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NOTE AND COMMENT

Zinzendorf once said: "That place is my home which affords me the best opportunity for doing good;" and William Carey's motto was: "Not where I am wanted, but where I am needed most." Where we are most needed should be the determining factor in every step of life.

It is said that the number of Jews in New York exceeds 725,000, most of whom have come there within the last twenty years. The same report (1904) estimates the wealth of the Hebrews of that city to be two-thirds of the wealth of the entire urban population.

Father Crowley, of Chicago, a catholic priest, made an address in New York, Sunday, in which he said, "Not one-half the female teachers in the parochial schools can name half the states in the Union." The danger of the parochial schools, he says, is its domination of the priests.

It is announced that the long-lost "Proof of the Apostolic Preaching" by Irenaeus, whose active life covered the period 160 A.D. to 200 A.D., has been recovered in an Armean translation from the thirteenth century MS. in a church in Erivan, and just published with a German translation by Harnack.

A native pastor in Central China was offered a salary ten times as large as the small sum which was given him by the Missionary Board, but he replied: "Matthew left the customs to follow Christ, and do you think I am going to leave Christ to follow Customs?" With him it was not a question of easy position or money, but one of loyalty to Christ.

Prof. von Bergmann, the famous German surgeon, died in Wiesbaden on March 25. He was operated on for intestinal disorder without an anaesthetic, and bore the prolonged cutting with the greatest fortitude, although he did not direct the surgery, as he did in the case of a previous operation some months ago.

Christian England laughed when Sidney Smith sneered at William Carey as a "consecrated cobbler," going on a fool's errand to convert the heathen. But when Carey died at the age of 73 years he was visited by the bishop of India, the head of the Church of England in that land, who humbly invoked the blessing of the dying missionary.

New York's annual perjury parade occurred recently when New York's multi-millionaires swore off their personal taxes, except such as were levied against visible assets. The visible property in almost all cases consists of their household furnishings, and if these could be hidden they would doubtless be sworn off also.

A most remarkable movement toward church union is reported as under way in Australia. The churches involved—the Anglican and the Presbyterian—stand at the opposite poles as to polity, and, in many things, as to policy. The leaders of these two communions, which are the most influential and largest in the commonwealth, have actually been in conference over the possibility of union, and, improbable as it would seem, members of the conference have given out that such a result is by no means an impossibility. The best of feeling is reported as existing among the conferees, and the result of the negotiations will probably be made public in a few weeks.

The Library at the British Museum, which now contains between 3,000,000 and 4,000,000 volumes, is without exception the largest in the world, the only one which approaches it in size being the Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris; and it is interesting to note that for the accommodation of this immense number of books upward of forty-three miles of shelves are required.

Walter Wellman has been spending a few days in America preparatory to setting out on his second airship expedition in search of the North Pole. During the winter he has had his airship reconstructed at Paris. It has been fitted with new motors, and its lifting capacity has been increased to 19,500 pounds. The airship will be shipped via Tromsø, Norway, to Spitzbergen, where it will arrive about June 1. It will be put together and tested there, and if the tests are satisfactory, the flight to the pole will be made early in August.

The Central Presbyterian (U.S.) reports that it has received and sent to China \$1,836 for relief of the famine sufferers in that country. Other journals are taking up the work and we suggest that some of our Canadian journals might do good work and secure prestige by calling for subscriptions for the famine-stricken districts of China. So far as we know very little has been done in Canada along this line. We have no doubt that if some Canadian journal or journals take up the work the people of this country will respond heartily. There is great need that something should be done, and that promptly.

The first medical mission is said to have been conducted by a Dutch physician in the East Indies from 1624 to 1638. The growth of the movement was very slow, and it was not until the latter part of the 19th century that it became important. Livingstone's many years of ministrations to the sick, and Arnot's journey over half of tropical Africa with nothing to pay his way excepting his box of medicines, did much to call attention to the value of medical practice as a beneficent feature of missionary service. For 30 years this new phase of the work has grown by leaps and bounds till it is found in every corner of the earth covered by the mission field.

The sturdy character of Dr. Grenfell's Christianity, and the secret of his power with the rough folk of Labrador, was given in an address made some time ago, parts of which were quoted by an exchange. Dr. Grenfell said: "I've never been sorry a moment for the choice I made. There's a reward in it. I used to have a different idea of Christian reward with a halo in it and a pair of wings. That didn't appeal to me. But I am getting a reward that is worth while, getting it every day—the reward of the satisfaction there is in doing things that help people, and the reward of knowing that this is something that the Master approves. That's what he did when he was here—helped people—and if we want to follow him, that's what we have to do too." The "halo and wings" type of Christianity, says the Lutheran Observer, does not have much attractive force in these days when men are asked to show their faith by their works. It is the type of which Dr. Grenfell is the exponent, manifesting the real Christ-spirit in doing the Christ-work, which is needed, and which cannot but succeed.

It will surprise no one to read that the Bible is, by literally millions of copies, the best selling book in the world, but it may be somewhat surprising to learn that in the United States and other parts of the Christian world its sale is increasing at from five to ten per cent each year—a fact which does not indicate that Bible reading and Bible interest are decreasing, as some would have us believe. The total sales for the past year are estimated at from 10,000,000 to 12,000,000 copies.

The subject of foreign missions was prominent at the recent triennial session of the Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church of Cape Colony, South Africa. Sixty-six Europeans and 675 native evangelists and helpers were employed in the work for which \$66,000 had been collected in three years. A new field was added to the work, in Mashonaland, where the Berlin Missionary Society has been laboring. Deputations of the Presbyterian and English Evangelical Churches were present, but had to wait before exchanging fraternal greetings till the Synod had expressed its dissatisfaction over the treatment the church had received during the Boer war from the Christian bodies. All seems, however, to have been done in good humor.

Western railroads covering twenty-five thousand miles have abandoned all Sunday excursions. And our Eastern roads, says the Lutheran Observer,—in spite of their continually reiterated declarations that "two-cent fares do not pay"—spend their tens of thousands of dollars annually in advertising their weekly excursions and make Sunday their biggest excursion day, running special trains to every attractive point, and putting the rates often at even less than one cent a mile. There seem to be, not "something," but several things wrong! The public will never in the world be convinced that Sunday excursions are a charity fostered by the railroads in pure desire to give the "poor working people who are busy all the week" a chance for an outing. They pay, and pay well, or they would never be run.

Under the caption of "Lo, the Rich Indian," Leslie's Weekly tells us that in round figures, there are 248,000 Indians in the United States at the present time, 91,000 of whom are in Indian Territory and 15,000 in Oklahoma, or 106,000 in the coming State. Those of Indian Territory, the five civilized tribes, Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws, Chickasaws, and Seminoles—have been managing their own affairs for two-thirds of a century, and are in all respects fitted for the citizenship which they are soon to exercise. All of these, and nearly all of those in the Oklahoma end of the coming State, wear civilized dress, and have schools, churches, and the other accompaniments of civilization. Of the 193,000 Indians outside of Indian Territory, 116,000 wear civilized dress, 70,000 speak the language, and 38,000 are members of regularly established churches. They have \$35,000,000 in the United States treasury, on which they get \$1,725,000 interest every year, and under treaties the government pays them annually \$750,000 more. The per capita wealth among the Indians is much greater than the \$1,400 which represents the share of the rest of the 85,000,000 people in the \$16,000,000,000 of available property in the United States. The 2,000 Osages in Oklahoma are the richest community on the face of the globe, and they are getting richer.