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EDITORIAL JOTTINGS.

OUR friends will miss this month what has come to be looked upon as an institution in our columns, Mr. Hall's letter. Severe family anxieties have constrained our friend to be much at home. Mrs. Hall's precarious health, now fully restored, and the critical condition of the youngest child, a boy of eighteen months, not yet beyond suspense, have sadly interfered with our superintendent's work. That Mr. Hall has the warm sympathy of all, goes without saying. We trust next month to find health to his home fully restored, and to find chronicled by his ready pen the usual account of the churches and his work.

THE Salvation Army in England is now being severely criticised by Mr. Spurgeon, and we fear is after all in a fair way of proving the instability of buildings erected with untempered mortar. It has apparently entered upon a campaign which threatens to be its own destroyer. Mr. (General) Booth has launched now a financial scheme in the shape of a "Deposit Bank."

"He is prepared, in return for sums advanced, to pay the investors a yearly amount or annuity during their natural lives equal to five per cent. per annum. Rich people, not needing this interest themselves, may, it is suggested, thus purchase an annuity for their poor relations or others 'in whom they are interested.' The Army, too, is willing to receive deposits, of any amount above £5, for fixed periods, at fixed rates of interest. For deposits remaining with the Army five years, five per cent. per annum is to be paid, for four years, four per cent., and three years or any less fixed period $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. For deposits to be withdrawn at one month's notice the depositors will be entitled to interest at the rate of nine per cent. per annum. The General remarks that during the past year the Army has borrowed for building purposes, from various building societies for different terms, sums of money amounting in the aggregate to over £12,000, at $6\frac{1}{2}$, 7, and $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. interest.

The movement appears to have been suggested by an old lady who offered a loan of £500 (\$2,500) at five per cent. which was ac-

cepted, and more received upon a three-fold security—revenue, property, charitable erection; of which it will be noted the first depends upon the permanence of the movement, which is, to say the least, problematical. The soundness of the second depends upon how far the property itself may be otherwise unencumbered. The third is a variable quantity according to the individual, and must be therefore left undetermined. Should our fears be well founded, we shall see a religious enterprise weakened, not for the first time, by hugging too closely the deceptive shore when glitters the almighty dollar.

"You must do something that will strike and fill the imagination," said Mr. Disraeli, to the Queen, some years ago. And, what with processions, "Some in rags, and some in tags, and some in velvet gowns," train bearers, due religious light, genuflexion *et omne hoc genus*, something was "did" at Canterbury, when the new Archbishop, Dr. Benson, was formally enthroned; but, really, a kindlier scene was witnessed five days later, in Windsor Castle, when the Queen was present at a plain Presbyterian service, conducted by Rev. T. Orr, Congregational minister of Windsor, over the remains of John Brown, the Queen's faithful servant. Religious freedom is respected fully in Her Majesty's household, and our Queen's nobleness therein is in marked contrast to the exclusiveness of many in the Anglican fold, who esteem tunics and petticoats, and "the mysterious nondescript that does duty for a cravat," more than love among brethren.

The following remarks (letting alone any political leanings discoverable therein) are worth pondering. They are from the *London Spectator*.

"There is something very touching and mother-like in the frankness with which the Queen, through the *Court Circular*, asks her people to sympathize in the grief she feels for the loss of a devoted attendant. We wonder how many of her subjects ever reflect on the