

World's Woman's Temperance Union. This great undertaking was begun two years ago when Mrs. Mary Leavitt started on an organizing tour around the world. She has formed Woman's Christian Temperance Unions in the islands of the Pacific now reported to be in a flourishing condition. Thence she went to New Zealand, where she founded ten local unions confederated in a provincial society. Australia was next visited by Mrs. Leavitt. There she intends labouring till next spring when she will sail for Asia. The object of this universal union is thus set forth:

To unify the interest in the Temperance cause of Christian women throughout the world, by introducing the noon-tide hour of prayer for the triumph of Gospel temperance in all lands, observing Thursday afternoon as the hour for local Woman's Christian Temperance Union prayer-meetings, with especial reference to this thought, and by the visits of the superintendent, Mrs. Leavitt, to foreign countries for the purpose of introducing our methods and outlining a system of organization which shall eventually enlist the children of all nations in the effort to overthrow the poison habits of mankind.

Another of the sad plague spots of society, which is working a ruin as terrible as that occasioned by strong drink, it is the aim of this Union to remove. Reference is made in the president's address to the foundation by the Bishop of Durham of the White Cross League, and the disclosures of abounding iniquity by the *Pall Mall Gazette*. It is stated, on the authority of Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell that "we should uncap perdition in the same direction were the hidden life of our own great cities known." Not a doubt of it! In her address the president goes on to say:

When we remember the acquittal of the ravishers of Emma Boni, a cultivated school teacher in Illinois; when we reflect that the *Pall Mall Gazette* declares "the law is framed to enable dissolute men to outrage girls of thirteen with impunity"; that in Massachusetts and Vermont it is a greater crime to steal a cow than to abduct and ruin a girl, and that in Illinois seduction is not recognized as a crime, it is a marvel not to be explained, that we go on the even tenor of our way, too delicate, too refined, too prudish to make any allusion to these awful facts, much less to take up arms against these awful crimes. We have been the victims of conventional cowardice too long. Let us signalize the second century of temperance reform by a fearless avowal of our purpose to take up the work of promoting social purity by the inculcation of right principles and the serious demand for more equitable laws. The Society of the White Cross will warmly co-operate with our endeavours in this righteous cause.

Of the perverted uses of the daily press the address says:

It is time that a standard was lifted in unflinching hands against this growing evil of wholesale verbal venom, and its twin abomination, the serving up, as the daily patulum of decent people, of the methods of crime as revealed by the daily doings of the debased class. I wish we might give our press department a secretary, and plan to send out this winter a petition to the so-called "great journals" of our cities, praying them to cease the moral scavengery which to day disgraces the annals of our boasted free press.

God speed all true and earnest workers who are endeavouring to hasten the dawn of brighter days.

FRENCH-CANADIAN EVANGELIZATION

The following appeal has been issued by the Executive of the Board to the friends of the work.

At a meeting of the Board of French Evangelization, held last month, the fund was reported to be in debt to the extent of about six thousand dollars (\$6,000)—a much larger indebtedness than at any period during the past nine years. This is a cause of grave anxiety, threatening, as it does, a serious contraction of the work. To meet the salaries due to missionaries and other urgent claims, it was resolved to effect a temporary loan, and to issue a brief appeal soliciting generous help in this emergency.

Heretofore, one of the difficulties experienced by the Board has been to secure the services of a sufficient number of suitable men to act as colporteurs. In addition to the staff now employed we have at present offers of service from nine or ten men, most of whom are highly recommended for this difficult work.

It is a matter of deep regret to the Board, now that the services of suitable men are at their disposal, that they are unable, from lack of funds, to increase their staff of colporteurs, the more so that there appear to be many encouraging openings for this class of labourers.

It is earnestly hoped that this appeal will be so generously and promptly responded to by the friends of the work that the present indebtedness will be removed, and the Board justified in securing, by the beginning of January, the services of several of these available men for the work of colportage.

The Mission Schools at Pointe-aux-Trembles are now attended by eighty-six pupils, eleven of whom are being trained for the work of missionaries and mission teachers. Thirty-one of last year's pupils openly confessed Christ, and in March last, sixty sat at the Lord's Table. The cost of each pupil is about \$50 per annum. To every person or Sabbath school contributing this amount, a particular pupil is assigned, concerning whose progress reports are sent from time to time. All contributions should be addressed to Rev. R. H. Warden, 198 St. James Street, Montreal.

Books and Magazines.

ACROSS HER PATH. By Annie S. Swan. (Edinburgh: Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier.)—This new work, by the gifted author of "Aldersyde," is what might be expected. The story is told with the same charm, the principal personages are drawn with equal graphic distinctness, and the tone is as pure and elevating as in her other works.

IMMORTALITY. A Clerical Symposium on, What are the Foundations of the Belief in the Immortality of Man? (Toronto: S. R. Briggs.)—This is the re-appearance, in handsome and permanent form, of the series of papers on Immortality which appeared in the pages of the *Homiletic Magazine*. The subject is discussed by those having different views of the grounds of belief in the doctrine. Among the writers of this volume are Canon Knox Little, Prebendary Row, Rabbi Adler, Principal Cairns, Rev. Edward White, Professor G. G. Stokes and others.

MARVELS OF ANIMAL LIFE. By Charles Fredk. Holder. (New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons; Toronto: William Briggs.)—This is a most attractive work, revealing most interesting facts by an enthusiastic observer and student of the wonders of the animal kingdom. The book is principally occupied with marine marvels. It is written in a plain yet clear style, intelligible to ordinary readers, whether old or young. The latter class will be especially delighted with the book. A number of accurate and carefully-executed engravings adds much to its attractiveness and value.

