

bute to their failure, and they may be relied upon to exclude the sale of stimulants.

What are we to think now of the many asseverations that the liquor vendors did not wish a relaxation of the early closing clause of the present License Act? Here is what the memorial says on this matter:

"We will call your attention to the unsatisfactory working of the Saturday night seven o'clock law, and ask for an extension to eleven o'clock."

After debate a compromise was reached by the substitution of the hour of nine for that of eleven. If in any respect the existing Act has been a grateful boon to many it is without doubt in the removal of temptation by the early closing on Saturday night of all places where liquor is sold. The cry against it is restricted almost entirely to those who are in the trade. They have resolved to approach both the Dominion and Provincial Legislatures to obtain more favourable conditions than they now possess.

The delegation had a grand banquet on the evening of their first day of meeting. It was evidently a magnificent affair. Though a number of our public men were invited guests, it was surprising to notice how many denied themselves the pleasure of being present. One notability, however, was there—the popular pastor of Bond street Congregational Church. It would scarcely be fair to say that on this occasion there was a parallel between him and Baalam, for we are not prepared to assert that he loves the wages of unrighteousness, but if he was brought there to bless, his blessing was of the thinnest kind. The eccentric divine is not much if he is not prophetic, and though he had a mild vaticination regarding Canada's future, he missed a grand opportunity in failing to foretell the destiny of the liquor traffic. As an Englishman, Dr. Wild claimed fair play for those engaged in it. Others besides him wished them nothing less. Men in other lines of business find that the progress of discovery, the invention of machinery, and the altered condition of society compel them to direct their energies to different pursuits. So it will be with those in the liquor trade. Let the immense capital invested in its manufacture be diverted to productive industries, and though we do not venture to say that it will undo the evils it has wrought, it will turn a curse into a blessing to many besides themselves.

#### MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

The annual meeting of this society was held on the 11th November, in the Divinity Hall. Mr. Thom, the Vice-President, occupied the chair and conducted the opening devotional exercises. The following officers were appointed for the ensuing year, viz.:—President, L. W. Thom; Vice-President, D. McTavish, M.A.; Corresponding Secretary, P. M. Pollock, B.A.; Recording Secretary, S. W. Dyde; Treasurer, John McLeod; Librarian, A. Patterson; Committee of Management, Messrs. John Young, B.A., J. Carr Anderson, N. Campbell, and F. W. Johnson.

The reports of the retiring officers showed the Society to be in a very satisfactory condition, the treasurer having a balance of \$43 on hand. Having had, however, eight men in the employment of the Association last summer, this balance, and much more to supplement it, will be urgently needed.

The second meeting of the Association was held in the usual rendezvous on the 25th ult. The President, Mr. Thom, in the chair, and after the opening exercises the following resolutions were adopted: "That Hinchinbrooke, Shaebot Lake, and the Mississippi stations be regularly supplied bi-monthly, and also that the usual home stations be attended to, also the charitable institutions in and around Kingston, as well as the common gaol." Most interesting reports were read by Messrs. R. C. Murray, B.A., and F. W. Johnson, the only two missionaries the Society was able to send to Manitoba last summer, the former of his work at Grand Valley, and the latter on the C.P.R. We will need at least \$1,200 for next year's operations, as our motto is "gang forward." The work is increasing on our hands year by year, and we have been obliged to refuse several requests for service for lack of funds. Where the supply this year is to come from we do not as yet know, but we do know that we have a loving Father to go to, who never yet refused to hear the prayer of His servants for help to assist in sending abroad the glad tidings of salvation through His Son. Messrs. Steele, Monro and Grant were appointed to report at the next meeting on the 9th inst.

## BOOKS AND MAGAZINES.

**NORSE STORIES, RETOLD FROM THE EDDAS.** By Hamilton Wright Mabie. (Boston: Roberts Brothers; Toronto: Willing & Williamson.)—These fascinating and somewhat varied Scandinavian stories are presented in a most attractive form for young readers.

**THE KNOCK-ABOUT CLUB ALONGSHORE.** By C. A. Stephens. (Boston: Estes & Lauriat; Toronto: Hart & Company.)—Mr. Stephens has written a book that most boys will read with delighted interest. In addition to the racy narrative there is a rich profusion of illustrative engravings.

