

THE game of football has in the recent past grown rougher every year in this country and in England, so that a "crack" football eleven requires the constant services of a medical attendant in the regular season. Unless steps are taken to make the game less dangerous to life and limb, college authorities will have to prohibit the brutal play. Already the West Point authorities have given notice that the classes of that institution shall not play another season unless the rules are modified. In three years there resulted in Great Britain 71 deaths from the "sport" of football.—*Ex.*

THE following remarkable paragraph is taken from the *Presbyterian*, published in Philadelphia, U.S. In view of pending discussions, it is well to note what our neighbours think:—"It was acknowledged, at the late meeting of the Congregational Union in London, that Independency, pure and simple, was a failure. At least the fact was conceded that a polity which suited the fathers was not applicable to the present time. A modification of the system, which would lead to what was called 'Organized Independency,' was advocated. As it was delineated rather dimly in the speeches made and the discussions which started up, 'Organized Independency' began to look something like Presbyterianism."

A JAPANESE senator recently got hold of an exposition of part of the Bible. Reading it attentively, he pronounced Christianity a fine thing in theory; but the question was, Would it work practically? Thinking about it, he became dissatisfied with his life, and while in this state took a trip from Okayama to Ozaka. On the same steamer was a Miss Barrows, and as he heard she was a Christian, he watched her. Her deportment so impressed him, that though not a word passed between them, he was convinced that Christianity was as good in practice as it was in theory: and on returning home he hunted up a missionary, made a public profession of faith, and has since been faithful in working for the salvation of others.—*Missionary Review.*

ABOUT three years ago the Rev. Walter Walsh, of Newcastle, persuaded his church to open the membership to all who professed their desire to live like Christ. In making this change he used some hard words about others' doctrines. After three years he con-

fesses that the broad gate allured no more of the working men than the narrow one. This action was accompanied by another experiment; the Sunday evening service was transformed into an open platform 'with incidents of worship.' This lasted three winters, but is now dead. 'I am greatly disappointed with the results of my attempts to influence them on the side of religion. After all, congregations are more interested in the permanent truths of religion.'

THERE are a good many churches from which we do not hear often. Sometimes we read of them in some paper. We should like to be kept informed. We cannot help it, that being a distance from the printers, we must have items in early. In many cases however, the items are sent *two or three weeks* after the event; and often just "too late!" Our friends can remedy that. We again have to announce that not one church pays for a single copy of the INDEPENDENT from its funds! If our churches expect their young people to grow up Congregationalists, could they use a better means than putting our church-paper into their hands?

ITINERATING is a favorite and fruitful method of mission work in China. Missionaries go on tours of from a week to nine months, preaching from place to place, gathering converts into churches, and sending them out to tell the Gospel story to their neighbors. Humble witnesses for Christ are found willing for a bare support, which costs perhaps \$5 a month, and sometimes without even that help, to go about as simple evangelists. Dr. Corbett and Dr. Nevius were wont thus to go on tours, and gathered on an average about one new convert a day for a period of perhaps ten years. No method of work could be more primitive and apostolic.—*Miss. Review.*

FIG. 1.—Ninety-four per cent. of the population are Methodists, and less than six per cent. Romanists. As regards education, the pamphlet says: "Twelve hundred Methodist teachers give secular education to 31,000 day scholars. These men, though efficiently performing the work of State school teachers, receive no recognition whatever from the Government beyond their being recognised as reliable taxpayers. Probably there is no other country in the world where the education of the people