

Field Notes.

SUBSCRIBERS in the City of Toronto are reminded that we cannot supply the *OUTLOOK* to them at club rates, as we have either to pay postage, or pay a messenger boy to deliver the paper. Forty cents is the best we can do, unless the good friend who gets up the club will also undertake the task of distributing the papers every month.

RENEWALS are coming in fairly well for the time of year, and doubtless there will be a rush as soon as the holidays are over. We are glad to say also that new names are coming in considerable numbers, and the prospect is bright for a largely increased list in 1887. Let all who are interested lend a helping hand.

Now is the time for the little folk to do their work with the Christmas collecting cards. The aggregate receipts last year from Juvenile Collectors was over \$24,000,—a noble sum, but one, nevertheless, which can be easily increased. If we would get an average of one cent a week from every Sunday-school scholar in the Church, it would amount to nearly \$100,000 a year. Wouldn't that be a grand offering from the children!

INFORMATION has just reached the Mission Rooms of the safe arrival in Japan of Mrs. Whittington, wife of the Rev. R. Whittington, of the Anglo-Japanese College in Tôkyô. Mrs. Whittington was favored with a pleasant outward voyage, being only eighteen days from San Francisco to Yokohama. She stood the long journey well, and arrived in good health.

AN interesting little volume has just been issued from the Book Room, entitled *The Pulpit the Age Needs*. The author is the Rev. George Webber, of Newmarket, and the volume consists of a lecture (from which the book takes its title), to which are added nineteen sermons, making in all 197 pages. The lecture was delivered—by appointment—before the Theological Union of the Toronto Conference; and the sermons have been preached in the ordinary course of Mr. Webber's ministry. To those who value profitable reading,—great truths presented in terse and vigorous language and with graceful diction,—we commend this volume, and trust it will have a wide circulation. A congregation who habitually listen to such sermons may consider themselves highly favored.

MISSIONARY REPORTS have been shipped during the fast ten days with all possible rapidity, and most of the circuits are now supplied. Should any superintendent fail to receive a supply he will oblige by notifying the Mission Rooms without delay.

Editorial and Contributed.



“ON EARTH—PEACE!”

CHRISTMAS.

THERE seems to be an instinct in human nature which prompts us to observe anniversary days,—to commemorate events which to us have more than a passing significance. Some of these anniversaries are joyful, and some are sad, while in others lights and shadows mingle, like sunshine falling through a mist of tears. Some are milestones telling how far we have travelled on a way that is never trod but once; others are Ebenezers, commemorating some signal mercy; others again are only gravestones telling of some hope that lies buried below. And yet, whatever their character, such days are not without their uses. Rightly employed they help us to “remember all the way the Lord” our “God hath led” us “these forty years”—more or less—“in the wilderness,” and remind us that we are swiftly nearing the time when, if life has been wisely lived, they will all merge in the one long, bright, happy day that knows no close.

The same instinct appears, in a wider sense, in the history of nations. The day from which a nation dates its separate existence; the day on which it