**HISTORY OF INDIAN MISSIONS ON THE PACIFIC COAST.** By Rev. Myron Eells. (Philadelphia: The American Sunday School Union; Toronto: John Young.)—This is a plain narrative of facts by a native of the region of which he chiefly writes, and who spent several years in Christianizing the red man of the west.

**THE CHILD'S GUIDE TO HEAVEN.** By Rev. E. Payson Hammond. (New York: Funk & Wagnalls; Toronto: William Briggs.)—Mr. Hammond is a gifted speaker to children, and in this little book he says some good things in an interesting way, but the egotism that follows him as a shadow is too visible in its pages.

**VICK'S FLORAL GUIDE FOR 1885** is a gem in its way. The coloured illustrations combine beauty and accuracy of artistic execution, while the minute delicacy of the other engravings with which the "Guide" is profusely illustrated, and the lucid and concise letter-press descriptions render it an authority in horticulture.

**THE MODERN HAGAR.** By Charles M. Clay. (New York: George W. Harlan & Co.; Toronto: Willing & Williamson.)—This work consists of two volumes forming an issue of the Katterskill series. It may be described as a good specimen of the typical American novel, full of stirring incident and containing many passages of tender feeling.

**ON THE WAY HOME.** By the author of "Through the Winter." (Philadelphia: The American Sunday School Union; Toronto: John Young.)—Readers of the story now appearing in our pages will have an idea of the style of the new work by the same author, now before us. It is specially written for Sunday school girls, and is well worth their reading.

**TRUTH** has attained an assured place as a first-class weekly magazine. Its publisher is to be congratulated on its recent improvements in form and substance. In addition to a varied and extensive selection of interesting and instructive reading matter, it contains short, pithy, and outspoken comments on current topics. From the healthiness of its tone it is admirably adapted for family reading.

**MY HOUSEHOLD PETS.** Translated by Susan Coolidge. (Boston: Roberts Brothers; Toronto: Willing & Williamson.)—This book, translated from the French of Theophile Gautier, gives a lively account of household pets with which every young person is familiar, and others with which a great many would rather not be on familiar terms. Good illustrations enhance the beauty and value of the book.

**THE LIFE AND LETTERS OF ELIZABETH PRENTISS.** (New York: Anson D. Randolph & Co.; Toronto: Willing & Williamson.)—This goodly volume records the life, the work, and the suffering of a gifted Christian woman. Much of its charm is found in the autobiography and letters which she left behind her. The book will be widely read and secure for itself a lasting place in religious literature.

**A COMPEND OF BAPTISM.** By Wm. Hamilton, D.D. (New York: Funk & Wagnalls, Toronto: Wm. Briggs.)—This is an American reprint, by the enterprising publishers, Messrs. Funk & Wagnalls, of Dr. Hamilton's able but temperate book on the Baptist controversy. Having been previously noticed in these columns, it is now only necessary to congratulate the author on the remarkable success that has attended its publication.

**ZIG-ZAG JOURNEYS IN THE OCCIDENT.** By Hezekiah Butterworth. (Boston: Estes & Lauriat; Toronto: Hart & Company.)—Youthful readers can make the journey across the continent in most pleasant and instructive company, having Hezekiah Butterworth as guide. Several tales of pioneer life and historical incidents are related in a style that boys thoroughly comprehend and delight in. Numerous engravings help the reader wonderfully to form correct ideas of the scenes and incidents described.

**THE WISDOM OF THE BRAHMIN. A DIDACTIC POEM.** Translated from the German of Friedrich Rückert, by Charles T. Brooks. Books 1.-vi. (Boston: Roberts Brothers; Toronto: Willing & Williamson.)—This translation of Rückert's greatest poem is by an appreciative and loving admirer. This present publication is tentative. Only six out of the twenty books of which it consists are given. Thoughtful and cultivated readers will be anxious to possess the rest after reading this suggestive portion of "The Wisdom of the Brahmin."

**THE GOSPEL BY MARK IN PHONETIC SPELLING.** By C. W. K. (New York: Funk & Wagnalls; Toronto:

William Briggs.) The English language is not perfect. To attempt its improvement is not criminal. As yet enthusiasts for spelling reform have not met with much success. Unless they are more happy in their efforts than is evidenced in this publication the regret need not be very poignant. The words "ontu," and "onderstand," may belong to the English of the future, but at present they seem to have a wonderfully Hibernian ring about them.

