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OVER LAND AND SEA.

If the Church would get and retain hold upon the boys it must have been in the Sabbath-school. And yet when one looks over almost any one of our Sabbath-schools, what a small proportion of young men does he find? Every young man, as well as every young lady in the congregation, ought to be a member of the Sabbath-school. No boy ever gets too big to go to Sabbath-school.

The Synod of Pennsylvania is reported by the Board of Home Missions as having contributed to its treasury, last year, nearly \$107,000. It was in fact several thousand dollars more than that, certain sums being credited to miscellaneous and ladies' societies. It, at the same time, contributed to the work within its own bounds, termed "Synodical Aid" in the minutes, or Sustentation \$21,630, and thus aided in the support of about 160 of its ministers. And yet a certain minister of the Synod of Indiana, which raised little more for the entire work of Home Missions at home and abroad than Pennsylvania raised for Synodical Sustentation, after contributing \$110,000 to the Board is out, proclaiming that the Pennsylvania scheme "is an acknowledge failure," and that forsooth the Indiana plan should be adopted.

The Presbytery of Belfast is seeking to perfect a system of voting for the General Assembly of the Irish Presbyterian Church that shall obviate the necessity of calling the roll, and thereby save time. An ingenious form of member's ticket, with the words "For," "Against," ect., printed upon it, is proposed, by the use of which, it is said, the mind of the Assembly could be taken in one-twentieth of the time usually occupied.

Out of some fifty thousand ministers to whom an appeal was recently made to preach sermons in favor of opening the museums on Sunday, only fifty nine, according to the London Independent; responded to the invitation, of whom thirty were Unitarians, twenty-two clergymen of the Church of England, and the rest of various affiliations, "ethical" and otherwise. On the other hand, seven hundred and fifty-four members of the dramatical and musical professions signed a memorial in favor of maintaining the present rules, on the ground that five hundred thousand persons employed in the "amusement industry" should be protected from the burden of Sunday labor.

Most of the missionary societies of the world are badly in debt, says *North and West*. The London society which represents the union of evangelicals, has just celebrated its centennial. It is three years younger than the Baptist society, and three years older than the Church society, and twenty years the senior of the Wesleyan organization. The London society has sent out such men as John Williams, who was the martyr of Erromanga; Robert Moffat and David Livingstone; Morrison, the pioneer of China and Gilmour of Mongolia. Four years ago they began a forward movement, to send out a hundred a new men. Thirty of them are still waiting to be sent, and the normal offerings of the churches are \$100,000 too small to sustain the work.

The Church missionary society represents the body of the evangelical element in the Established Church. It resolved in 1887 to send out all who volunteered if they were well-qualified. They have doubled their missionaries within ten years, doubled their income, and have a handsome sum in the treasury to begin the year. That is a magnificent record. Why cannot our church keep pace with those English Episcopalians?

Those who have forgotten their geography, and they maybe taken to be in the majority, may be reminded that the Orange Free State, mentioned in connection with the Transvaal marches with the latter on the south. Its area is 70,000 square miles, and the population 150,000, of whom 60,000 are whites. It was founded in 1835 by Dutch settlers, annexed by Britain in 1848 to put a stop to the Boer outrages, but in 1854 was recognized as an independent State. Dutch is the language spoken, and the religion that of the Dutch Reformed Church. Bloemfontein is the capital, with a population of over 3,000

The income of Oxford University is slightly under \$350,000 per annum.

The largest sum left for charitable purposes during the last year, in Great Britain, was the \$850,000 bequeathed by the late Earl of Moray.

The fact that Miss Barton and her staff of nurses of the American Red Cross Association have been refused admission into Turkey, by order of the Sultan, is the most damning evidence that could be afforded of the past year's work of butchery. If there were nothing to conceal, as the Sultan avers, there would certainly be no reason why admittance should be refused to a band of women whose only mission is one of mercy. The Armenian episode is one of the darkest in modern history, and leaves a stain upon the annals of the Christian nations which only a like baptism of blood will wash away. No cry of a helpless people unheeded by its brother-men goes unavenged by God. The end is not yet.

It is announced that a Frenchman has at last perfected an invention which has long been wished for by musicians—a recording piano. Beneath the keyboard is attached a kind of typewriting instrument, by means of which anything that is played can, at will, be recorded by the performer. The music as written is not recorded in the usual note, of course, but in a series of long and short dashes, somewhat resembling the Morse alphabet, which is easily reproduced in the ordinary manner. This, if found practicable, will surely be a great boon to composers. Think of a musician being able to sit down for an hour in the dusk of evening, let us say, feeling confident that the beautiful harmonies he evolves in the moment of divine inspiration will be his to transcribe in the prosaic morning hours, when one is so apt to be coldly deserted by the fitful muse.