

Official Notices.

During Rev. John Wood's absence in the old country, all communications for the Secretary of the C. C. Missionary Society, will be addressed to Rev. Thomas Hall, Princess Street, Kingston; who will attend to the same.

CONGREGATIONAL COLLEGE, B. N. A.

The forty-eighth session of the college will be opened with the usual public service, in the Assembly Hall of the college, at 8 p.m., of Wednesday, September 15th. The Rev. Wm. Cuthbertson, B.A., of Woodstock, Ont., has been invited by the Board of Directors to deliver the address, and a collection will be taken up in aid of the library. Candidates for admission to the college are requested to forward their applications to me without unnecessary delay, addressed 177 Drummond St., Montreal.

GEORGE CORNISH,
Secretary C. C., B. N. A.

Montreal, July 8th, 1886.

MISSING NUMBERS OF "INDEPENDENT."

Complaints have been received from subscribers—doubtless not without cause—regarding irregularity in receipt of their copies of the INDEPENDENT. Each issue has been duly mailed from the office of publication, in regular rotation as the names appear on the list, and the aim has been to avoid omissions. Several times papers have been returned from abroad to our office for "better direction," when the papers and packages have contained the address as fully as we could give it. If, at any time, a number is missed by a subscriber, we will remain a copy on receipt of request to do so. Whatever errors occur are certainly not intentional, and will be remedied as far as possible. The July issue and the present one are double numbers, and therefore only one each month. Henceforth the semi-monthly publication will be regularly continued.

Acknowledgment of subscriptions received for INDEPENDENT since last list was published will be made in next issue of the paper.

W. R. CLIME.

THIS instance of profitable boycotting is given by a San Francisco correspondent of the *Evening Post*:—"The ludicrous side of the agitation continues to be as interesting as ever. Here is a story vouched for by the repentant chief actor. A thriving mechanic in an interior town decided to start a boycott, and told the wife to take the washing from a Chinaman who charged \$1.50 per week, and give it to the only white washerwoman in the place, whose price was \$2.50. A few weeks later he met the Chinaman. "Hullo, John, I guess you got to go pretty soon; get no work?"—"Velly good time work," was the reply. Me do you wash alle same." "What! How's that?" "He Mrs. Smith catch 'em \$2.50 from you, pay me \$1.50; me wash, alle same; no care. You sabe?"

The Family Circle.

THREE GENERATIONS AGO.

Never, perhaps, in the entire history of the world, has there been such a complete change in a nation's life in so short a time as this Nineteenth Century has witnessed in England. The difference is so great that considerable knowledge and also a certain amount of imagination are required to conjure up a picture of English life seventy years ago. Manners, dress, food, were all different; the shriek of the steam-whistle was scarcely heard; stage coaches were the common means of travel; gas was a novelty; the "watchman" had not given place to the police, and unfortunate climbing-boys were cruelly sent up narrow chimnies to sweep them free from soot. Horrible "body snatching" still prevailed, the detestable pillory was in vogue, the fear of, or rather determination to oppose "Boney" was yet rampant, and smuggling was common on our coasts. Almost everything, in fact, except human nature itself, seems altered.

By means of diligent search among the newspapers and registers of the period, contemporary works and prints, &c., Mr. Ashton has been able to present a vivid picture of the early days of the present century. The engravings which he has cleverly copied from various prints of the day give him signal help, although, perhaps, some of them might have been omitted on account of their coarseness. Doubtless Mr. Ashton would reply however, that they are necessary to indicate and illustrate the times.

Let us glance at the picture as this clever and pains-taking writer presents it to us. There are some persons in these latter days who consider political and financial affairs very gloomy; but what would they say to the condition of things in 1800. The Civil List was five quarters in arrear; the King's servants were in such straits for money that the grooms and helpers in the mews were obliged to present a petition to the King, praying for payment of their wages; the income tax was two shillings in the £1 without any abatement; and the odious window tax was in full force and correspondingly high. Provisions were frightfully dear, and food riots were disquieting all the country. In September they spread to London, and but for the prompt action of the Lord Mayor in calling out Militia, and the East India House Volunteers, that riot might have figured much more largely and disastrously in history than it did. Corn fell on that eventful Monday fifteen shillings a quarter lower, though at the end of the year wheat was 133 shillings per quarter! With regard to the Act of Union between Britain and Ireland which was passed that year, Mr. Ashton says: "There was no enthusiasm in England, at all events, over the Union; no rejoicings, no illuminations, hardly even a caricature. How it has worked we of these later days of the century know full well. The census was taken, too, at the close of this year, and the numbers given are 15,717,287.—Since then our population has more than doubled.

During the first years of the century Britain was constantly in arms—almost, we might say, up to the eventful year of Waterloo. This state of feeling showed itself in songs and ballads, caricatures, sensational handbills, and the like. It was then that the