

er or a Christian Church be filled with renewed life. It must be by the flowing of the Divine life into the human. It must be by the shining of the Divine light upon our darkness. We fear that in our day there is too much attention directed to secondary matters in the Church. The efficiency of the Church can be maintained only in one way, and that is by maintaining close connection with the source of all good, the great, rich God Himself.

There is a great deal of nonsense written now-a-days, about what is termed "The Higher Christian Life." But there is such a thing. There is a fullness of faith, a largeness of love, a highness of hope beyond ordinary experience. But these are reached by use of ordinary means, and in ordinary ways. And these should be reached by every Christian in every church. And they can be reached if every Christian will look up to God in the faithful fulfilment of his duties, great and small, public and private. "Wilt Thou not revive us again?"

IN Dr. Post's Congregational Church, St. Louis, a committee has been appointed to try to induce everybody in the church to take a religious paper. Some of the brethren are zealous in the matter, and suggest the appointment of similar committees in all the churches. A committee of one can do much in inducing the attendants at our churches to take the CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.

News of the Churches.

REV. JAMES DAVIS supplied at Ayr on Sabbath, Feb. 9th.

NEWMARKET.—Eight persons were received into membership last communion.

H. J. COLWELL has been invited to visit the Watford and Zion churches with a view to settlement.

REV. R. MCKAY commenced evangelistic work in Forest last week. He expects to spend two weeks there.

REV. R. W. WALLACE, M.A., lectured on Sabbath, 9th inst., on "The Greek Church and St. Sophia," as one of "The Great Spiritual Forces of Our World."

MR. D. C. FORBES, superintendent of the Chestnut Street Mission School, was presented by the teachers of his school, with a handsome bracket ornamented with needlework, as a slight token of their appreciation of his faithful services.

THE scholars and friends of the Unionville Sunday School took their annual sleigh-ride on the 11th ult. Having done ample justice to the "good cheer" provided, they greatly enjoyed their eight-mile trip. A pleasing feature of the day's enjoyment was the presence of Mr. Ira White, of Yarmouth, who more than thirty years ago first organized this school.

UNIONVILLE celebrated its Sunday School Anniversary, on January 21st. Addresses were delivered, interspersed by vocal and instrumental music. Over \$50 were raised and expended during the year for school purposes. Prizes were distributed to the scholars for good conduct and regular attendance. Twenty-one scholars were reported to have attended school every Sabbath in the year. The school is flourishing with 103 scholars on the roll, an average attendance of seventy-two; a full and efficient staff of teachers, and a live superintendent.

THE Northern Church, of this city, held their Annual Social, on Friday evening last. After tea and social intercourse in the beautifully-bannered school room, the audience were called to order by Mr. H. J.

Clark who filled the chair in his usual happy manner. Brief addresses were given by Revs. H. W. Warriner, H. D. Powis, and J. B. Silcox. The choir made all hearts glad with music which was both spirited and devotional. There was a large attendance, and a feeling of the greatest unity and hopefulness prevailed.

THE "Church Miscellany," issued by the First Church, Kingston, gives the following financial facts: Subscriptions by members of the congregation towards Queen's College Endowment Fund, \$3,355; contributions paid towards the erection of the Bethel Congregational Church, \$550; annual collection for C. C. B. N. A., \$330.80; collection for Congregational Provident Fund, \$81.80; collection for General Hospital (on Thanksgiving Day), \$12.60. On Christmas Day \$17 was given to aid in paying salary of City Missionary. On New Year's Morning the collection for the poor of the city was \$11.68. A noble record truly!

ON Tuesday evening, 28th ult., the Bond Street Church Mission School, on Chestnut Street, held their annual festival. After the children had partaken of a hearty tea, there was a varied programme of singing, recitations, and readings by the scholars, which was very well performed. The chair was occupied by Mr. D. C. Forbes. Mr. F. Robinson, Mr. Goulding, Mr. Beckett, and others, were on the platform. The annual report showed the school to be in a flourishing condition, both the collections and attendance having increased in the year. At the close of the programme, refreshments were served to the parents and friends; and this brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.

ON Sabbath, Feb. 2nd, special sermons were held in Zion Congregational Church, Guelph, in connection with the opening of the new school room, built in the rear of the church. Sermons were preached by Rev. Jas. Howie, pastor, and Rev. Chas. Duff, M.A. In the afternoon Rev. J. C. Smith (Presb.) gave an address to the Sabbath School. On Monday evening, following, a tea meeting was held. There was a good attendance, and all heartily enjoyed themselves. Rev. Jas. Howie presided. Addresses were delivered by several local ministers, and music was furnished by Mr. H. K. Matland and the choir. The gathering was unusually interesting. On Tuesday the children were entertained at tea with their parents and friends.

