

worthily bestowed on one who from her ability and devotion to social reform is widely respected. The honour was conferred on Miss Frances Willard who delivered a powerful address in behalf of temperance in which she unsparingly condemned the exportation of intoxicating drink to Africa where the curse is decimating several of the native tribes. In strong terms she assailed the greed of gain before which some professing office-bearers in Christian Churches have succumbed and have been engaged in the demoralizing traffic. Lady Somerset proposed a resolution, which was unanimously adopted, to the effect that the Executive Committee of the World's Women's Christian Temperance Union be instructed to formulate a petition to the English Government against India's opium traffic, and to the governments of the country against the liquor traffic on the Congo. American papers have recently stated that the English custom of employing bar-maids has been introduced into cities in the United States. A resolution condemnatory of the system was introduced in which the delegates affirmed that they deplored the introduction of the English bar-maid system into certain towns, and wherever it has been introduced they call upon the municipal authorities to forbid the continuance of a custom so debasing to women.

While temperance in all its bearings was the principal subject considered, the delegates gave attention to various cognate questions of social reform. They protested against prevailing immorality and political corruption, and claimed the right to the political franchise that they might be in a position to use their influence to advance the reforms they so earnestly advocate. Though now they are bereft of the power to vote and so far deprived of political power, yet their moral influence is becoming stronger year by year, they are keenly alive to the opportunities they already possess and are earnest in their efforts to do all the good they can. The circle of their influence is extending, their numbers are growing and it is apparent that they will continue to receive large accessions. The good work they have already done is incalculable, and there is every reason to believe that it will be greater and grander in the future.

WAR AND RUMOURS OF WAR.

A PEACE conference has been in session in Rome. It appears that other things beside papal manifestoes emanate from the seven hilled city. It is an evidence that freedom of thought and speech have made solid gains in recent years. Pacific counsels, at least in the sense understood by the delegates to the conference, are not now popular in Italy. There is, it is true, an element in the Italian nationality that has no sympathy with the maintenance of the vast armaments the Triple Alliance renders necessary, and that element is not over careful to conceal its opinions, yet the Italian Government permitted the Congress to assemble and discuss freely, without the slightest constraint, the various questions they had specially met to consider. Not so very long ago such a meeting could scarcely be held in Rome.

The Peace movement is no novelty, but though it may receive a large degree of sympathy it does not as yet exert any great influence in shaping the thoughts of the people, nor does it appreciably affect the action of sovereigns and cabinets in the determination of a peaceful or warlike policy. It is not yet beyond the stage of being treated with indifference and ridicule. The arguments of the peace party afford much merriment in high-toned political clubs and regimental mess-rooms. For otherwise rational and well-informed individuals the clanking of spurs and the flashing of sabres have a peculiar fascination. Great as have been the advances of civilization the most advanced nationalities have not yet got beyond the stage of settling international disputes in the last extremity by the sword, and from present appearances there is little hope that better counsels will prevail till numerous battle-fields have been drenched in blood and thousands of our fellow-beings have perished in conflicts in the origin of which they had no responsibility. When the reaction comes, when whole provinces are decimated by war's ravages and the common people wearied with its horrors, then the principles of the peace party will be in the ascendant.

Meanwhile, a practical outcome of the Peace Congress at Rome is, to all appearance, most improbable. The war tension in Europe cannot longer endure. The resources of the leading nations are strained to the utmost. For years enormous vast sums have been voted for the increase of mili-

tary and naval armaments, and heavily as the burdens of taxation are felt, the limits of their increase have not yet been reached. Russia, Germany, France, Austria and Italy have gone on for years adding to their war-like expenditure. Great Britain has, though free formally from the claims of the Triple Alliance, been compelled to see that her naval equipment is fully up to the requirements of possible exigencies, and that adequate means of defence on the Indian frontier must be provided in case Russia should push too far her aggressive designs in Asia.

