

lishment of a united theological college for all the Mexican Churches. All existing colleges are either intensely Roman Catholic or tinged with agnosticism. Separate Protestant Churches were unable to maintain efficient institutes of learning, and it would be economically wise to unite in the establishment and maintenance of one well-equipped college, whose influence would be felt in the country. The proposal to establish a first-class college was approved, the appointment of a board of management recommended, and the plan submitted for the consideration of the various Churches.

Among other papers read was one, "Under what condition can ministers, employes and members of one denomination be received into another?" The writer of this paper used rather strong and plain terms in describing the loose way in which irresponsible persons had been permitted to engage in work and to change from Church to Church. He spoke of "the injury wrought to the work of Christ by the employment of ecclesiastical tramps and the harm done to the principle of self-support by the loose methods heretofore observed by several Churches." A resolution was adopted, requiring that every applicant from one Church for reception into another must present proper credentials. A paper was read on the statistics of Protestantism in Mexico, from which it appears that there are eighteen different missions in the Republic; eleven different denominations; 123 foreign workers; 12,135 communicants; and about 30,000 adherents. There are eighty-eight ordained native preachers and sixty-five unordained. Protestantism in Mexico has already had fifty-nine martyrs. The Committee of Arrangements was continued, and empowered to convene a similar Assembly when the proper time comes.

HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN.

AMONG the many charitable institutions in the city of Toronto, none occupies a warmer place in the popular heart than the Hospital for Sick Children. From its beginning, twelve years ago, to the present time, it has been conducted with great efficiency and strict economy by Christian workers deeply interested in the helpless sufferers, whose tender years commend them to the warm sympathies of the humane. The report presented at the twelfth annual meeting has just been issued. For the present, the hospital is situated in quarters comparatively well adapted for the purpose on Jarvis Street, but in due time it is expected that a large and suitable building will soon be erected, when the benefits of the institution will be extended to many more requiring its kindly shelter than can now be accommodated.

The committee entrusted with the building interests of the institution report that for the first time since the founding of the Hospital, they have felt themselves in a position to build, as in addition to the use of \$20,000, which is available, as a bequest, on condition of the payment for a limited period, of an annuity, the city contributed the noble sum of \$20,000, to be applied to the erection of a Children's Hospital, to be called the Victoria Hospital, in commemoration of the jubilee year of the reign of the Queen's most excellent majesty. This generous gift was suggested by some members of the city council, and approved by several as a suitable recognition of the Queen's Jubilee; other suggestions were made, and upon consideration it was decided to submit all these schemes to the vote of the people. The result was, that the by-law giving \$20,000 for the erection of an Hospital for Children was carried by a majority. Other sums had been promised, which made the amount available for the new building in the neighbourhood of \$45,000.

The medical report states that during 1887 there were 127 cases treated; the number cured was twenty-two; improved sixty-three, unimproved thirty-six, and six of the little patients had died during the year. There is also a medical report of the patients treated at the Lakeside Home on the Island, from which it appears that the total number of cases was seventy-four, of whom thirty-four were cured, thirty improved and twelve unimproved. During the stay of the little invalids at the pleasant summer home, no deaths occurred.

The Toronto Hospital for Sick Children is an institution that, from the nature of the case, must commend itself to the affectionate interest of all who are susceptible to generous and humane impulses.

Every Christian ought to remember the benediction implied in the divine words, "Inasmuch as ye have done it to the least of these little ones, ye have done it unto Me." For its maintenance it depends entirely on the free-will offerings of all who feel it their duty to contribute to so laudable an object. There is no canvassing for funds—a fact that should not be forgotten by those who make it a duty to contribute as the Lord hath prospered them. All the more readily should the charitably-disposed deal generously with an institution whose strong claims are not persistently urged on their notice. The mute appeal on behalf of the little sufferers ought not to be overlooked. Contributors should state whether their gifts are for the general expenses, building fund or Lakeside Home.

Books and Magazines.

EASTER RECITATIONS.—Especially adapted for Sunday school concerts. Compiled by Henry A. Young. (Boston: Henry A. Young & Co.)—A very good selection of Easter hymns.

HARPER'S YOUNG PEOPLE. (New York: Harper & Brothers.)—With unflinching regularity this excellent publication for young readers supplies them with literature that is instructive, pure in tone, and finely illustrated.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE. (New York: Harper & Brothers.)—Harper's this month is unusually attractive, the illustrations are numerous and pleasing. Among the chief papers in the number may be mentioned "Modern Spanish Art," "A Visit to a Colonial Estate," "Canadian Voyageurs on the Saguenay," "Studies of the Great West," the first of a series of papers by Charles Dudley Warner, and "A Little Swiss Sojourn," by W. D. Howells. William Black's new novel, "In Far Lochaber," is continued. Short stories well told, excellent poetry, and the usual departments make up a capital number of this first-class magazine.

SCRIBNER'S MAGAZINE. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.—Once more the story of the great Napoleon's last campaign, ending so disastrously for him at Waterloo, is told by Mr. John C. Ropes in a clear and intelligible fashion. The contribution is embellished with a number of finely-finished engravings. The interesting series of letters from Mendelssohn to Moscheles, also finely-illustrated, is concluded in this number. Robert Louis Stevenson discourses interestingly on "Beggars." The serial by H. C. Bunner, "Natural Selection," is concluded, and F. J. Stinson's "First Harvests" is continued. Another illustrated paper of decided interest is on "The Electric Motor and its Applications." Poetry and short story of a high order are also to be found in the current number of this splendid magazine.

