

as follows: Rub together a piece of butter size of a walnut, and one tablespoonful of flour. Stir in two tablespoonfuls of vinegar, and scald for a moment. Add the beaten yolk of one egg and two tablespoonfuls of cream, a half-teaspoonful of salt and a scant salt-spoonful of pepper. A delicious dressing, especially pleasing for those who dislike the mustard usually put in salad dressing.

**BEEF TEA.**—Mince or shred finely half a pound of lean beef, free from fat and gristle. Put it in an earthenware jar with half a pint of cold water, add a small pinch of salt, and let it stand for about half an hour. Place the jar in a stewpan with boiling water: about three parts up the jar, cover the jar with buttered paper, and allow the water to simmer for about two hours; or place it in a fairly heated oven for three hours. Remove all particles of fat that may rise to the surface, then strain the contents of the jar, and serve the beef tea. A small quantity of good meat extract added to the above will give the beef tea a better flavoring, and it will make it more nourishing.

**Religious Notes.**

One of the most remarkable religious philanthropists of the world is Adeline, Countess Schimmelman, who recently concluded a special mission to soldiers and sailors in the cosmopolitan city of Cardiff.

The Countess is fifty-two years of age, and her life story forms a remarkable romance. For many years she has devoted her life to the welfare of the fishermen and sailors of Germany and Scandinavia, and her name is as well-known among them and as deeply respected as is that of Miss Agnes Weston in British ports.

The Countess can converse fluently in five languages, and several dialects. The ease with which she changed her speech while working among the cosmopolitan population of Cardiff, Wales, has been a matter of wonderment.

One of the most remarkable meetings she has attended during her visit to Wales was an underground service in one of the mines at six o'clock in the morning, before the miners began their work. The men sang and prayed, and listened attentively to an address by the Countess.

The Countess is a daughter of the late Count Lehnsgrave Schimmelman, and was born in the castle of Ahrensburg, in Holstein. Her early life was spent in the most exclusive aristocratic circles on the Continent, and for eighteen years she was maid of honor to the late Empress Augusta of Germany, the Kaiser's grandmother.—'Christian Age.'

By way of contrast with the gloomy pessimism of the foes of the Christian faith, who would endeavor, by gross misstatements, to shake the confidence of God's people, let us look at the actual facts relative to the progress of Christianity. Especially do we commend these facts to those who, either in pulpit or printed page, encounter the groundless assertion that Christianity is a 'dying religion.'

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(1) Note the advance of Christianity through the last nineteen centuries:

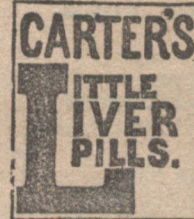
Century	Christians.
1st .....	500,000
2nd .....	2,500,000
3rd .....	5,000,000
4th .....	10,000,000
5th .....	15,000,000
6th .....	20,000,000
7th .....	24,000,000
8th .....	30,000,000
9th .....	40,000,000
10th .....	50,000,000
11th .....	70,000,000
12th .....	80,000,000
13th .....	75,000,000
14th .....	80,000,000
15th .....	100,000,000
16th .....	125,000,000
17th .....	155,000,000
18th .....	200,000,000
Present time (est'd) ..	490,000,000

The explanation of the remarkable increase in the last one hundred years is to be found in the growth of foreign missions. In the year 1800, there were probably not more than a score of foreign mission stations; now there are over 5,000, with more than 15,000 out-stations. The army of Christian workers in the foreign field to-day is little short of 100,000. This, it should be remembered, is the progress of a single century, and in one direction only.

(2) The Lord Bishop of Ripon, a distinguished English prelate and leading authority, gives these figures, showing the increase of the power and influence of Christianity in the last 300 years. Of the earth's total land surface of 50,000,000 square miles, in the year 1600, 3,480,000 square miles were under Christian influence, and 45,619,100 square miles non-Christian. In the year 1900 the situation had been reversed. 40,317,200 square miles of the world's land surface were under Christian influence, and only 8,782,300 non-Christian.

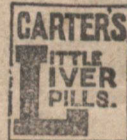
Right here, what has the century witnessed? In 1800, according to Dr. Josiah Strong

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(who is considered good authority), there were some 3,030 Christian churches in America, with 2,651 ministers and 364,872 communicants. 1850 saw these figures increased to 43,072 churches, 25,555 pastors, and 3,529,988 communicants. In 1890, the churches numbered 142,599, with 93,776 pastors and 13,417,180 communicants. These figures do not include the statistics of the Catholic churches, which would swell them by many millions more.

Thus the old Bible, with the religion it teaches, is steadily overcoming all barriers, and will continue to do so. The Church of Christ never goes backward. When you find infidels bombarding it, sceptics flouting it, pessimists calling it a 'dying religion,' and all its enemies clamorous in slandering and misrepresenting it, just direct their attention to these indisputable facts and figures. When they can prove them false and reverse the record of history for the last twenty centuries, then they may claim a right to a hearing, but not before. And for those, who, in the face of all the evidence at hand, still call Christianity 'a dying religion,' and blindly persist in following the path of error, instead of walking in the light of truth, we can only have the sincerest pity.

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