**THE CATHOLIC PRESBYTERIAN.** Edited by Dr. W. G. Blaikie. (London: James Nisbet & Co.; New York: Anson D. F. Randolph & Co.)—The "Catholic Presbyterian" for November is fully up in point of excellence and variety to any preceding issue. There is a brief but comprehensive analysis of the "Religious Census of 1881," by the Rev. James Cameron, Chatsworth, besides articles of value and interest from the pens of well-known representative Presbyterians. We are pleased to notice that Dr. W. G. Blaikie has, at the solicitation of his friends, agreed to continue his editorial duties in connection with this serial until the next meeting of the Council at Belfast, in 1884.

**FRANK LESLIE'S SUNDAY MAGAZINE.** T. De Witt Talmage, D.D., Editor. (New York: Frank Leslie & Co.)—The January number of this serial contains several new and attractive features. In addition to Dr. Talmage's own contributions, the opening chapters of two interesting and instructive works are given. They are intended to run through the year. The one is "Religious Denominations in the United States," the other "The American Pilgrim in Palestine," by Edwin De Leon. The sketches of the denominations are to be written by representative men in the respective Churches, that on Methodism being written by the Rev. Dr. Daniel Curry. George Macdonald is also announced as a stated contributor. The present issue of the "Sunday Magazine" is large in quantity and excellent in quality.

**THE SOUTHERN PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW.** (Columbia, S.C.: The Presbyterian Printing House.)—The present number of this quarterly contains several contributions of high merit. There are two posthumous articles that many will read with special interest because of their intrinsic excellence, and the esteem in which their authors were held when living. One is a discussion on the topic, "The Lord's Day, and not the Jewish Sabbath," by the late Rev. John Beveridge, and the other, "Documentary History of the Assembly of 1837," by the late Rev. Dr. Robert J. Breckenridge. The article by our own Agnes M. Machar, on "An Apostolic Missionary in China," being the story of Dr. Mackay's work in Formosa simply and lovingly told, is reproduced from the "Catholic Presbyterian." "An Inquiry into the Aggressiveness of Presbyterianism," by an author who, though a crisp and candid writer, discreetly withholds his name from the reader, is an able, thoughtful, and timely paper, and likely to provoke consideration and lively discussion. The Review of Recent Publications, admirably written, briefly glances at all noteworthy new books in theology, philosophy, science, and literature, in which a kindly word is spoken for Dr. John M. Gibson's last work, "The Mosaic Era."

**THE STANDARD SERIES.** (New York: Funk & Wagnalls; Toronto: William Briggs.)—Number 73 of this valuable series is "New Testament Helps for any Version or Edition." It contains a mass of facts, carefully arranged, for the most part in tabular form, besides a condensed concordance to the Revised New Testament. To every earnest student this little work will be found to be a most valuable help. Mr. John Liggins' article on "Opium" forms number 74. The impeachment of England's statesmanship, in so far as its complicity with the opium traffic in the East is concerned, is painfully just. Nor does the writer speak smooth things to the American people on this subject. Have not Christian nations evils sufficiently appalling to combat, without the added guilt of fostering, for the love of gain, one of the most demoralizing forms of self-indulgence that curses its unhappy victims? The "Lesson in the Closet," by Dr. Deems, of the Church of the Strangers, New York, forms number 76. The author in his preface asks, "Is there not a danger that we may be so absorbed in studies of language, geography, criticism, etc., as to lose the spiritual culture which after all is the intent of Holy Scriptures?" To obviate such danger Dr. Deems has produced this admirable little work "as a help to those who are teachers and scholars in Sunday schools, and who desire to unite spiritual life with Biblical learning."

THERE will never be a second Saviour to atone for the guilt of rejecting the first.—*Dr. Wardlaw.*

THE Supplemented Lesson Scheme for next year is now ready. Orders by mail filled at the rate of 60 cents per 100 copies.

MINISTERS and Sabbath School Teachers will find the "Expository Bible Readings on the Golden Text for 1883" exceedingly useful. Mailed free on receipt of 25 cents.

MRS. WM. E. DODGE, of New York, has lately given \$2,000 to the Mills Seminary, of California, to found a scholarship for the daughters of clergymen, those of missionaries to have the preference.