

The report from New York City last week that no fewer than thirty persons had died as a result of poisoned whiskey sold at a dive in that city has called forth a storm of indignation from the secular press. The hopeful sign is that the execration is not against this particular dive only, but against whiskey as a common curse. The word of the American newspaper is that whiskey is our race's enemy. Surely the day of deliverance comes near!

The sixty-fifth anniversary of the birth of Frances E. Willard was observed in Chicago by a noon-day meeting on Wednesday, October 5, in the Women's Temple. Flowers from many States of the Union and from Canada, sent by friends, were piled high on the platform. Tributes to Miss Willard were delivered by Miss Jane Adams and Dr. Howard O. Taylor. The next day the flowers received were laid on the tomb of Miss Willard in Rosehill cemetery.

One summer afternoon, in 1846, Abraham Lincoln made a temperance speech at the "South Fork School House" sixteen miles from Springfield. He urged Total Abstinence, and invited the people to sign a pledge which he had written and had signed himself. That pledge has been discovered and revived, and is used in the Gospel Temperance department of the Anti-Saloon League. More than 200,000 have signed it since the Lincoln Legion was launched at Oberlin on October 21, 1903.

The officer in charge of the coolly supply train in one of the Japanese divisions was called before his general to be commended for his efficiency in the battle of the Yalu. A part of the commendation was an invitation to drink a glass of "sake." The cooly master asked if he might have a cup of tea instead, remarking that he was a Christian, and preferred not to drink "sake." Upon this the general further commended him for having convictions and the courage to stick to them.—The Watchman.

It is a splendid fact that the precincts of the Washington Capitol have been purified of the sale of liquor. There is now not a single bar anywhere in this vast building. Not many years ago every other room in these headquarters of the American Legislature was a bar-room, and a great business was done by the bar-tenders. Last session only one such room remained, and the temperance reformers determined to sweep that clean of the liquor. And now they have succeeded. No Senator or member of the House of Representatives can purchase a drop of wine or whiskey or beer in Uncle Sam's Parliament House.—Ram's Horn.

### Missionary

In Okayama, Japan, there is an orphan asylum that was started by a Christian Japanese. In 1907 it will be twenty years old, and the one in charge of the asylum is trying to raise \$100,000 for it before that time. The emperor and empress have given \$1,000, which is thought to be the first special gift by the emperor to an institution professing to be a Christian institution.

An inspiring meeting for outgoing missionaries was recently held in Exeter Hall, London. The Wesleyan Missionary Society is sending out fifty-seven ordained men, three lay missionaries, thirty missionaries' wives, eight workers of the Woman's Auxiliary, and two deaconesses. Of this number, fifty are new recruits, and for the first time deaconesses are sent to the foreign field.

A convert to Protestant Christianity in Porto Rico was criticized by his friends for changing his religion at his advanced age, but he replied very sensibly that if the Bible had been given him earlier, he

would have changed his religion sooner. Now that he had become a Protestant, he knew for the first time what he believed, and why he believed it. In so speaking he numbered the chief mischiefs of Catholicism.

Yale University has received \$40,000 from the British Government for the Yale Foreign Mission College in China. The money was paid by China for the murder of two English missionaries two years ago. The society to which the murdered missionaries belonged refused to accept a cash gift as payment for every breach of the law. The British Government declined to use the money for Government purposes, but offered it to a number of English missionary societies, all of whom declined it.

It is claimed that the Japanese government has decreed the abolition of foot-binding in the island of Formosa. A fine of \$100 will be imposed for every breach of the law, and Chinese girls under six years of age whose feet have been bound must now have their feet unbound. After that age the feet are hopelessly deformed; young children's feet, even though already bound, may still return to their natural shape if the cruel bandages are unbound. Chinese mothers are making a great lament over the enactment.

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### Interesting Facts

In Wales there are about 568,000 people who cannot speak English, Welsh being their only language; in Scotland there are 43,000 persons who can speak nothing but Gaelic; and in Ireland there are 32,000 who can express themselves only in the Irish tongue.

