

had brought him West before; but the Chicago fire had laid the city low, and the large mill was destroyed, and that chapter of his experience seemed to have left no memorial. It was, excepting to himself, as if it had not been. But when the debris of the fire was cleared away, the fine engine had been found but little injured; and in the great fair the builder, after he thought it to have perished, found it still strong and steady, and doing work far beyond the dreams of the man who made it.

A few weeks ago this same minister, now and for many years a college professor and a writer of books, retired upon a Carnegie pension. In the quiet of a ripe and sweet old age he waits for another transformation. And some of his friends have thought of his earlier experience as a parable.

When what we call life is ended, and the great change and seeming ruin of what we call death has come and gone, shall not he who is faithful stand at last beside every well-wrought piece of mechanism which he wrought in life, and find it not lost or hopelessly broken, but with marvellous and diversified uses for which it is adapted?

Our visions of the other life are dim: 'Eye hath not seen nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man' the reality of its glorious activities. But now and then this life affords some faint analogy which helps us to conjecture some of its blessed and beautiful occupations. And this we know: that every well-wrought purpose, every work of virtue and fidelity, every life that builds faithfully and well has its imperishable heritage in the purpose of the Almighty. It is well for us to cherish all lessons that make real this truth, and assure us that our labor is not in vain in the Lord.—'Youth's Companion.'

### Only a Sojourner.

The next time you are in London, if you go along by Hyde park yonder, look at the second house by the gate; it belongs to Lord Rothchild, who is perhaps the richest man in the world. He is a power in the world. Look at his house, look at the marble pillars in it, and at the cornice yonder; there, at the end of one of the cornices it is unfinished. He is an orthodox Jew; and every Jew's house, according to tradition, has some piece unfinished, to bear testimony that the occupier is but a pilgrim here; that he is looking, like Father Abraham, for the 'city that hath foundations;' and there the unfinished cornice of the Jews says, beautiful as it is: 'This is not my home; I am travelling to eternity.' Soul, in your business leave the marble cornice unfinished. Let it be seen at your work that it is not all work; that though you are toiling day by day for the daily bread, yet you are travelling free to the eternal home. O, lay hold on Jesus; he has come to set you free! Arise, for the light has come!—'Christian Scotsman.'

### Religious Notes.

Says the 'Missionary Herald,' organ of the American Board; 'We can report that in addition to the 572 sent from this land into these foreign regions, there have been raised up on mission ground 4,145 native agents who are co-operating in this work of evangelizing the nations. They are preachers, evangelists, teachers, catechists, and Bible women, trained in our schools and doing effective work. Numerically this native force is seven times greater than that sent from America. There are 580 organized churches and over 1,700 places where Christian worship is regularly maintained. These churches have an enrolled membership of 68,952 communicants, to which were added on confession the last year 6,331, an average of over 10 members to each church. In the 13 theological schools there are 142 students for the ministry. In our 15 colleges there are over 2,600 students. In 113 schools of higher grade there are over 8,000 pupils; of the lower grades there are 1,241 schools; so that there are under instruction in schools of all grades a total of 65,152 scholars.'

If the number of additions on confession be divided by 52, it will appear that every Sun-

day an average of more than 120 members were received.

It is reported from China that the Governor of Shen-Si has removed the famous Nestorian Tablet from its ancient exposed situation in an open field outside the capital, Siang-fu, and has placed it in the Peilin Temple, inside the walls of the city.

It is assumed that the increasing number of European vandals in the province since 1902 aroused the Governor's fear that the tablet would be stolen.

This Nestorian Tablet, was erected in 1781 A.D., and records the arrival at Siang-fu, then the capital of the Chinese Empire in A.D. 635 of the Nestorian priest Clopin from Syria, and gives a brief summary of the Nestorian Christians in China from A.D., 635 up to 1781. The Nestorians were a sect of Christians named after Nestorius, a Patriarch of Constantinople, who lived in the fifth century.

### Our Labrador Work.

Log of the S.S. 'Strathcona.'

Dear Mr. Editor,—As we worked up the bay, leaving the head post of the Hudson's Bay Company for Labrador, we gradually drew into the fresh water of the wonderful inland lake series of Hamilton Inlet, enjoying the satisfaction that every mile meant fresher water in our boiler and a cleaner bottom to our ship, for the weed and animal life that grow even on a steel vessel freshly coated with copper paint cannot abide fresh water and live. When at length we came to an anchor, we were in a beautiful river, and could have tied up to a tree. Hot, sunny, and vividly green, we were almost in a new country. Our objective was the new settlement of the 'Grand River Pulp and Lumber Company,' and half a mile up a side branch brought us to it. One seemed almost immediately transported to another land. There were roads, with cart ruts on each side, fields with gates; houses, stores, and a fine school, with a clever Canadian teacher, and bare-legged boys, and girls in pretty bright colored print dresses. We saw horses, cattle, fowls, and even frogs jumping into the pool. It was very hot to us from the outside, clad in garments for the Polar current, and we were keen to go bathing at once to cool off. The temperature up inland is infinitely more equable than outside, and the rapidity with which oats and barely grow in the long hours of sunshine is phenomenal. Potatoes, carrots, peas and beets do well up here. It seemed to us that the rapid growth might be also due to more chlorophyll in the leaves. For I never anywhere noticed such intense greens. One had to keep pinching oneself to see if one was awake, and really in the Labrador that we know. The reason we have never been so far in before has been partly due to our not being able to do half we wished, and the lonely dwellers outside have been more than enough. But also there is only 12 feet of water on the bar of this mighty river, and we could not get up without the company's buoys to mark the channel. The mills were doing good work, and a third one is to be carried in the large scow ten miles further up, where another large river joins. The manager will try to run this all the winter, that he may have a cargo for the steamer that brings his supplies in spring. We passed, on the way in, a schooner with cargo lost on the sands a few days ago, and were called on to settle the disposition of the salvaged goods. The owner and master had never before been caught napping, and when forced to leave the boat to save their lives, they had omitted to put out an anchor. So it happened the vessel was driven up half a mile further in on the sands, and the nearest the steamer could get to her was over a quarter of a mile. It was thus impossible to haul her off, even though she lay on her bilge and had been relieved of her cargo. They will haul her up over the ice in the fall.

