

By way of illustration look at the recent atrocious riots in Pennsylvania, in Maryland and others of the United States; ay, and look nearer home. This evil fruit, bitter, dangerous, deadly,—has sprung from the sowing of poisonous seed, or from neglecting to sow the good seed of the Kingdom.

He who gave us our bountiful harvest can also crown the season with rich spiritual blessings; nay, is He not waiting to be gracious? His stores of grace are inexhaustible. Precious as is the bread that perishes, how unmistakably more precious that Bread of Life which is offered freely to all who will receive it!

Millions in India are living on the very verge of starvation and must continue so to live till January or February. Millions in China are in still worse plight, for there no paternal Government puts forth a hand to save. Some of the fairest and most fertile lands in Europe—lands that were cultivated and civilized before the Christian era,—are drenched in the blood of contending hosts. But ours is a land of peace and plenty where law reigns and the gospel is preached. What shall we render to the Lord for all His benefits? First, let us give ourselves anew to Him, and then all that we possess.

The Presbyterian Council.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

EDINBURGH, the most picturesque city in the world, the cradle of Scottish Presbyterianism and its present stronghold, was fitly chosen as the place of meeting for the first International Council, composed of delegates from the widely scattered branches of the great Presbyterian family. Those who visited the modern Athens for the first time must have been impressed with its exceeding beauty. Such of us as came to renew our acquaintance with its familiar outlines were equally delighted to tread its streets once more. All of us felt, more or less, the inspiration

which contact with historic scenes and memories is calculated to produce.

Telegraphy and the Daily Press have sufficiently reported the proceedings. All that I shall now attempt is to view a few of the leading features of this remarkable gathering by referring briefly to some of the accessories which invested the occasion with a peculiar fascination to those at least who were privileged to be present. And certainly, the first to suggest itself was the very cordial reception that awaited us. Dr. Blaikie, and his co adjutor, Rev. Mr. Gillies, upon whose shoulders there seems to have devolved the chief responsibility for the management of the whole affair, had previously given the matter of "entertainment" their special attention, and we have undoubted proof that the citizens responded cheerfully to the large demands made upon their hospitality. My own experience was, no doubt, that of many others, regarding which, however, I shall only say that the recollection of this kind reception we met in these Edinburgh homes will never fade from our minds.

The public reception given by the citizens, under the presidency of Lord Provost Falschaw, was on a grand scale. It was held on the evening of the 3rd July in the Museum of Science and Art, a large and beautiful building in which there assembled some five or six thousand of the *elite* of Edinburgh and its neighborhood, to do honour to the foreign delegates. By nine o'clock the spacious hall and its triple tier of galleries were completely filled. The band of the 78th Highlanders, enlivened the scene, and touched the chords of our hearts too, with the fine old melodies of Scotland, which I think I had never before heard so effectively rendered. Next, marshalled according to our nationalities, we marched in procession and were presented to the Lord Provost and his Lady. Then we were packed into a Lecture Hall where, after singing the 67th Hymn, an address of welcome was delivered by Lord Balfour of Burleigh, to which replies were made by several speakers, among whom was our own burley principal of Queen's College,