, of Nice, whose name has been a household word in missionary circles for more than half a century, has been for some months prostrated by severe illness. We are glad to notice, however, that hopes are entertained of his recovery.

Our Own Church.

THE congregations are reminded that the annual collection in behalf of the MINISTERS' WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND is appointed by the General Assembly to be made in all the churches in which there are no missionary associations, or other means of supporting the schemes of the Church, on the *Third Sabbath of October*. For reasons that admit of easy explanation, there are still three funds for the support of the widows and orphans of the ministers of our Church. They have all been well managed, and each has secured a certain amount of invested capital, but, owing to the large increase of annuitants, and the reduced rates of interest obtainable, they are all feeling the need of more liberal support from the congregations. On looking at the published statistics it appears that many of the congregations give nothing at all for this purpose, and that the average contribution of those who do give is very small indeed. When it is stated that the average annuity to the widows and families

of the ministers of our Church does not exceed \$170, enough, surely, has been said to awaken deeper interest in this most deserving fund, and to secure for it more general and generous support. The minister who fails to call the attention of his people to this matter does a serious injustice not only to his own family, but to his congregation also.

SHOULD THE FOREIGN MISSIONARY MARRY? The experience of our Church warrants an unequivocal answer in the affirmative. Nearly all our Foreign Missionaries have been married, and we do not know of a single case in which their work has been injured or retarded thereby. On the contrary, the wives of our missionaries, and in many instances their children, have rendered invaluable aid in planting the religion of Christ in heathen lands. *Dr. Herrick*, in the *Missionary Herald*, thus expresses views on this subject, in which we heartily concur:

"I never yet saw a missionary's wife whose companionship did not double her husband's usefulness. I have known more than one whose face, as the years of life increased, took on that charm, that wondrous beauty that youthful features never wear—the beauty of character disciplined by suffering, of a life unselfishly devoted to the highest ends. One of the choicest things of missionary work is the unwritten heroism of missionary homes. . . . It is the missionary's wife who, by years of endurance and acquired experience in the foreign field, has made it possible in these later years—the years of Woman's Missionary Societies—for unmarried ladies to go abroad and live and work among the people of Eastern lands."

PERSONAL:—*Rev. John Jenkins D.D.*, of London, England, formerly of Montreal, accompanied his brother-in-law *Rev. D. M. Gordon* of Halifax in his eastern voyage as far as Cairo, Egypt. *Father Chiniquy's* eightieth birth-day was celebrated with great éclat at St. Anne, Illinois, on the 30th of July, when a large number of his friends assembled in honour of the event; numerous congratulatory letters and telegrams were read, testifying to the respect and esteem in which the Venerable Father is held far and near. *Rev. Thomas Alexander* of Mount Pleasant, reached his eighty-fourth year, on the 23rd of August. *Rev. Dr. Bain* of Kingston, is slowly recovering from a very severe illness. *Rev. J. M. Gardiner* of