Only two terminations of the present oppressive military tension of Europe are possible. Either there will be a general disarmament by mutual consent or there will be one of the most gigantic conflicts the world has ever seen. Of the former what prospect is there? Which of the greater or lesser powers, convinced that the step could be taken with safety, will have the courage to lead in such a movement? If one of the powers should be found willing to curtail its war-like forces, would all or any of the others be prepared to follow? Present appearances render such a proceeding improbable. Italy, of all others, feels the well-nigh intolerable weight of maintaining a gigantic military and naval force, but to withdraw from the Triple Alliance would destroy her prestige. She has only recently renewed her adherence to the international compact. It does not appear that she can take the initiative in a movement for disarmament. The martial tone and temper of the French people would make short work of any executive that ventured to propose the placing of the army on a peace footing. Nor can we look to Germany for such a movement. The German rulers and people believe that the stability of the empire, not to speak of the retention of the spoils of the war of 1870, depends on the maintenance of the vast military equipment they have toiled for years to secure. The ambitions of Russia forbid the expectation that pacific overtures will come from the Czar. Conquest by the sword to the eastward and the southward is the aspiration and the dream of the Muscovite power. Under these conditions it can scarcely be looked for that apprehensions of war will be dispelled by the powers mutually agreeing to disarm.

The other alternative, one of dreadful import, is that sooner or later the war cloud which has been ominously gathering for years will burst with appalling fury. The awful responsibility of beginning the conflict has had, and still exerts, a restraining influence over those who have it in their power to kindle the flames of war. Even those monarchs who have made up their minds that war is inevitable hesitate to be held responsible for its outbreak. They express their desires for the prolongation of peace, but are prepared, when in their estimation the fit moment has arrived, to take the field. Preparations for war on a scale of awful magnitude are now being urged forward. Russia is still massing troops on the Austrian and German frontiers, and is busy with expeditions and intrigue on the borders of Afghanistan and the Indian Empire. Those who, from their opportunities, profess to be able to read the signs of the times, avow their belief that the coming spring will witness the outbreak of the long anticipated conflict. In the whirl of events leading up to that dread catastrophe the counsels of peace reformers will have but little appreciable effect.

But the work of the Peace Congress is not in vain. The adherents of that movement are sowing seeds that will ripen. After the wave of desolation, set in motion by war, has swept over the face of Europe, then the people will be in a better mood to listen to the strong arguments against the barbarism of attempting to settle international quarrels by putting to death inoffensive citizens by thousands.

One of the points urged by the members of the Peace Convention was touched upon recently in Toronto by Professor Goldwin Smith. The unseemliness of imbuing school children with martial ideas will be apparent to most right-thinking people. The delegates at the Roman Convention held that instead children attending school ought to be indoctrinated in the principles of peace. It was also agreed that an international bureau of arbitration should be established for the settlement of international disagreements. The movement, though in advance of the time, points in the right direction, and will receive accessions to its ranks as time goes on. It may not have much influence with courts and cabinets now, but the great truths it represents will find a lodgment in the minds of the people, and war will become increasingly difficult as the principles of the Gospel come to influence more directly the daily lives of peoples and the counsels of those who rule. The time is coming when the people that delight in war shall be scattered and the nations shall own the sway of the Prince of Peace.

Books and Magazines.

ANSON D. F. RANDOLPH & Co. announce the forthcoming publications: "Jesus the Messiah," cabinet edition, by Dr. Ederheim, with twenty-four illustrations after Hoffman; "Dr. John Brown and His Sister Isabella"; "A Cyclopædia of Nature's Teachings," with an introduction by Hugh MacMillan; a volume of "Sermons" by the late Dr. Howard Crosby.

HARPER & BROTHERS have just published "Pharaohs, Fellahs, and Explorers," by Amelia B. Edwards; "Art and Criticism," by Theodore Child; "Sharp Eyes, a Rambler's Calendar of Fifty-two Weeks among Insects, Birds and Flowers," written and illustrated by W. Hamilton Gibson; and "In the 'Stranger People's' Country," a new novel by Charles Egbert Craddock.

THE Garfield Edition of "Ben-Hur," which has just been published by Harper & Brothers, is a superb work of art, containing twenty full-page photogravure illustrations and more than one thousand marginal drawings, illustrating every passage in the story. It is issued in two forms—a limited *édition de luxe* and a less expensive illustrated edition—and as a book for the holidays is certainly without a rival.