CHRIST IN THE GOSPELS. By James P. Cadman, M.A. With Introduction by Rev. P. S. Henson, D.D. Second Edition. (Chicago: American Publication Society of Hebrew.)—The author of this work has bestowed great care in its preparation. He presents the life of Christ in exact Scripture language, and so arranged as to indicate clearly from which Gospel each expression is taken. It supplies self-interpreting Scripture and critical notes, and a history of Bible translation, and special maps showing Jesus' travels. Sabbath school teachers especially will find it a most useful work.

EXPOSITORY SERMONS AND OUTLINES ON THE OLD TESTAMENT. (New York: A. C. Armstrong & Son; Toronto: William Briggs.)—This volume forms the sixth of the excellent Clerical Library series, which fulfils the promise that it would furnish "the best thoughts of the best religious writers of the day in a condensed form and at a moderate price." The volume before us contains sermons by the Bishop of Derry, Archdeacon Farrar, Canons Knox Little and Liddon, Alexander MacLaren, D.D., Manchester, Joseph Parker, D.D., London, and a number of other no less distinguished divines.

THE present Christmas season has called forth much enterprize in pictorial and other illustrations suitable to the occasion. Many Provincial newspapers have taken a new departure and placed before their readers very creditable Christmas numbers. *Grip's Canada's Christmas* is one of the best that enterprising company have yet published. The *Globe* Christmas number is in every respect the best yet issued from the Canadian press. Of our own modest effort, let the following from one of our oldest subscribers, and a valued contributor, speak: "The Christmas Number came to hand to-day. What a beautiful issue it is! It is certainly a credit to the Church and to the Province. We are much delighted with it."

THE LIVES OF ROBERT AND MARY MOFFAT. By their son, John S. Moffat. With Introduction by William M. Taylor, D.D., with portraits and maps. (New York: A. C. Armstrong & Son; Toronto: S. R. Briggs.)—So great was the interest in this work, and so highly was it valued, that the first edition in England was exhausted immediately after publication, and a second was at once called for. The book is well written and gives most interesting details of the singularly devoted lives of the great and good African missionaries, Robert and Mary Moffat. The portraits are most excellent, giving a life-like idea of the originals. The closing sentence of Dr. William M. Taylor's brief introduction will come in appropriately here: "The work needs no commendation at our hands; but we heartily introduce it to our American friends as a worthy companion to the Lives of Judson and others whose names are better known on this side of the Atlantic, and as furnishing a new and striking illustration of what a Christian missionary can be and do."

THE MISSIONARY WORLD.

We would draw attention to some extracts from a recent minute by the General Council on Education in India with reference to the report of the commissioners on that subject. They deal chiefly with boys' schools, but some remarks on female education are well worth attention.

"The Council on Education in India must soon formally withdraw from the position it has occupied these six years. It has accomplished the work it undertook, and its place would be better occupied by a combination of those societies which are interested in education in India. The societies in England which have done so much to originate and carry forward education in India have now a grand opportunity before them. A generation has passed away since such an opening for extending education was presented; indeed, the opening in 1884 is more extensive and hopeful than that of 1854."

"There is no necessity for the Council to call attention to the importance of Christian societies providing ample and adequate education in all its branches, from the lowest to the highest, for the children of converts. This cannot be left to the State or to school boards in the present condition of India. The importance of raising as many of them as possible to the highest intellectual culture of which they are capable cannot be over-estimated."

"In female education a great field is opened up, which necessitates a new departure. There is ample encouragement on every hand for voluntary agencies to occupy it. Government rightly interprets native feeling when it offers every facility for religious instruction in girls' schools, and is disposed to set up secular schools for their own girls."

"The Commission and Government alike acknowledge the service rendered by Christian societies in originating and promoting female education in India, and their success in gaining the confidence of the nation; but the little that has been done is as nothing in comparison with what requires to be done. Out of ninety-seven millions of females of all ages in India, not a quarter of a million can read, and little more than half that number are at any school."

"These openings for the highest usefulness not only encourage effort, but they impose a sacred and urgent duty on every friend of India, and on every society labouring there."

A Government Inspector of Schools says: "Female education, before it can be commenced, must be preceded by the more difficult operation of getting at the females in their own homes. This preliminary operation is one of the chief tasks undertaken by the European and American ladies connected with the different mission societies, and I consider that the more encouragement that is given to them in this part of their work, which is called zenana work, the more will be done for real female education. I consider that every entry made into a native house by one of the mission ladies is a greater stride in female education than the establishment of any Government female school; and it is accordingly a matter of wonder to me that more assistance is not given to these ladies wherever they can be found to undertake this duty. The great importance to be attached to mission female schools does not lie in the small smattering of reading and writing taught to the children during the short time they attend school, but in the introduction which the mission ladies attain into the homes of the children. It would be far more profitable, as far as native female education is concerned, to spend funds on the encouragement of mission schools as stepping-stones to a social union between European and Indian females, than on such schools as—which really lead to nothing beyond the learning of the alphabet." Again: "The principle of instruction may be faulty, but the pupils receive a good education, and their character is properly moulded. Good habits are formed, tidiness and order are inculcated, and becomes a second nature, and a high moral tone is observable throughout."

(To be continued.)

IN Madagascar there are 1,200 Christian churches, and 71,585 communicants. The native churches have given \$1,000,000 in ten years for the spread of the Gospel.

THE Rev. Dr. Reid has received \$100 from a friend per Rev. Dr. Cochrane, for Home Mission Fund.