A day like that was all too short, and when we again headed for the ice outside, we had added to our freight a woman with cataract for operation, and a boy with tubercular knee, also for hospital.

Here at Grand Village the people were very short of fresh food, for cod do not reach in, and trout are very scarce this year. Large

ouananiche, or land-locked salmon, are taken higher up the river in good quantities, but even the skill of my secretary, who is looked upon as a veritable 'Isaak Walton,' did not seduce a dish full of the speckled river trout here in this splendid looking spot. But perhaps of the changes that have occurred in this bay in my acquaintance, the greatest has been in the introduction of cash as a medium of exchange. Now, practically all the settlers are well off in this section. Some are rich. More than one has money in the Bank of Montreal, and they send delegate buyers to St. John's to buy for cash prices. Formerly, no money was given; barter was the only way open, and as soon as the days of virgin furs and un-netted rivers were passed, many fell into hopeless poverty, and almost all were living from hand to mouth. The stores of the new trading companies, stimulating competition, have also been of inestimable value to us. Nor do mosquitoes, the greatest present nuisance, make it impossible for homo bimana to exist here, as we might have expected. They seem worse on the outside and, though one man told us when he went one day in the spring to dip drinking water from his hole through the ice, he had to bucket out five bucketsful of mosquitoes before he got attractive water.

Heavy fog overtook us outside, and it was late on Saturday evening before we came to an anchor off Indian Harbor Hospital. Poor news waited us. We learned after landing our new batch of sick folk, that the nurse from Baltimore, in charge of our Southern Hospital, was down with scarlet fever, and a supply had had to be sent at very considerable expense, as her hospital was full of patients. It meant hiring a fishing steam launch specially to carry her over the straits, as there is no communication across by mail vessels.

Also a young skipper landed on our last visit was dead—a man whose life we had hoped to save. A beautiful Sunday brought a large crowd to services, and the funeral on the rock side of this barren island was very impressive. A brave fellow, fishing up till the very last day, he said as he came over our rail, 'I'm done for this time'—and indeed he looked it. But it had seemed a man with vitality to be out in a fishing boat tending his nets till the day before, might be able to pull through. Cheerfully, uncomplainingly he had faced the last enemy. It meant hardship indeed to his wife, for the summer earnings were lost now, and the kindly crowd of sailors and fishermen who gathered, put together a nice little sum between them to help her somewhat to face the troubles in store.

W. T. GRENFELL, C.M.G., M.D.

### Acknowledgments.

#### LABRADOR FUND.

Received for the maintenance of the launch: Well-wishers, Picton, Ont., \$1.00; Peveril Sunday School, \$5.00; Hattie Bacon, Kinistino, Sask., \$2.50; A Friend, Inghagala, \$2.00; Master Alton Ricker, Rockville, 25 cents; two 'Friends,' Clarence, Ont., \$1.00; A. M. Boosey, Embro, Ont., 50 cents; Miss E. Barton, Renfrew, Ont., \$1.00; P. Kinnear, Brock Ave., Toronto, \$1.00; a well-wisher, Stellarton, \$1.00; D. E. Wilson, St. Joseph, \$1.00; J. M. McIlquham, \$2.00; Mr. D. J. Meredith, Vernunville, \$7.60; Dave and Fannie, Bowood, Ont., 50 cents; E. Treneman, Burford, Ont., \$1.00; Total . . . . . \$ 27.35

Received for the cots: Well-wishers, Picton, Ont., \$1.00; Mrs. Bonham Clay, University St., Montreal, \$3.00; two 'friends,' Clarence, Ont., \$1.00; Mrs. Sharp, Rockside, \$4.00; Mrs. A. McMillan, Gould Station, \$2.00; Mrs. M. Seath, Stella, Amherst Island, \$2.00; Dave and Fannie, Bowood, Ont., 50 cents. Total . . . . . \$ 13.50

Received for the komatik: A Friend, Inghagala, \$4.00; W. F. F. Hart, Lac Ste. Anne, \$2.00; Total . . . . . \$ 6.00

Previously acknowledged for all purposes . . . . . \$ 1,166.08

Total received up to Jan. 8 . . . \$ 1,212.93  
Address all subscriptions for Dr. Grenfell's work to 'Witness' Labrador Fund, John Dougall and Son, 'Witness' Office, Montreal, stating with the gift whether it is for launch, komatik, or cots.