

RELIGIOUS.

BAPTIST.

The Free Will Baptist Register and Year Book for 1887 shows that there are in that denomination in the United States 1,543 churches, 83,323 members, 1,291 ordained ministers, and 172 licentiate.

According to a statement published by a contemporary, the number of regular Baptists in the United States is 2,572,238. The full number of others who practice immersion is 1,228,709. This includes Disciples, 850,000; Anti-Mission Baptists, 45,000; Free Will Baptists, 77,929; Seventh Day Baptists, 8,591; Six Principle Baptists, 2,189; Unitarians, 45,000; Second Adventists, 100,000; and Lunkers, 100,000.

CATHOLIC.

The Catholics of St. Louis annually spend \$360,000 on parochial schools. Cardinal Howard has been nominated by the Sovereign Pontiff, Protector of the Ursuline nuns at Galveston, Texas.

Half a century ago the Catholic clergy in England did not number much more than 300. Scotland had about 60 more. Now the army of priests is estimated at 2500 in each.

The Catholic church in California is now receiving back from the Mexican Government the two million dollars known as the "pious fund," which was confiscated by Santa Anna in 1842.

The Rev. Father Kerr, S. J., well known in this city, and whose appointment as Archbishop of Bombay we noticed in a previous issue, has declined entering the Episcopacy, owing to weak health. Father Geo. Porter, S. J., has been appointed instead.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul held their annual meeting on Sunday evening last, in the basement chapel of St. Mary's Cathedral. The report showed the society to be doing good work, but there is lots of room for doing better, as money is needed. A collection in aid of the funds was taken up on Sunday before the various masses.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

A public meeting will be held in the Argyle Hall in the interests of the proposed new Cathedral soon after the elections are over. The committee having the matter in hand will test the feeling of church people on the subject before going outside of the diocese.

A religious census of England, under the authority of Parliament, is mooted in the mother country. In view of the possible renewal of attempts to disestablish the Church, it is highly important that the people of England should be heard as to whether they belong to the church or not. It is hard for Canadians to understand why any class of Christians should object to their number being known.

Seventy-five dioceses have been added to the list since the establishment of the first, Nova Scotia, in 1787, the last being Arthabasca. The Society for Propagating the Gospel in foreign parts has spent during that time the sum of one and three quarter million pounds sterling on British North America.

PRESBYTERIAN.

Last Sunday week the Rev. Principal Grant preached a sermon at Kingston, Ont., in which he vigorously denounced the violence of partizan politicians.

During this week the Rev. Mr. Anderson, pastor of the Presbyterian church at Musquodoboit Harbor, has delivered two lectures in this city on the tonic Sol-fa system of music.

Revival services are being held in the Brooklyn Tabernacle. Dr. Talbot has assisted him in preaching, the Rev. Dr. Munhall, of Indianapolis, with Prof. and Mrs. Towner lead the singing. On a recent Sunday, one hundred and sixty were received into the membership of the church, which now numbers about 3,700. Plans are now being discussed for increasing the seating capacity of the Tabernacle.

After existing for over one hundred years without any other musical instrument in it than a precentor's tuning fork, the First Presbyterian church of New York has yielded to the demands of its younger members and will purchase a \$10,000 organ.

The position held by the late Dr. A. A. Hodge, at Princeton College, is to be filled by the Rev. Dr. Warfield, of the Western Theological Seminary.

Principal Rainy, the Moderator-elect of the Free Church Assembly in Scotland, will be the first post-Disruption minister to fill that chair, his nomination therefore breaking the line which has continued since 1843.

METHODIST.

The Illinois Wesleyan University has had for the last fifteen years a department of non-resident matriculants, in which follow prescribed courses of study, upon which examinations are set, and receive degrees on completion of their work. The department is modelled after the operations of the London University; and, like it, offers opportunities for doing systematic study to professional and other people who are debarred from residence at the seat of a university.

The Rev. J. Cassidy, ex-President of the Nova Scotia Conference, and at present in charge of the Methodist church at Barrington, is serious ill from typhoid fever, brought on by exposure and over-work.

In Boston, the Rev. Saml Jones is holding evangelistic services in connection with the Methodist Episcopal churches of that city. A deep and widespread interest is reported.

CHIT-CHAT.

The population of the British Isles increases at the rate of 1,000 per day, notwithstanding the emigration.

"Kennedy," Barnum's great African lion, which had been suffering from paralysis of the limbs, was chloroformed to death on Wednesday. It took sixteen ounces of chloroform and six minutes' time to do the fatal work.

