

conversions were more clear and powerful than the revivals which have occurred among us this winter in many places; and one in the vicinity of this place was truly wonderful, where near one hundred were converted. From what I have learned from the different charges since I was in them, I am confident that more than one thousand have been added to the Church, in our district, since Conference.

The *Christian Guardian*, Toronto, Canada West, March 24, says:—The revival which has been going on for some time in Toronto, in connection with the labours of the Rev. James Caughy, still continues without any abatement in its interest and success. A correspondent of the same paper states, that there has been a gracious revival going on at the Thirty Mile Creek, on the Beamsville Circuit, for the three weeks past. Another correspondent says, God is still blessing us on the Humber Circuit. Souls are being converted from the error of their ways. At Hewitt's Chapel, last evening, (March 12,) about thirty surrounded the altar, earnestly seeking redemption through the blood of Christ. At Hugill's, some were brought to God during the past week.

We give insertion to the above intelligence, not in a boastful spirit, but as illustrative proofs that the Head of the Church is still using Wesleyan Methodism as an agency for extensive good to the souls of our fellow-men. The results of the efforts of our Church, in the conversion of souls, are the best answers to those who pertinaciously assail our polity and doctrines. These cannot be essentially wrong, otherwise the God of truth would not deign to crown the efforts of our Ministers and lay members with so rich a manifestation of his approving smile. What Methodism has done, and still is doing, for the conversion of sinners and the enlargement of the kingdom of Christ, we know; what it might do, for the same objects, were it revolutionized, we know not. We cannot safely hazard experiments in the way of fundamental changes merely for the sake of gratifying theorists. Our plain duty is to "walk by the same rule, and mind the same thing," as did our venerable Fathers, with the confident belief, that their God will be our God, and that He, who made them a blessing, will make us a blessing to the surrounding world.

**Sabbath School Efforts.**

The *Christian Advocate and Journal* of April 1, contains some pleasing accounts of the efforts, at raising money for religious purposes, of Sabbath School Scholars of the Methodist Episcopal Church. We give the following, to excite our own juveniles to laudable imitation:—

"One hundred dollars were brought into the treasury from the Washington-street Juvenile Missionary Society of the city of Brooklyn during the past week."

"One hundred dollars" were forwarded towards the building of the M. E. Church "in Bremen, from St. George's M. E. Sunday School, Philadelphia."

"The Sunday School Missionary Society of the Mulberry-street Church, New-York, have completed their pledge of five hundred dollars, for the Church in China."

"The same Missionary Society, Mulberry-street, have now resolved, with the Divine blessing, to appropriate one thousand dollars per annum for ten years, toward sustaining a missionary in India, provided the Church shall determine to commence such a mission."

The mission surely will be undertaken, as doubtless it will be nobly sustained by the Sabbath Schools of the M. E. Church, if they can be enlisted in the enterprise.

**Pownal Circuit, P. E. I.**

The Rev. J. Herbert STARR, under date of April 3, writes:—

"For the information of your numerous readers who delight to hear of the prosperity of the work of God, I may make mention of a gracious revival of religion now in progress on the Pownal Circuit."

"Three weeks ago, with the assistance of the Rev. Mr. Naraway, a series of special services was commenced in the Pownal Chapel. On the fourth evening of the public services, an invitation being given to all those who desired peace with God to separate themselves from the congregation, in order that their case might be made a special matter of prayer, the communion rail

was almost immediately crowded with weeping penitents. Since then the meetings have been held every evening, and continue increasing in interest. Last evening was a memorable season, probably never to be obliterated from the minds of many present. Twenty precious souls were crying to God for mercy, and more than half the number had, at that hour, for the first time consecrated their all to God. There were the aged man of nearly three scores years and ten, the middle aged, just in the prime of early manhood, and the youth of a dozen summers—all bowed before God, earnestly seeking the salvation of their souls. Upwards of fifty have already professed faith in Christ, and many are seeking an interest in the blood of Jesus. To God be all the praise!"

**District Meeting in the South of France.**

We give the following extracts from a correspondent of the *London Watchman*, on the state of Methodism in the South of France, as reported at a recently held District Meeting:—

The result of the reports and conversations was generally of a re-assuring and satisfactory character. None of the stations have suffered any permanent injury through the late revolution; in none have the authorities, civil or military, interfered; nor has there been, through political circumstances, any decrease either among the members or hearers. On the contrary, as far as Methodist labours are concerned, the painful events incident on the affairs of the 2nd December, have been over-ruled, in many instances, for good. Backsliders, who having first lost their piety, have been led away into tavern company, then to political clubs, and finally to join insurrectionary movements, have been led to contrast, with penitence of heart, their former and their present state. One poor fellow, formerly a Local Preacher in the Cevennes, who is now a fugitive in the mountains, exclaimed to a friend, who, finding out his hiding place, went to exhort and comfort him: "Ah! I should not be where and what I now am, had my name remained on the Methodist preaching plan."

