

THE *Christian World* has the following :

Commenting, in his journal, on the position occupied by ministers in America, Dr. Parker says : "O ye poor little English pastors, with your incidentals and collections and poky houses, and lodgings above a shop in Margate—are ye not to be regarded as objects of pity or contempt? A man who studied under me for the ministry is out in the West, and he hopes to see me at his home, where I can have the use of three horses and a carriage! I invite him to London, where he can ride all day on an omnibus and pay his own fare."

This is a sample of the accuracy with which travelers and emigration agents inform the English public regarding America. True, but only a part of the truth. There are ministers in America whose position fully justifies the above description; they have their counterpart in many of the brethren at home. But we also have our American pastors, with "incidentals and collections and poky houses" to complete the picture. The dreams of Whittington, of London streets paved with gold, were scarcely realized under the scullion in the kitchen, and many dreams of American El Dorados find similar endings. Work, hard work and adaptability are first requisites to American success. Let would-be American pastors, now "poor little English pastors," take note and be wise.

IN the report of the meeting of the Colonial Missionary Society in Leeds last month we read the following :

Rev. Dr. Stevenson submitted a resolution approving the proposal to commission the secretary to attend the meetings of the Canada Congregational Union in June next, with a view to obtaining information as to the openings for mission work along the track of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The question for Congregationalists to consider was whether they were going to leave to other denominations the evangelization of these people. It had been objected that in the past there had been some money spent unwisely upon places of worship. They must, however, remember that, where this was so, for every cent of English money spent unwisely, many Canadian dollars had gone with it. Rev. Dr. Duff, in seconding the resolution, said if Congregationalists in England would help more thoroughly the Canadian churches, they would be standing by some of the most thoughtful work done on the other side of the Atlantic. He bore testimony to the exceptionally high qualifications of the new principal of Montreal College, Dr. Barbour, and believed that much good would be done by such visits as those of Mr. Hall to England and of Mr. Fielden to Canada.

We are glad to see this awakening interest on

the part of our brethren at home. But a word. Dr. Dale and Mr. Spicer are visiting Australia. Why cannot, say, Dr. McFayden or Mr. J. G. Rodgers, or some such representative men come over to us? Not pass us by, but bring the prestige of their name religiously to their own kith and kin.

OUR columns lately gave an account of the destitute poor of London, from the pen of Mr. J. B. Silcox. Destitution in London is alarming. In the parks and in open places, as well as Trafalgar Square, large numbers of homeless and destitute persons congregate and sleep at night on the bare stones. A correspondent of the *New York Herald* writes that in the back streets a large mass of suffering humanity—thousands of women and children—are on the verge of starvation. Thousands of pounds are spent that are never heard of in the papers, still the horrible cry of hunger and want rings through the vast city. Recently a crowd numbering thousands of the unemployed marched through the streets with a red flag at their head. About 1,200 entered Westminster Abbey during service. Many remained covered, some indulged in whistling, others mounted the pedestals of the various statues or mingled with the people present. The crowd, as a rule, chewed tobacco regardless of the surroundings. When the lesson was announced the reader was loudly jeered. Canon Prothero attempted to preach, but was constrained to address the crowd. He then addressed them, they answered back. At the close the mob hissed, marched out of the Abbey, and were cheered by their comrades in waiting outside.

BRAVELY do our brethren of the London Congregational Union seek to meet these wants, but the bitter cry of outcast London is alarmingly on the increase.

AT the late Church Congress in England a sensation was created by Canon Isaac Taylor's assertion that as a missionary religion Mohammedanism is more successful than Christianity in Africa and in parts of Central Asia. Part of his statements have been derived from the remarkable work of Dr. Blyden, "Christianity, Islam and the Negro Race." The author, a negro, and late Minister of Liberia in this country, writes with wide knowledge of his own people, acquired in the United States.