Babu Sagore Dutt, a wealthy Indian who lately died at Calcutta, left an estate valued at thirty lacs of rupees, or \$3,000,000, of which he bequeathed twelve, or \$1,200,000, to establish and maintain an almshouse, hospital, and school for the benefit of the native community.

The boys of the schools of Dunbarton, N. H., are on strike against the further observance of an old rule by which they are compelled to take turns at building and looking after the fires. They insist that the Board of Education should employ persons for that sort of work.

A novel sort of protective duty is being advocated in England, and it is stated that it may possibly be adopted. It is proposed to impose a tax of \$25 a year upon all foreigners working in England. It is estimated that the tax would yield about \$2,500,000 a year, and would fall principally on Germans.

The Sphinx of Ghizah has been sufficiently disinterred to expose the fore-paws and sides, and it is discovered that the paws are not hewn in stone like the rest of the body, but built up of brick, in order, it is surmised, to lend greater stability to the foundation. The figure is already, by some, ascribed to an age more remote than that of the pyramids.

AN ELECTRIC HAT FOR NEURALGIA.—An English wigmaker has invented an electric hat, which he claims is a perfect cure for nervous headaches and neuralgia. The apparatus consists of a small battery placed inside the lining of an ordinary silk hat, with the flat terminals outside the lining, so that when the hat is put on a current of electricity passes between the terminals and diffuses itself all over the wearer's head.

THE ANTI-RUSTING OF SCREWS.—The *Moniteur Industrielle* states that a mixture of oil and graphite will effectually prevent screws becoming fixed, and will protect them for years against rust. The mixture facilitates tightening up, is an excellent lubricant, and reduces the friction of the screw in its nut. Why not use clean fat with the graphite or black-lead? Washed hog's lard is the best thing.

COLD FOOD.—It may not be generally known that cold food is more easily kept on a sensitive stomach than hot; so in cases where it is rejected in the ordinary warm or hot form, it had better be tried as nearly frozen as can be taken. In many fevers this would be a decided advantage. The prejudice against cold food is, perhaps, natural, but we carry it too far. Milk may be administered in a frozen state, often with positive advantage.—*Philadelphia Call*.

UNIQUE GAME OF POLO.—A game of polo, supplemented with an original and unique feature, was played with great success at Wooster, O., a few evenings ago. Seven contestants on rollers were given charge over as many large, fat turkeys, to be driven through the usual goal. The birds were to be shown the greatest possible kindness, and nothing allowed in propelling them to the goal but a gentle "Shoo!" or a slight tension of the tender rope which connected them with the contestants. After twenty minutes' careful coaching one of the fowls suddenly grasped the idea and boldly stalked through, amid storms of applause.

THE WOMAN OF TO-DAY.—"Our women," said a quaint observer recently, "are just as womanly as were their great grandmothers, with their long necks and sloping shoulders, with their short waists and scant skirts. The woman of to-day has a shorter neck and squarer shoulders and swings Indian clubs as deftly as her grandmother did her parasol, but she is just as dainty and poetic over her baby's clothes as though a sewing machine had never been invented."—*New York Mail and Express*.

A little newsboy who visited the winter quarters of Barnum's menagerie at Bridgeport, Conn., Sunday, incautiously backed against the tiger's cage. One of the royal beasts thereupon put out his paw and gripped him in the back, holding him a close prisoner. He was lifted from the ground and held in the animal's grasp until one of the keepers released him by striking the tiger several severe blows on the foot. The tiger's claws penetrated the heavy coats, vests and two shirts, and left a large scratch on the skin.

Salt cod-fish has been introduced among the articles of diet of the French soldier. The Minister of War, after having consulted the Sanitary Council of the army on the subject, has ordered salted fish to form part of the ordinary military rations. It must be of good quality, and captains commanding regimental companies and squadrons or batteries of artillery, with a view to avoid any possible accidents, are ordered to watch that no fish is used which presents traces of alteration, as is frequently indicated by a rose-tint of the muscular tissue, or which is deteriorated in any other respect. One of the chief purposes aimed at in the introduction of salted fish as a part of the rations of the French troops is announced to be to help the consumption of it will afford to the crews of the fishing vessels, from which the most valuable recruits of the Military Marine, or Government Naval Service, are obtained. Salt cod may be acceptable to the troops as a variation in diet, but can hardly be regarded as an economical description of food, so far as its nutritive qualities are concerned.—*British Medical Journal*.