In other cases, families afflicted by the late events now frequent our meetings; and some men who before spent their time to the detriment of their families and their personal salvation, in reading violent party newspapers, in discussing politics, and speaking ill of dignities, have had their eyes opened to the folly of such proceedings, and are we now trust seeking the "better part."

One circumstance which has come to our knowledge, although of another description to the preceding, is of an interesting character as to claim being mentioned here. At *Bar-le-Duc*, a new department of the Meuse, and which is in fact the only Protestant interest in the midst of a population of three hundred and fifteen thousand souls,—the authorities sent some gendarmes to the Methodist Chapel to watch the proceedings. Accordingly, the soldiers arrived, fully equipped, and stood inside of the door, during the whole of the service. Meanwhile, they had an unexpected and unsought for opportunity, as Roman Catholics, of hearing words of salvation through the only Mediator. Their term of service at the chapel being expired, one Sunday morning the same gendarmes returned, but not alone: they were accompanied by their wives and children, and proceeded to take their seats among the hearers, in the body of the chapel.—They have now become stated attendants.

The edition of the New Testament in the Samoan language, consisting of 15,000 copies, lately printed by the British and Foreign Bible Society, is highly prized and eagerly sought after, by a large proportion of the natives. At the date of last accounts, 2,300 copies had been disposed of at a price sufficient to pay expenses.—The Missionaries are proceeding with the printing of the Old Testament, at the Mission Press.

The number of Bibles printed during the past year, by the American Bible Society, was 270,000, and the number of Testaments 492,000, making 672,800 copies. The issues of the same period were 572,432, copies, in thirty-two languages and dialects. The whole number issued since the formation of the Society, in 1816, is 7,592,967.

In France Protestantism is greatly on the increase. Numerous villages, lately Roman Catholic, have desired the establishment of Protestant worship among them. Whole communities in the lower Alps have embraced the Protestant faith.

The Edinburgh Mission to the Irish of that city continues to be conducted with vigour and efficiency. Its meetings are crowded, and its agents greatly encouraged by the success of their labours. A similar mission is about to be organised in Glasgow and Liverpool, and like measures are contemplated in various parts of the country.

The Jews in London are making efforts to keep up with the march of the times. A large meeting of city merchants and others, belonging to the Jewish persuasion, was lately held in Sussex Hall, Leadenhall-street, for the purpose of adopting measures for erecting a Jews' College, for educating the sons of respectable parents, and training up ministerial readers and teachers.—At the close of the proceedings, a subscription was entered into, which produced about £1,000.

Six adult Israelites were recently baptized at the Episcopal Jewish Chapel, London.

**Interesting Extracts.**

**MECHANISM.**—A square is the "measuring unit." The amount of all surfaces is determined by square measure. This amount may be expressed in miles, furlongs, rods, yards, feet, inches, or any other specified measure. No matter what the shape of a quantity of land, boards, cloth, paper, glass, or any other article, the amount of surface is always ascertained and expressed by the number of squares and parts of squares it contains, either in miles, feet, or some other known measure. The properties and uses of this most simple of all figures, save one, are of course important to be understood most familiarly by every person. No one thing, probably, is at once so important and so little understood as the figure with four equal sides and angles.—Very many of the most intelligent members of society have no clear apprehension of the difference between six miles square and six square miles. A person of much intelligence contended a few days ago that in the District of Columbia, in its original dimensions, there were only ten square miles, and could not be convinced of his error until shown it by a checker board. Not long since a printer of some twenty years' experience named a price per sheet for printing paper. On being asked what would be his price for sheets of double the length and breadth, replied, double the price; offering, of course, to do four times the work for twice the money. Cases of a similar character might be named almost without number, of intelligent, experienced business men making blunders, attended with far greater inconvenience and loss than working at half price, and simply for the want of a little knowledge, entirely within the comprehension of every child of five years old, attended with a high degree of pleasure in acquiring. If children should occupy the first hour ever spent in a school room by drawing upon their slates a square with its different divisions, they might have proof positive that in an inch square are four half-inch squares; that in ten miles square there are one hundred square miles. They would also come to proof positive that by the diagonal division of a square, they would form two right-angled isosceles triangles, or figures with one right angle and two equal sides; they would thus acquire at this early age positive practical knowledge which would greatly aid them in "squaring their work" during the whole of their future lives, whatever might be their pursuits. Those becoming editors would not be likely to make the mistake of one of the most able editors in the country, who, in speaking of the fire in Boston, stated that it burnt about one hundred and fifty square feet; that is, a surface equal to a room fifteen feet by ten. If the space burnt was one hundred and fifty feet square, it contained more than twenty thousand square feet—rather a mistake for an intelligent and able editor in the literary emporium of our Union.

