

exercised; an Irish paper takes strong exception to the result of a recent election to a rectory. The chief counts in the indictment against the new rector are that he is a young man; and worst of all, he "did not even seek the appointment." To most of plain people, the last blemish, even if it were rare, would appear to be the best recommendation.

We are glad to learn of the continued success and usefulness of the Toronto Willard Tract Depository. The annual meeting of the directors was held on July 30, when the manager submitted the report for the year ending June 30. It was exceedingly encouraging, the business for the year being fully 50 per cent. in advance of any previous year. The directors were enabled to pay the six per cent. dividend, and to appropriate \$250.00 to Fund for reduction in value of merchandise; \$150.00 to "Free Distribution Fund;" \$663.00 to "Rest account," making the present amount to credit of this account, \$1212.17. The amount of literature sold during the year was as follows:—Tracts, leaflets, &c., 428,696; Gospel text cards, 27,300; S.S. Scripture text cards, 250,000; books, pamphlets, &c., 42,000; hymn books, 20,356; Bibles, 2,500; copies of "Notes for Bible Study," 92,000; total, 863,352 copies. The amount of literature, consisting of tracts, books, and Bibles, distributed gratuitously was 125,000 copies. The total issues for the year being 988,352 copies, or 1,650,552 issues since the formation of the Company, July, 1882, and upwards of four million issues since the opening of the Depository in 1873.

A very valuable and instructive document is the 13th annual Report of the United States Minister of Education, for the year 1883. The following gleanings will be of interest to our readers. The total school population of the United States is over 16,000,000. Of these more than 10,000,000 were enrolled in public schools, and over 6,000,000 were in average daily attendance, under about 293,000 teachers, the whole cost of this immense system amounting to over \$91,000,000. More than half the number of teachers were women, and the proportion of women to men continues to increase. There is an upward movement in teachers' salaries, 18 States reporting an increase in the pay of all their teachers, four in that of men only, and one in that of women. The statistics of education in the South show that, with a white school population of over 4,000,000, and a colored of nearly 2,000,000, there were more than 2,000,000 white children and nearly 803,000 colored attending the public schools; the percentage of enrolment on the number of youth of a school age ranging from 36 to 73 for white children, and from 17 to 69 for colored. The increase in the number attending school during the year in the South has not kept pace with the increase in the number of school age, but the colored race was far behind the white in this respect. The whole number of colored pupils attending public schools in all portions of the country numbered over 834,000. There were also over 8,000 colored pupils in normal schools, more than 6,600 in academies, about 2,300 in colleges, and over 800 studying theology, law, and medicine. The number of kindergarten in the country has increased to 348 and their pupils to nearly 17,000. The principal growth of these schools is in the largest cities. Many of these schools are free—sustained for the benefit of the poorest classes of people by charitable individuals and associations.

Higher Education.—The statistics show about 482,000, or nearly half a million of students, pursuing an education above and beyond the elementary schools. Of these nearly 300,000 attended academies, public high schools and other schools preparatory to college and commercial schools; about 50,000 were in normal schools and departments preparatory to teach; upward of 93,000 attended collegiate institutions; nearly 16,000 were in scientific schools and about 23,000 in schools of theology, law and medicine.

Education of Women.—Every year shows an increase in the number of women attending colleges and other schools that maintain high standards. As far as reported, about 40,000 young women were engaged in collegiate and scientific study; of these, upwards of 29,000 were in 227 colleges exclusively for women (of which 142 were authorized to confer collegiate degrees), the remainder attended co-educational colleges and scientific schools. A resume is given of the provision made for the higher instruction of women in foreign countries. The Commissioner's report shows an advance in the sentiment favoring the higher education of women in nearly all the countries reporting. In England, where there are a number of excellent colleges exclusively for them, they are also admitted to London University, Victoria University and Royal University, the latter in Ireland, on equal terms with men; some other colleges open only a part of their courses to them. Since the publication of the report Cambridge and Oxford have removed their restrictions. The University of France opens to them all its courses, and the Society for the Professional Instruction of Women in Paris had 535 in its four schools during 1883. The Universities of Brussels, Liege and Ghent are open to women, and in Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Roumania and Switzerland a similar policy is pursued. Russia is the only country reporting which by law excludes women from university courses, and even there some provision has been made for the instruction of girls in literature and science at a school at St. Petersburg, where there is also a medical school for women.

