

ligious duties having been duly attended to, there is no reason why innocent recreation, social visits, and the like, should not be enjoyed, provided they do not make the day one of labour to others. The day should be the happiest of the week celebrating as it does the Resurrection of our Lord.

Some people's religion is just like a wooden leg. There is neither warmth nor life in it: and, although it helps you to hobble along, it never becomes a part of you, but has to be strapped on every morning.

There are one hundred thousand native Protestant Christians in China, and more than half this number in Japan.

It is estimated that the annual gain of Christians throughout the world is about one hundred thousand, as against sixty thousand ten years ago.

## DISTRICT NEWS.

### WATERVILLE.

The Rev. R. C. Tambs writes: New Year's brought us many encouraging greetings. Among them is one full of the spirit of devotion to the Master, and enclosing a handsome present to help me and my sister in our "glorious work of love"—and another which seems to me to possess so much of a widely encouraging interest, that (laying aside feelings of personal delicacy) I here give a copy of it:

St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 9, 1899.

Dear Friend:

In a recent letter from Mr. George Smith, of Sherbrooke, he informed me that you had been at his house, and enquired after Mrs. Bell and myself. We have thought of you and your sister, Miss Tambs, many times since we left Canada—calling to mind many of your friendly calls on us when we were strangers. These and other little acts of kindness extended to us by yourself and sister induced us to attend your Church until we became interested in its

teachings, and after we came back home and settled down in our new house, we decided to join the little Episcopal Church in our town, three years ago, and now we feel that we are on the right road to happiness hereafter. Our Pastor, the Rev. Thos. K. Allen, is a feeble old man almost eighty years of age, and has charge of three small parishes, and sometimes he is not able to go through with all the Services alone. So I have been appointed "Lay Reader" for the Diocese of Minnesota, and I read the first and second lessons and sometimes the whole Service—excepting, of course, the Absolution. I am also Superintendent of the Sunday School. Mrs. Bell started a "Ladies' Guild" and was its first president. So you see we have developed into regular Church workers. Mrs. Bell wishes to be remembered to Miss Tambs as well as to yourself, and joins in thanking you for your kindness to us, and we trust the above news from us will be pleasing returns to you both for the bread you cast upon the waters so many years ago.

Our home is at Dakota, Winona Co., Minnesota, on the banks of the Mississippi River. I am at work in this city during the winter, and greatly enjoy attending the large Churches where the Services are very elaborate, of course, but perhaps no more acceptable in the sight of God than the more simple service held in Magog. Would be pleased to hear from you at any time. My kindest regards to yourself and sister.

Yours very truly,

THOMAS BELL,  
97 Winnipeg Ave.

In the middle of January we were privileged in having the Rev. H. Gomersy with us for our Services on a Sunday. At each of our three churches and at St. John's again on Monday evening, he ably set forth the claims of the S.P.C.K. upon our appreciation and gratitude, and upon that of English Christendom in general.

On the evening of Feb. 14, Mr. H. Bernard, who is one of our heartiest and most practical Church helpers, and who lives a couple of miles out of the village of Waterville, gave a Church Social at his home, which, as was anticipated, proved most