**THE MOTHER OF A PRESIDENT.**—Mrs. Polk, the mother of the late President of the U. States, who died not long since at Columbia, Tennessee, was a member of the Presbyterian Church—regular in her attendance upon the services of the sanctuary; humble and exemplary in her deportment; and esteemed and beloved by the whole community. Her venerable form might be seen every Sabbath in the house of prayer.

It is well known that while Mr. and Mrs. Polk were in the Presidential mansion, their example, so far as the Sabbath and attendance upon balls, &c., was concerned, was decidedly favourable to the cause of religion, Mrs. Polk being a member of the church; and consistent in her profession.

We may here venture to make a statement, of no great interest perhaps, but going to show the power of maternal influence. When Mr. Polk was President of the United States, we were introduced to him at the White House, and he remarked, "I have long been a subscriber to your paper, for my aged mother, still lives and reads it with great interest and attention every week."

We said to him that his respect for the Sabbath had been gratifying to the religious sentiment of the country. He replied, "I was taught by a pious mother to fear God and keep his commandments, and I trust that no cares of a government of my own will ever tempt me to forget what I owe to the government of God."

We have often recalled that remark, as worthy of being repeated publicly; and now that the mother and the son have both gone to their final account, it is proper that this fact should be put on record. Mothers may teach lessons to their sons which they will not forget when they become Presidents.

We have heard it said that Mr. Polk lived a mile or two from his mother, but never failed to visit her every day of his life, while he was in health and in town.—N. Y. *Observer*.

**EFFECT OF LIGHT ON MIND AND BODY.**—Dr. Moore, the author of the use of "The Body in relation to the Mind," says:—"a tadpole confined in darkness, would never become a frog, and an infant deprived of heaven's free light, will only grow into a shapeless idiot, instead of a beautiful reasonable being. Hence, in the deep, dark gorges and ravines of the Swiss Valais, where the direct sunshine never reaches, the hideous prevalence of idiocy startles the traveller. It is a strange, melancholy idiocy. Many citizens are incapable of any articulate speech; some are deaf, some are blind, some labour under all these privations, and all are mis-shaped in almost every part of the body. I believe there is, in all places, a marked difference in the healthiness of houses, according to their aspect with regard to the sun, and that those are decidedly the healthiest, other things being equal, in which all the rooms are, during some part of the day, fully exposed to the direct light. Epidemics attack inhabitants on the shady side of a street, and totally except those on the other side; and even in epidemics, such as ague, the morbid influence is often thus partial in its action."

**THE RAPPING OUTDOOR.**—The Chilean paper, *El Pueblo de Copiapa*, says:—"credible witnesses, who have just arrived here from Caldera, in Chili, communicate to us the following particulars—A succession of musical sounds have been distinctly heard beneath the water, at the distance of a quarter of a mile from this port. Every evening about dusk, large parties go off in boats to listen to this mysterious concert of sub-marine music. The tones are various, and so well combined as to produce perfect harmony; and the sound, in its duration and vibration, resembles the deepest tones of the organ. Ships' crews are daily attracted to the spot, besides multitudes both of young and old, and of men and women, who pass hour after hour in listening to the vibrations which seem to pass along the keels of the ships, while they entertain each other with a thousand curious, probable or ridiculous conjectures about the cause of the phenomenon. Our friend, Mr. W., assures us that on the spot whence this sub-marine music proceeds, the surface of the water assumes a deep green colour, emitting an effluvia like that which arises from bodies in a state of putrefaction. The phenomenon is worthy of attention, particularly from the fact that the most important discoveries in the physical world have been suggested by occurrences in their nature apparently trivial.—*Newburyport Herald*."

**ANECDOTE OF VAN DYCK.**—Van Dyck was the pupil of Reubens, and being fond of a joke, was in the habit of indulging himself sometimes at the expense of his master. One day, when Reubens had finished painting for the day, he left his slippers, as usual, by the side of his easel, on the floor. Van Dyck, when he entered his studio, noticed the slippers, and, taking advantage of his master's absence, removed them and substituted an exact fac simile in the shape of a painting! On the return of Reubens, he endeavored to push his pedal extremities into the slippers; but what was his surprise on finding the slippers were not! He could hardly credit his own senses, till he stooped over and examined more closely the beautiful substitute of his pupil. His admiration of the pupil's skill was only equalled by the joy of Van Dyck.—*Traveller*.

**SINGING SHELLS.**—In Ceylon there may be heard, at night, upon the shores of certain lakes, loud musical sounds, like those of an accordion or Aeolian harp, and pitched in different keys, proceeding from the bottom of the water. These sounds, it is said by a traveller, are emitted by a species of shell fish, which inhabit these lakes in great numbers. A snail, abundant in Corfu, if irritated by a touch with a piece of straw, will emit a distinctly audible sound in a querulous tone.