The Colleges.—The Report presents a table of all colleges and Universities exclusively for men, and all that admits both sexes. This table shows 365 institutions, with 64,000 students, under 4,000 instructors, about half the students being engaged in collegiate studies, the other half in preparing for them. It appears that the plan of receiving graduates of high schools on their diplomas is gaining ground, and uniform requirements for admission have been adopted by a number of Eastern colleges, including Harvard and Boston Universities, and Yale, Trinity, Amherst, and Dartmouth Colleges. Original research is becoming more generally recognized as a part of college work, Harvard and John Hopkins Universities being especially active in this field. The study of political science, introduced into the University of Michigan in 1881, is now also a part of the course in Columbia and Cornell. The Report states that the interest in scientific and industrial education is increasing. The number of students (16,000) reported in scientific schools and State agricultural colleges was 3,000 more than that of the previous year. The 5,000 theological students belonged to twenty-five different denominations, the Roman Catholic, with 1,000 students, being ahead in point of numbers. Students in law numbered 3,000; those in medicine, dentistry, and pharmacy, 15,000. Among other features of the Report are a summary of education in foreign countries, a brief history of medical education in

the United States, with practical suggestions intended to secure the elevation of the standard of medical schools, and a compilation of the laws enacted by 16 States, 3 Territories, the District of Columbia, and 13 foreign countries intended to secure the attendance of children at school. The Commissioner devotes considerable space to the subject of technical instruction, quoting liberally from a report on that subject of the Royal (English) Commissioners, recently published. The Report also treats of the education of the blind, the deaf, idiots and orphans; the work of reform schools; educational benefactions, public libraries, the evils of over-study, and the necessity for preserving and cultivating forests.

THE JEWS.—"A religious movement of great interest is taking place among the Jews of Southern Russia, of which Bishop Titcomb has sent an account to the *Times*. One result of the recent persecution of the Jews in Bessarabia was to direct the attention of one among them, a lawyer named Joseph Rabinowitz, to the question of re-peopling the Holy Land. Rabinowitz, who is stated to have held a high place in the respect of his compatriots, undertook a journey to Palestine, to determine how far his project might be a feasible one. It does not appear that he had, when he set out, any inclination towards Christianity, but the result of his reflections during his sojourn was to convince him that Jesus was indeed the promised Messiah, and that the expatriation of the Jews is their punishment for rejecting and crucifying Him. Their only hope of restoration, therefore, lies in repentance for the crime of their fathers, and acknowledgment of Him whom their fathers slew and hanged on a tree. These views were proclaimed by Rabinowitz on his return, and met with so much acceptance that more than two hundred families have joined what is called "The National Jewish New Testament Congregation." It is a remarkable fact that Rabinowitz was not brought to the acknowledgment of our Lord's Messiahship by Christian teaching, and it does not appear that Christian influence has had any share in the formation of his community. He and his friends accept the books of the New Testament, whether as divinely inspired or only as well-accredited writings on the history and doctrine of Jesus Christ we do not know, but the effect of St. Paul's teaching in the Epistle to the Romans is plainly to be traced in the tenth article of their Confession of Faith, in which they speak of the blessing that has come upon the Gentiles through the unbelief of the Jews. The Christian people of this country will anxiously look for further news of "The National Jewish Christ-believing movement," as it is called in the publication from which Dr. Titcomb quotes, and which was lately brought to his notice by a clergyman at Frankfort."—*English Paper*. And we feel assured our Christian readers in this Dominion will be deeply interested in the account of this movement among the Jewish people, which is so remarkable a sign of the times.

We are informed that Mr. George Soltau will sail from England on the 18th inst. for this country, and is expected in Toronto towards the end of the month. There are many who look back to his recent visit with gratitude, and will be glad to welcome him to Canada again. He will take up the same work again this fall and winter, and several places have already asked that he may be sent to them, and others doubtless will, as far as his time permits, take advantage of his services. Any communication on the subject may be addressed to Henry O'Brien, Hon. Sec'y of the Canadian Evangelization Society, 68 Church Street, Toronto,

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