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SIXTY YEARS A QUEEN.

To Her Most Gracious Majesty, Queen Victoria.

for the Review

Our Sovereign Lady,—whose fair woman's hand
Has held—so firm and well—for three score years,
'Mid changing cloud and sunshine,—smiles and tears,
The sceptre of our Britain's sea-girt land,
Extending far, as with a magic wand,
Order and peace,—the freedom that endears
The ancient name that all the world reveres—
About thy throne two generations stand,
And call thee blessed, for each peaceful year,
Thou, "by God's grace" has reigned, with sway serene
More prized by thee, than gems of lustre clear,
Or minute guns, or pomp of martial sheen,
The love that binds to thee, thy people dear,
And breathes their world-wide prayer,—God Save the Queen!

FIDELIS.

OVER LAND AND SEA.

An English gentleman has donated \$125,000 to the Princess of Wales's fund for dining the poor in jubilee week. Two hundred thousand persons, it is estimated, must then be provided for. Five pipes of port wine, we are glad to note, offered by wine merchants, have been courteously refused by the committee in charge of the arrangements. Australian dealers are sending on twenty thousand frozen sheep. Of these, twelve thousand will reach the London poor, the remaining eight thousand going to Scotland and Ireland.

On the occasion of the Thanksgiving Service on 20th June, the Marchioness of Tweeddale issued a circular letter inviting all the churches in Scotland of every denomination, to make a collection on that day on behalf of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. The Society, of which Her Majesty is Patroness, owes much to the warm interest and eloquent advocacy of the Marchioness, and it exists "to uphold the sanctity of home life, and to enforce on idle, vicious, drunken, and cruel parents the responsibilities towards their children, who are also the children of the nation, the State of the future." The aims of the Society are excellent, and entirely in accordance with the spirit of the Gospel of Christ.

The Church Missionary Society, which stands at the head of the Missionary Societies of Christendom, and has much to teach other Societies engaged in the same work, is not without the financial trials that have caused so much anxiety in other quarters. Its income for 1896 was reported at the recent Annual May Meeting as £297,625—the largest ever reported, and a truly gigantic figure. Its expenditure was £297,260, an advance of nearly £18,000 upon last year's. This is sailing very near the wind, and seems the more perilous because there is now a total deficit upon the ordinary income of £23,000.

News has been received at the office of the Colonial Missionary Society of the death of the Rev. Robert Laishley which took place suddenly in Auckland, New Zealand. Mr. Laishley was the oldest minister in the service of the Society, and had spent nearly the whole

of his time in the Australasian Colonies where he labored for thirty-seven years.

Active efforts are to be made at Geneva to develop the Calvin Library, founded there some years ago, into an important museum of Reformation history. The object of the promoters of this scheme is not merely to glorify the Reformers but to enable the public to judge them with impartiality. Their intention is to get together by all available means, works and documents of every shade of opinion relating to the Reformation.

A bell has been shipped from the Meneely Bell Company to a church in St. Augustine, Madagascar, coast of Africa, which was inscribed as the gift of the United Norwegian Lutheran churches of the United States to the representative church in that far-off island.

It cost a million dollars to Christianize the Sandwich Islands. Now the annual profit on our commerce with them is that much each year. To get back a hundred per cent. per annum is not a bad investment.

In Prussia over 14,000 Catholics became Protestants lately; ten times as many as changed from protestantism to Catholicism. Over 2,000 Jews became Christians in Germany from 1890 to 1894. The fittest survive.

The Moravians report 150 mission-stations, 400 missionaries, 234 day-schools, with 22,000 scholars, 110 Sunday-schools, and 93,000 converts in foreign lands. These remarkable statistics show that this church abroad is three times the size of the church at home.

A machine has been invented that will make 400 cigarettes a minute. The same man should now invent a machine that will make at least two coffins a minute, as 200 cigarettes are sufficient to kill any able-bodied boy.

Several experts in life insurance have lately declared, as the results of investigation, that habitual beer drinkers are bad risks for insurance. Dr. Bernacki says that the mortality of brewers after forty years of age is very much higher than the average. Self-interest ought to restrain men from fixing on themselves a habit which is demonstrated to be a shortener of life.

We regret to announce the death of the Rev. J. R. Macpherson, minister of the Port Elizabeth Scotch Presbyterian Church, South Africa. Mr. Macpherson was nominated to his post by Sir William Dunn, Bart., M.P., and Principal Caird. He was for some time assistant at Paisley. His death was due to pneumonia induced by wounds accidentally inflicted at a shooting party. The deepest sympathy has been expressed on all sides for Mrs. Macpherson and her child. Nearly 4,000 persons, representing all local bodies and churches, followed the remains to the grave.