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY. (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)—There is in the March number of the *Atlantic Monthly* that happy commingling of light literature with articles of serious purpose and enduring value, for which this vigorous magazine is justly celebrated. Perhaps nothing in the number will attract more notice than the statement which is made in "Over the Teacups," by Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes. A most entertaining three-part story, indeed, is begun by Henry James, in "The Aspern Papers"; a timely article is contributed by Mr. James B. Thayer, on "The Dawes Bill and the Indians"; John Fiske furnishes a particularly powerful chapter on "The Beginnings of the American Revolution"; Professor N. S. Shaler discusses "The Law of Fashion"; Frank Gaylord Cook writes on "The Marriage Celebration in the Colonies"; Sarah Orne Jewett contributes one of her most delightful sketches, entitled "Miss Tempy's Watchers"; Mary D. Steele writes of "The Learned Lady de Gournay," and, Oliver Thorne Miller on "Virginia's Wooing." The serial novel "Yone Santo," the story of Japan, by E. H. House, grows very exciting in the present chapter; and in "The Despot of Broomsedge Cove," Charles Egbert Craddock again shows perfect mastery in that field which she has created. The poetry of this number is "The Dying House," by Thomas Wentworth Higginson, and "Carolo Mortuo," by William C. Lawton. Several spirited papers in the "Contributors' Club," book reviews and notices of new books complete an attractive number.

THE MISSIONARY WORLD.

SERIOUS ILLNESS OF REV. JOSEPH BUILDER.

The following letter dated January 25, 1888, from Rev. James Smith, of Ahmednagar, will be read with great interest:

I have just returned from a flying visit to Mr. Builder in Mhow. I found him very low, but evidently recovering to the surprise and delight of both doctor and friends. It seems that for a couple of weeks he had done far too much work, and had exposed himself not a little by travelling during the night to save time. Added to this the shock occasioned by Mr. Murray's sudden death in his absence—the loss of so loved a companion and friend—brought on profuse hemorrhage of the lungs that lasted for three or four days. The hemorrhage has now, however, ceased, and he is gradually regaining strength, but will necessarily be incapacitated for work, and, above all, for worry for some time. It is proposed to remove him from both to Ahmednagar or Bombay until he is quite recovered. In the meantime everything that can be done by the doctor, Mr. Drew and the Rev. Mr. Scott, chaplain of Mhow, to all of whom we shall owe a debt of gratitude for their unremitting attentions.

Now where are the recruits for Mhow and Ujjain? It is quite impossible for a missionary even to be in two places at the same time, and to carry on work efficiently you need not one man, but two at least in each place. Here in Ahmednagar there are four of us and two single ladies, and we have so much to do that we have not had time to disagree much less to quarrel. Who will offer himself for Mhow and who for Ujjain? "If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself."

THE Herrmansburg Mission reports that in the course of last year 232 Zulus were baptized under its auspices. The total number of Zulu Christians is now supposed to be 1529.

DR. CHAMBERLAIN'S scheme for a united Presbyterian Church in India, the thirteen Presbyterian and Reformed bodies represented in the Empire uniting in one General Assembly has, according to the *Scottish Free Church Monthly*, been favourably received in Scotland. It has been approved generally in America.

SPEAKING at the annual meeting of the Aberdeen Church of Scotland Ladies' Missionary Association, Lord Aberdeen said that when Lady Aberdeen and himself were in Poonah last year they visited the mission station in that city, and were very favourably impressed with the work. They noticed particularly the affectionate trust displayed by the children towards the ladies who conduct the work, a confidence, indeed, which was extended so readily towards Lady Aberdeen that they were quite reluctant to allow her to leave the premises. The impression which he thought would be gained by those who saw anything of missions in India would be a feeling of admiration at the patient and persevering manner in which missionaries were endeavouring to carry out the task they had undertaken amidst many inevitable discouragements and difficulties. It was not possible to overrate the immense importance of the influence that was being exercised day by day upon thousands of children in the various mission schools of India.

A JUDÆO-CHRISTIAN movement has begun in Siberia, analogous to that which for two or three years has been proceeding at Kischnieff, in Southern Russia, under Joseph Rabinowitz. It owes its institution to a Polish Jew, one Jacob-Zebi Scheinmann, who, on the ground of utterly false accusations, was banished to Siberia in 1874. He settled at Irkutsk, where he set up in business, and at the end of five years found himself in possession of a certain competency. In his native land he had heard something about Jesus Christ from one of his friends, the late David Levinsohn, and the indirect occasion of his banishment was his having roused the wrath of his co-religionists, by declaring on a public occasion his belief that the Messiah came in the time of the second temple. He has published several letters, in one of which he calls upon the Jews to "take up the New Testament, the true *Thora*, which Jesus, the Son of God, and our Master, has taught us, and give ourselves to the study of it day and night." We shall watch this movement with interest. It is certain that the New Testament is being read by the Jews as it never was before.