THE American Academy of Political and Social Science, with headquarters at Philadelphia, announces a number of very interesting works for early publication. They are as follows: a monograph by Gamaliel Bradford on "Congress and the Cabinet," in which he discusses a plan of giving the Cabinet seats in Congress; another by Anson D. Morse, of Amherst, on the "Place of Party in the Political System," which promises to be the most vigorous defence of the party system which has yet appeared; and a third on "Recent Tendencies in the Reform of Land Tenure," by Edw. P. Cheney, of the University of Pennsylvania, an historical review which will prove valuable to all who are interested in the land question.

BIBLE STUDIES. From the Old and New Testaments covering the International Sunday School Lessons for 1892. By George F. Pentecost, D.D. (New York: A. S. Barnes & Co.)—For the last four years Dr. Pentecost has prepared an annual volume expository of the International Sunday School Lessons. The volume for 1892 is the fifth of the excellent series. The field occupied by this volume is distinct from that of others. It may not enter learnedly into all the minutiae of the text, though what requires explanation is usually elucidated. The essential feature of these Bible Studies is a prominent presentation of the evangelical truth contained in the passages selected for study in the Sabbath schools. This year the book has been written in India, where Dr. Pentecost has been engaged in evangelistic work. He tells us that his visit to India has enabled him to reach a fuller understanding of Eastern ways, and thus has helped him in his knowledge of the Scriptures. This year's issue of "Bible Studies" is fully up to the excellent standard of its predecessors.

WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON, THE ABOLITIONIST. By Archibald H. Grimke, M.A. (New York: Funk & Wagnalls; Toronto: 86 Bay Street.)—The eventful life of William Lloyd Garrison, who figured so conspicuously and who laboured with such success in the abolition movement, is admirably told in this neat volume recently issued by the enterprising publishers of the American Reformers series, edited by Carlos Martyn. Mr. Garrison was one of the determined, heroic men who, moved by humanity, enlisted in the movement to secure the liberation of the slaves when to do so required no ordinary degree of courage. For his opinions he had to endure and suffer much, but with unflinching tenacity he remained steadfast, and lived long enough to share in the triumph with which the movement was crowned. Up to the last of his busy active life he laboured earnestly for the promotion of what he believed to be for the welfare of humanity. The book as a memorial of a worthy, self-denying man, is well worth reading and will doubtless meet with a wide welcome.

WHAT MUST I DO TO GET WELL, AND HOW CAN I KEEP SO? By One Who Has Done It. An Exposition of the Salisbury Treatment. (New York: William A. Kellogg; Toronto: Williamson & Co.)—The author of this work, while acknowledging the popular favour with which it has been received, for it is now in its fourth edition, "thoroughly revised and greatly enlarged," complains that it has been ridiculed by "the faculty," and is disposed to be particularly severe on the Edinburgh Medical School. It tells all about the Salisbury method, of which no doubt many readers, otherwise comparatively well informed, may be ignorant. Dr. Salisbury, a New York physician, gave diligent attention to the microscopic study of disease, and came to the conclusion that all diseases not caused by accidents, poisons and infections, emanate from unhealthy alimentation. From this discovery he elaborated his system, and the little book here noticed is a clear exposition of that system. As to its merits there will be differences of opinion, but the book contains much valuable and useful information concerning the preservation of health and the prevention of disease.

A VERY good idea of the amount of money it costs to successfully conduct one of the magazines of to-day is aptly illustrated in some figures regarding the editorial cost of the *Ladies' Home Journal* of this city, says the Philadelphia *Public Ledger*. The *Journal* is edited by Mr. Edward Bok. For shaping the thoughts of his 750,000 women readers each month Mr. Bok is paid \$10,000 per year, and has an interest in the business besides which nets him fully twice his salary. He has a staff of sixteen salaried editors, which includes men and women like Rev. Dr. Talmage, Robert J. Bardette, Palmer Cox, Margaret Botome, Isabel Mallon and Maria Parloa. The combined salaries of these editors exceed \$20,000 a year. The *Journal* spends each month \$2,000, or about \$25,000 per year, on miscellaneous matter not contributed by its regular editors, and the working force in the editorial department means at least \$6,000 more in salaries, making over \$60,000 a year, and this represents but a single department of the magazine; and I question whether any periodical is conducted on a more business-like and economical basis than is the *Journal*. No wonder that J. B. Lippincott, when asked by a friend why he did not keep a yacht, replied: "A man can only sustain one luxury—I publish a magazine!"