

as well as in Africa, and his statements claim serious attention. One of the speakers at the Baptist Union meeting affirmed that for each missionary sent to Africa 70,000 barrels of rum are landed there. So long as Christianity is associated by the natives with the rum which is destroying them, there is no room for wonder at its non-success. These are not the statements of adversaries, but of friends, and should be prayerfully pondered by the Christian friends of mission.

APPROPRIATE to this line of thought is the following from an exchange :

A Chinaman applied for the position of cook in a family. The lady of the house and most of her family are members of a church, and the Chinaman was questioned closely : "Do you drink whisky?" "No," said he ; "I Clistian man." "Do you play cards?" "No, I Clistian man." He was employed and gave great satisfaction. He did his work well, was honest, upright, correct and respectful. After some weeks the lady gave a "progressive euchre" party, and had wines at the table. John Chinaman was called upon to serve the party, and did so with grace and acceptability. But the next morning he waited upon the lady and said he wanted to quit work. "Why, what is the matter?" she inquired. John answered : "I Clistian man ; I tole you so before, no heathen. No workee for Melican heathen !"

THE Hon. W. E. Gladstone during his recent visit to Nottingham addressed the students of the Congregational Institute at that place. This is, we believe, Mr. Gladstone's first appearance at any of the institutions of the churches of our order, though from English Congregationalists he has received the most enthusiastic support. The address was a cordial acknowledgment of the Christian work done and doing by the Nonconformist bodies, though it did not credit, as it should have done, Nonconformity with being, under God, largely instrumental in bringing about the changes thus referred to. Mr. Gladstone said :

Most undoubtedly I can recollect, looking back on a long life, changes in the general tone of preaching in this country, of which I may venture to say without fear of contradiction two things, neither of them unimportant. First that it has been greatly raised, and secondly that it is far more pervaded by a real Christian unity in central and fundamental matters than was the case fifty years ago. Although there have been developments which might have seemed to tend towards a division both in the Church of England, and probably beyond its limit ; yet upon the whole a perfectly impartial observer, collecting the tone of religious teaching in this country, from what is taught out of its pulpits, would say he perceives both of these

features which I have described as characteristic—which is that it has tended upwards in its quality and character, and that it has more and more exhibited that fundamental union in the central ideas of Christianity as a whole, and in spite of all divisions still renders an emphatic testimony, in the face of the whole world and of human history, to the authority and work of our blessed Saviour.

Of course the political question was touched, very gracefully however, and with calmness, a tribute to the influence of the colleges.

DID the "Country Parson," whose quiet, keen, thoughtful essays we used to read with so much enjoyment years ago, ever write upon "Imaginary Sights"? We cannot remember that he did, but it would have been an excellent theme for his practised pen, for the field is wide and the illustrations are endless. Just now one is found in the case of a church member who, suffering from the idea of such slight, certainly not suspected by any one but herself, was withdrawing from the church with which she and her family had been connected for many years. We (not the editorial, but a contributory "we,") were discussing the subject in the home, when the remark was made : "How true it is that men are but children of a larger growth ;" and so it is : watch a lot of little children at play, soon one and another "won't play," and turn away with a sulky pout, because, as they think they have not their share of the game, they are slighted. So in a Sunday school class where some of the scholars may be better dressed than others, the poorer are always ready to imagine that their teacher pays more heed to the silk than the cotton, when in fact if there is any difference, it is far more likely to be the other way. Just as unfounded was this particular case, where the idea had got hold that because she was not rich and did not live in a fine house, she was not cared for and not wanted ! Well, "as it was in the beginning," etc., there ever have been sensitive souls, who can only take half, the first half, of Paul's saying in 1 Cor. xiii. 11. Happy those who in the maturity of Christian faith, can "put away childish things," and walk with Jesus in the rich experience of faith and love.

In the death of Chancellor S. S. Nelles, D.D. of Victoria University, Cobourg loses an exemplary citizen, Canada one of her choicest spirits, and the Methodist Church one of her most earnest workers. And the Christian Church is a loser, for with loyalty