

"boiled down," the missionary intelligence of the day. The work opens with the pregnant sentence, "other missions have their appointed bounds, the field of foreign missions is THE WORLD." Following, we have the world's statistics regarding population, thus: Asia contains 795,591,000 inhabitants, Europe, 327,743,400; Africa, 205,823,200; America, 100,415,400; Polynesia and Australia, 4,232,000; Polar region, 82,500. Total, 1,433,887,500. Religiously thus:

Hindoos, including aboriginal races.....	175,000,000
Jews.....	7,000,000
Mohammedans.....	170,000,000
Buddhists, Confucionists, Taoists, Shintous and Jains.....	508,000,000
Pagans (such as have no book).....	170,000,000
Others.....	3,335,900

Total heathens..... 1,033,335,900

Roman Catholics.....	200,312,000
Protestants.....	115,218,000
Greek Church.....	77,958,000
Armenians, Copts, etc.....	4,589,000
Unenumerated.....	2,461,600

1,433,877,500

After a survey of the different efforts put forth by the varied societies, Mr. Croil writes his closing chapters on the "Ways and Means," which is really a practical homily on Mal. iii. 10. If any man doubts the efficiency of lay preaching, let him read the chapter "Ways and Means." Our author writes, concerning the work of the world's evangelization, "The problem resolves itself into a question of men and money. Christianity asks for ten thousand more missionaries, and \$50,000,000 a year, to test the experiment." Does this seem utopian? The author reminds us of such facts as these. The Crimean war cost \$1,310,000,000, and nearly 860,000 lives. The drink bill of the United Kingdom is \$750,000,000 per annum. In fifty nights an American actor realized \$50,000 from a tour in the Southern States, whilst the M. E. Church of that section of the Christian world paid eighty ministers for twelve months services, \$45,800. Let these facts speak for themselves, and press the subject home. We bespeak for Mr. Croil's book a wide circulation. It will pay churches to distribute it gratuitously. Price, \$1; pages, 224.

THE *July Century* contains a paper, by E. V. Smalley, on the serious and picturesque phases of "Striking Oil." The writer visited the oil regions in company with Mr. Farny, the artist, and will describe the methods and tricks of well-boring, the gigantic monopoly of the pipe-lines, and the general features of the oil trade of the world. Some sentences awaken suggestions and invite speculation. We, perhaps, scarcely care to remember the flickering candles and dim light (not religion) of thirty years ago, and the influence of petroleum, during the reign of twenty-three years, upon intelligence, culture, and household virtues.

Think of our bright evenings and the old "tallow dip" or even wax candles! The joyous hours of evening light, instead of the old, uncertain gloom. Gas has been the luxury of the well-to-do, petroleum has lit the cottage of the poor; in our estimate of nineteenth-century progress, "coal oil" should not be forgotten, even beside steam and electricity. There is also as frontispiece a portrait of John Brown, of Harper's Ferry fame, which reveals the simple, brave, unselfish spirit of the man, upon whom the wrongs of the slave and the divine word pressed as a monomania, and of whom, however much we dissent from his judgment, the words are fairly quoted:

"Whatever record leap to light,
He never shall be shamed"

ST. NICHOLAS for July is a memorable number, on account of a carefully written and wonderfully illustrated article on the "Brooklyn Bridge." Charles Barnard, who is equally well known as a writer on scientific subjects, and as a story-teller for children, and who has watched the growth of the marvellous structure from its beginning, and photographed it from every possible point of view furnishes the text, and the pictures are by G. W. Edwards and W. Taber. The diagrams are numerous and the description accurate and popular. The frontispiece, "The Lifting of the Fog," is by Edward, and shows the great bridge dimly seen through the rifts of the mist. Another interesting feature of the number is the appearance of the prize compositions on "Robert Burns" and "A Shark in Sight," with the long roll of honour of those whose essays were almost, but not quite so good. And there is much besides in the magazine that is timely, entertaining, and amusing.

THE *ELECTRA*. Edited by Annie E. Wilson and Isabella W. Leyburn, and published by the latter. Louisville, Ky.—A monthly of *Belles Lettres* for young people. The May and June numbers are before us. Full of choice reading, instructive, racy; printing and paper inviting. A magazine of which no company of men need feel ashamed. We welcome its appearance as a proof of what woman can do in the path of literature to reach and raise her kin.

AMERICAN SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.—We have received from this house "What to Do," by Mrs. Dunning, to be accompanied by "How Not to Do It," and "How to Do It." It is a pretty story told with a woman's pen of maiden life in its daily struggles to do right in the region of common place, and that is just what we want our children to know—how to overcome the struggles of common life. If the others to follow tell as true tales, the "What to Do" series will be a pleasing addition to the shelves of the Sabbath school library.

OF FUNK AND WAGNALL'S Standard Library (of which the last work received, "Successful Men of To-