WESTERN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, TORONTO.—The reports presented at the annual meeting of this church showed advance in all departments of the church's work. The pastor (Rev. J. B. Silcox) reported fifty additions to the membership during the year; thirty-four on profession of faith, and sixteen by letter. The prayer meetings had been well and regularly attended. The attendance at the Lord's Supper had been unusually good. The Band of Hope, of which the pastor is president, meets fortnightly, with an average attendance of 200. The temperance meetings held last winter, had been largely attended, and were productive of much good. The report of the treasurer (Mr. David Williams) showed that the finances were in a healthy condition. The increase in the Sunday collections, over the preceding year, was \$250. The debt had been reduced by \$650. The superintendent of the Sunday School (Mr. T. P. Hayes) reported a year of quiet steady growth in numbers and influence. The roll just revised shows the present membership to be 241 scholars, with thirty-two officers and teachers. Teachers' meetings for the study of the lesson, conducted by the pastor, are held weekly. The Annual Festival of the school was held on the 3rd inst., on which occasion the house was packed to overflowing. After tea the children with their parents and friends took "a trip around the world" in Mr. Revell's magic lantern. The president of the Berean Band (Mr. C. A. Moor) reported that the young people of the church and congregation had organized under this name for mutual improvement on the basis of Bible Study, with a view of becoming better fitted to engage in Christian work. They also propose to thoroughly post themselves in the history and principles of Congregationalism. The past year has been one of blessing. The church needs increased accommodation, and already God in his providences seems to be saying to His people, "enlarge the place of thy tent."

Religious News.

THE Fish Street Congregational Church, Hull, has had 2,031 persons in fellowship.

REV. R. W. McALL has charge of twenty-two evangelistic stations in Paris, and is about to open another.

THE Archbishop of York, speaking at a recent banquet, said that he saw no signs of approaching dis-establishment.

THERE are 148 churches connected with the London, Eng., Baptist Association, with a membership of 35,776.

MR. R. W. DALE has been lecturing at Hate Court, Canonbury, London, on "New England and Religious Liberty."

THE Wellingborough Church, England, received 89 members last year. At present it reports 456 persons in fellowship.

THE church at Anesley, England, is making an effort, and a successful one, to establish a church in the neighbourhood of Beckinham Road, Penge.

OVER 200 of New York street boys have been provided with good homes among the farmers of Southern Virginia by the Children's Aid Society.

DR. DAVID THOMAS of the *Homilist* is preaching a series of discourses on "Shakespeare and the Bible," at Augustine Church, Chapham Road, London.

THE church in London Road, Derby, England, Rev. Thomas Mirams, pastor, at its annual meeting reported 80 members added in four years.

THE present chairman of the Congregational Union of Ireland (Rev. David Robb), has accepted a call to the Church at Gateshead, England.

BISHOP ELICOTT defends his vote in the House of Lords in favour of the Afghan War. He believes "war to be an element in the divine government of this present world."

A MISSION-HALL has been opened at Marseilles, France, on the Boulevard National, in a district where thousands of workmen meet every night. The religious meetings have been crowded.

THE property of Pius IX. is being sold at the Vatican. Every thing, from superb jewelled crucifixes to empty bottles, is offered at the sale, which is semi-public. Every article is priced very low.

THE American Episcopal Church reports 48 dioceses, 13 missionary districts, 63 bishops, 3,330 clergy, 312,718 communicants, 28,365 Sunday-school teachers, with 265,555 pupils.

THE receipts of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions from May 1st, 1878, to January 1st, 1879, were \$134,552, against \$139,886 for the same period the year previous, showing a decrease of over \$5,000.

THE Established Presbytery of Glasgow has passed a resolution—28 votes to 15—to the effect that in the present state of society it is desirable "for necessity and mercy's sake," that public carriages should run on Sunday.

GREAT GEORGE STREET Church, Liverpool, of which Dr. Raffles was once and Rev. S. Pearson is now pastor, reports a membership of 615, of whom fifty-eight were added last year. In its six Sabbath Schools there are some thousand scholars.

THE Welsh Calvinistic Methodists have 1,134 congregations (only 70 of which are in England), 1,269 churches and stations, 872 ministers and preachers, 110,016 communicants, 275,406 hearers. The denomination has nearly doubled in twenty-seven years.

THE London Religious Tract Society is about to issue "The Boy's Own Paper," which it proposes to make an attractive, wholesome, and amply-illustrated paper, designed to counteract the influence of the pernicious papers that circulate so largely among youth.

THE missions of the Moravian Church, the earliest of which dates from 1732, have now 92 stations, 323 missionaries, 1,504 native assistants, and 70,646 converts, of whom 23,185 are communicants. These are the latest statistics. The standing wonder is how so small a church can carry on so large a missionary work.

AT a meeting of the ministers of the various Nonconformist churches in Rochester and Chatham, England, it has been unanimously resolved that none of the ministers should officiate at a funeral on Sunday except when by medical authority immediate interment is declared necessary on sanitary grounds. It was also decided that in no circumstances should the ministers officiate at weddings on Sunday.

THE family which habitually reads a good religious journal, will undoubtedly have a higher and more intelligent tone of piety than that which neglects this method for growth in knowledge. Our aim is to get the CANADIAN INDEPENDENT in every family of our congregations. Will you help us in this by asking your neighbour to take it? Get up a club. Any person sending us six new subscribers and six dollars will receive a copy one year free.