The subway of New York, the greatest underground railway in the world, and one of the greatest modern achievements in engineering, was opened for business last month. Ground was broken for the tunnel on March 25, 1900. It cost \$35,000,000. About 120 persons have lost their lives in the construction.

America claims that the largest orchard in the world is in Missouri. It is the great Winans orchard, near Marshfield, in Webster county. There are 86,000 apple trees, 10,000 peach trees, and 10,000 pear trees, just at proper bearing age. The acreage covered is 1,240, and it is estimated that the orchard is now worth \$408,000.

Two young women are in charge of the international correspondence of the Chinese Department of Foreign Affairs. These girls are the daughters of the former Chinese minister to France, Yu King. They were educated in Paris, and on their return to China, at once found favor with the Empress, and now possess her favor to such an extent that the official correspondence and cablegrams are delivered to them, and the Empress receives their translations of the messages before her ministers see them. This is regarded as a big stride forward for China, where women generally are considered to be of little importance.

### Smiles

The most remarkable case of indecision we ever heard of was that of the man who sat up all night, because he could not decide which to take off first, his coat or his boots.

First Little Girl—"Has your sister been takin' music lessons yet?" Second Little Girl—"She's takin' somef'n on th' piano, but I can't tell yet whether it's music or Epwittin'."

Mamie—"Mamie is dressing." Caller—"Why, she never had no dress on for me, dearie." Mamie—"She knows that, but she said the more time she killed in dressing the less time you'd have to bore her."

An Irishman in discussing the evangelistic meetings in this city, commenting on the services he has attended, said: "They are getting on pretty well, but I would like it better if they didn't have that barometer (baritone) singer."

"And then all the locusts disappeared," observed Molly, one of the home-grown Sunday-school teachers, concluding an edifying lesson on the ten plagues. "They went like magic. Now, where did they go? Yes, Walter?" "John the Baptist ate 'em!" answered the eight-year-old with a grin that set the class in a roar.

Little Billy came in one afternoon from an assembly of the children of the neighborhood with his clothes pierced above and below with a great many little holes. For pity's sake!" exclaimed his mother, "what has happened to you?" "Oh," said Billy, "we've only been playing grocery store, and everybody was something in it. I was the Swiss cheese."

A certain M.P., who is in the habit of buying a paper from the paper boy every evening, on his way to the House of Commons, chanced one evening when he came to put his hand into his pocket to find he had come out without a single penny. He hesitated a moment, and then explained the position to the lord. "Don't you mind about that, sir," was the reply. "And to-morrow, my boy, I may be dead," said the politician, with the idea of impressing a moral lesson upon the youthful mind. The answer of the lad left the moralizing legislator gasping. "Well, sir, if that is the case, it will be no great loss, after all."

Count Tolstoi is very fond of music, and plays well on the piano. After tea his daughters and guests often arrange an impromptu concert. Once, when a young lady was singing a hymn, some of the younger children began to show their disapproval by making a noise. At once the count went to ask what they meant by being so ill-mannered. "Don't you like the singing?" he asked. "It isn't singing," said one of his little sons. "She howls!" "And you wish to protest against her singing?" "Yes." "Then come with me, and tell the lady of your disapproval. That will be rude, but honest. To create a disturbance is indecent."

Burton Holmes, the lecturer says that the Indians of Alaska regard white men and canned goods as so closely associated that they are nearly synonymous. Wherever the white man is seen, canned meats, fruits, and vegetables are found. According to The Saturday Evening Post, when Mr. Holmes visited Alaska recently, he carried with him a phonograph, and it was exhibited to an old chief who had never seen a talking machine before. When the machine was started, and the sound of a human voice came from the trumpet, the Indian was much interested. He listened gravely for a time, then approached, and peered into the trumpet. When the machine finished its cylinder, and stopped, the Indian pointed at it, smiled an expansive smile, and remarked: "Huh! Him canned white man."