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FORGIVENESS

If I should pray to be forgiven, yet hear
The fires of forgiveness smouldering low,
How can I hope to know
A hearing for my prayer—
To ask and yet withhold forgiveness—can I dare?
Shall I implore that God remit my debt,
And yet
Refuse to pardon or forget?

OVER LAND AND SEA.

What does your anxiety do? It does not empty to-morrow, brother, of its sorrow; but, ah! it empties to-day of its strength. It does not make you escape the evil, it makes you unfit to cope with it when it comes. It does not bless to-morrow, and it robs to-day. For every day has its own burden. God gives us power to bear all the sorrows of His making; but He does not give us the power to bear the sorrows of our own making which the anticipation of sorrow most assuredly is.

In a communication addressed to the French Academy of Medicine on the evils of intemperance, Dr. Motet gives the following statistics gathered from reports furnished him by the clerks of several prisons in Paris: Of 100 persons arrested for murder, 50 are inebriates; of 100 convicts sentenced for indecent assault, 53 are inebriates; of 100 prisoners convicted of arson, 57 are inebriates; of 100 persons sentenced for vagrancy, 70 are inebriates; of 100 persons found guilty of assault and battery, 90 are inebriates.

The annual meeting of the Glasgow Branch of the Church of Scotland Foreign Missions Society was held recently. Mr. Graeme A. L. Whitlaw, who presided, in referring to the good work done in the past, regretted that there was no branch of the Mission in Japan, but he hoped that before long this want would be supplied, for there was far more opportunity for doing good work in Japan than in China, for the Japanese, like the Athenians, were always looking for some new thing. The most interesting field of mission work was India, but there it was also difficult, owing to the existence of caste, and the prejudices which caste created. The Zenana Mission was a fruitful field, but he thought the first thing was to educate the women, and so get them lifted above caste, and after the prejudices were set aside the missionaries would then have a fair field, and be better able to persuade the inhabitants of these Zenanas to adopt Christianity. There has been a slight increase in the funds of the Mission during the past year.

Presbyterianism seems to thrive in the Dark Continent. The Presbyterian Church of South Africa has now its General Assembly, in which are represented the Free Church, with three Presbyteries; the United Presbyterian Church, with two Presbyteries; the separate Presbyteries of Natal, Cape Town and the Transvaal and the congregation of Port Elizabeth. The united body claims to have 13,000 communicants, of whom three-fourths are natives.

A man may it seems be a distinguished prelate, and even an effective preacher, and yet, especially if he be an Irishman, make some laughable blunders of speech. The eloquent Dr. Royd Carpenter, bishop of Ripon, has some

Irish blood in him. Possibly it was this circumstance that led him in a recent address to exhort his hearers as follows: "My brethren, I beg you to take hold of your own heart and look it straight in the face." The idea was good, if the figure was anatomically inconvenient.

Scientists now tell us that the bill of the stork is one long nerve. But then, so is the bill of the plumber. How marvelous are Nature's works!

A movement against the big department stores has gathered astonishing headway in Chicago. It started among the small retailers, but many of the large merchants handling a single line of goods have come to its support. The Board of Aldermen has passed resolutions indorsing it. Governor Tanner has given it his approval, and the Cook County Republican Committee apparently proposes to make it the chief issue of the approaching municipal campaign.

The "American Federation of Labor" has taken the right ground on the Sabbath question, though it does not do it from religious considerations. It is thinking of "Labor" all the time. It says rightly that "there is no necessity for Sunday work." The labor people demand, not as a privilege, but as a right, that they should have the Sabbath for their own use. It was made for man.

The six wealthiest women in the world are said to be the following: Senora Isidora Cousino, \$200,000,000; Hetty Green, \$50,000,000; Business Burdett-Coutts, \$20,000,000; Mme. Barrios, \$15,000,000; Miss Mary Garrett, \$10,000,000, and Mrs. Woleska, \$10,000,000.

The St. John's Wood congregation, London (Rev. Dr. Monro Gibson), again heads the list of contributors to the Sustentation Fund of the English Presbyterian Church, with £656 of aid for the past year, Seften Park (Rev. Dr. Watson) coming next with £600.

The saloon has many sides. It has its inside, its outside, its political side, its suicides and its homicides.

A pathetic story that comes from China gives an illustration of how medical missions prepare the way for the advance of Christianity. A military graduate was successfully treated for a cataract at the mission hospital in Hankow. As he returned to his home, 48 other blind men gathered about him and begged him to lead them to the wonderful foreign doctor. So this strange procession of blind men, each holding on the other's rope, walked for 250 miles to Hankow, and nearly all were cured. One, who could not be cured, received, while in the hospital, the better gifts of spiritual healing.

The Mayor of Cork has been denounced at the Altar for attending a Protestant service! And this is in an Ireland which we were solemnly assured, and which we once believed, had become too wise to persecute Protestantism! It seems that the Town Council passed a resolution to attend the service in connection with the consecration of the Bishop of Killaloe. The Mayor attended with the rest.