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("The Maples")

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N.B.—Communications for this Department post-marked after the 18th of the month will appear in following month.

N.B.—All subscriptions for the OUTLOOK must be sent to the Methodist Mission Rooms, Toronto.

N.B.—By request of Board of Managers, Auxiliary reports limited to fifteen lines.

"If thou turn away thy foot from the Sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honorable; and shalt honor Him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words:

"Then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth . . . for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it."—ISA. lviii. 13, 14.

AS we meet and touch each day
The many travellers on our way,
Let every such brief contact be
A glorious helpful ministry;
The contact of the soil and seed,
Each giving to the other's need,
Each helping on the other's best
And blessing each as well as blest.

ARE the Auxiliaries preparing for an Easter service and thank-offering?

CANNOT each member endeavor to win another during this year? A doubled membership would be a grand year's record.

THE first church in Chicago was planted only sixty years ago by a Home Missionary.

AT the Columbian Exposition a grand Congress of Missions will be held. Its object will be to bring together representatives from the peoples who have

been the beneficiaries of missionary effort. The true purpose, and the wide scope accorded to missionary work, will be demonstrated in papers and discussions on the moral and spiritual condition of men, their intellectual advancement, the improvement of their material conditions, the opening up by missionary work of new channels of commerce, and new fields of ethnological and antiquarian research. The congress will also demonstrate that diversities of race and language have not been insuperable obstacles to the progress of the Gospel of Christ.

A MONSTER anti-opium meeting was held in Exeter Hall, London, on Dec. 4, called to welcome Mr. Cheok, Hong Cheong, and Miss Soonderbai Powar, who came to protest against the opium traffic carried on in British India. An account of the meeting presents the financial objection. It is one that does not sound unfamiliar to our ears, viz., "*that it is impossible to do without the revenue.*" The victims themselves say that the only adequate measure is "*absolute prohibition of the traffic by the Government.*" When missionaries go to Zenanas to preach they are told "go and convert your Christian Government first, then tell us about Christ," such is the inability of natives to distinguish between missionaries and government. The chairman very truthfully said, "If a thing be right to do, it matters not what it may cost;" and a resolution expressed the conviction that the people of the United Kingdom will not hesitate to repeat a sacrifice similar to that by which they put an end to slavery in the British Colonies.

THE above arguments are sound, and they suit a case nearer home in which we Canadian people are only too long suffering, too silent, too inactive. The licensed traffic in rum makes our citizens responsible partakers in the degradation of our people for *revenue*. Christian ballots entrench the foe in our midst. If the traffic lives here, it lives on Canadian sons. It could not survive the will of all who call themselves Christian citizens if they united against it. The voice of our brothers' blood crieth unto us from the ground, but we prefer revenue. Far greater would be our revenue if every man were sober! Far greater our prosperity if God-given food were used as God intended. What is the Christian pulpit about that does not echo the "*Woe to the drunkards,*" and to him that "putteth the bottle to his neighbor's lips? "The priest and the prophet have erred through strong drink, they are swallowed up of wine, they err in vision, they stumble in judgment."

"I HAVE heard the remark that the people of India know nothing of taxation; but in comparison, I affirm