

guests who did not look for the like in such an out of the way place. But none of our people tasted wine or spirits. They were called the Ginger Beer Men. The bridegroom provided a feast for his countrymen, and many people gave the bride money and presents.

This is the pleasant side of the picture; let the dark side remain turned to the wall. Superstition and evil abound, not only among the East Indians, but also, as ever will be, among those who yield themselves to the allurements and fascinations of Rome.

LETTER FROM REV. JOHN MORTON.

The following letter from Rev. John Morton, dated Gasparre, Trinidad, September 5th, 1890, appears in the *Presbyterian Witness* :—

The Royal College closed for holidays, August 22nd. I kept on my schools till the same date that I might take my holidays with my sons at the seaside. There was another reason. The great annual Mohammedan fete in honour of Husein and Hosein, the grandsons of Mohammed came off the following week, and we wanted to bring that into the holidays. There was yet another reason. Santa Rosa is the patron saint of the town of Arima, eight miles above Tunapuna, and the way they honour St. Rosa is by getting up horse races on her anniversary, the 29th of August. This year double honour was conferred by having the races on both the 29th and 30th. Now a dorky race will attract Hindus from a considerable distance, and a horse race is all but irresistible. So boys will get excited and talk of horses when they should be thinking of fractions, and, in spite of the vast attractions of learning, will turn up on the Arima Savannah on Santa Rosa day. Not that they give one thought to Santa Rosa, but they are interested in "Wyanoke" or "Gladiator." So to simplify matters we made the school holidays cover the "Hossie" and the "Arima races." Possibly some of your occasional readers may think that missionaries do not need holidays, and that bathing and boating are rather worldly amusements. Your regular readers, I am sure, take a more sensible view of things. We are tempted to sin in a far more serious fashion than by retiring for a fortnight to the seaside. Sabbath-breaking and constructive suicide are the besetting sins of missionaries. The first day of the week they must work, and no other day being specially aside they, too often, take no Sabbath. This is wrong and suicidal. So a fortnight at the sea-side twice or thrice a year becomes a duty and a virtue. We get no fresh fish in the country. It seldom keeps to reach us. Here we replenish our brain with phosphorus, strengthen our muscles with rowing and swimming, write our long neglected friends, and think out new problems connected with the extension of our work. We have had excessive rains lately. Seven inches fell in four hours in one district. Much damage was done, and several lives were lost. The weather has been hot before the rains to a degree that was trying, but the health of our island is fairly good. To-day a steamer towed out of our gulf a ship which carries over 600 Indians back to their native land. She took away every one who wished to return, and had room for some who went as passengers before their ten years were up. This is an encouraging fact when it is remembered that we have over 22,000 who are entitled to a return passage. We are to receive this season 3,000 new immigrants and probably an extra ship with 500 more. Thus Providence is providing for future Canadian missionaries.

LETTER FROM DEMERARA.

The Rev. James Millar, St. Luke's Manse, Demerara, writes: I take the liberty of appealing to the friends of Foreign Missions and of the late lamented Rev. John Gibson for a continuance of their prayerful interest (and perhaps practical sympathy) in the work being carried on amongst the East Indian coolies in this colony. I have just come to the parish in which Mr. Gibson laboured so faithfully and so successfully, and it is with much satisfaction that I learn from all quarters of the good work that he did and of the high esteem in which he was held by all.

It will be interesting to some to learn that that good work is being continued, though sadly crippled. The catechist, Abraham Lincoln, who was with Mr. Gibson, is still in the field assisted by two others. Two Sundays ago I had the pleasure of baptizing two coolie men who had been led to accept Christ, and who had been prepared for admission to the Church. There are several others just now on probation, being instructed in the fundamental points of our faith. The Church of Scotland in the colony has been awakened to the needs of this great people—great at least in numbers. But with parishes from twenty to forty miles long, and with from 10,000 to 20,000 population, all that a parish minister can do for the coolies is not much. Besides, his church people are mostly coloured, or black, and mostly poor; and between these two races there is great jealousy. So that even where the minister has opportunity of assisting in the coolie work, he has not the means. An educated missionary like the late Mr. Gibson, with wisdom to direct the labours of a staff of native Christian teachers, cannot be dispensed with. And a Christian lady who would devote herself to work in the homes and hospitals might do grand work. If this should come to a Christian lady who wishes to give herself to the Gospel work, we should be glad to offer her a home with us, and such assistance as would lie in our power. Perhaps the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society have some person whom they could help in this way. The principal duties would be

visiting at the hospitals on the various estates and at the homes. The male catechists undertake some of that work just now, but three such among the thousands of Demerara alone only serve to show how much remains to be done. Mrs. Gibson is doing good work among the children in the schools conducted by her late husband; but single-handed and with a delicate baby she is painfully conscious of the need for helpers.

For some years past our friends in Canada have sent tangible signs of their interest in these children in the shape of a Christmas box of little useful things for them. I fear I am too late to ask a continuance of this favour for this year; but perhaps Dorcas will keep them in remembrance at an early date. At least let me ask the many friends of Foreign Missions in Canada to continue their prayers for and interest in this field. Perhaps the time will come when it will again be a branch of the Canadian Church Foreign mission enterprise.

LINCOLN'S MELANCHOLY.

Those who saw much of Abraham Lincoln during the later years of his life were greatly impressed with the expression of profound melancholy his face always wore in repose.

Mr. Lincoln was of a peculiarly sympathetic and kindly nature. These strong characteristics influenced, very happily, as it proved, his entire political career. They would not seem, at first glance, to be efficient aids to political success; but in the peculiar emergency which Lincoln, in the providence of God, was called to meet, no vessel of common clay could possibly have become the "chosen of the Lord."

Those acquainted with him from boyhood knew that early griefs tinged his whole life with sadness. His partner in the grocery business at Salem was "Uncle" Billy Green, of Tallula, Ill., who used at night, when the customers were few, to hold the grammar while Lincoln recited his lessons.

It was to his sympathetic ear Lincoln told the story of his love for sweet Ann Rutledge; and he, in return, offered what comfort he could when poor Ann died, and Lincoln's great heart nearly broke.

"After Ann died," says "Uncle" Billy, "on stormy nights, when the wind blew the rain against the roof, Abe would set thar in the grocery, his elbows on his knees, his face in his hands, and the tears runnin' through his fingers. I hated to see him feel bad, an' I'd say, 'Abe don't cry'; an' he'd look up an' say 'I can't help it, Bill, the rain's a fallin' on her.'"

There are many who can sympathize with this overpowering grief, as they think of a lost loved one, when "the rain's a fallin' on her." What adds poignancy to the grief some times is the thought that the lost one might have been saved.

Fortunate indeed is William Johnson, of Corona, L.I., a builder, who writes June 28, 1890: "Last February, on returning from church one night, my daughter complained of having a pain in her ankle. The pain gradually extended until her entire limb was swollen and very painful to the touch. We called a physician, who after a careful examination, pronounced it disease of the kidneys of long standing. All we could do, did not seem to benefit her until we tried Warner's Safe Cure; from the first she commenced to improve. When she commenced taking it she could not turn over in bed, and could just move her hands a little, but to-day she is as well as she ever was. I believe I owe the recovery of my daughter to its use."

TORONTO COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The annual prospectus of the above institution for the season 1890-91 has just come to hand. To judge from the exhaustive details and reports contained in it, the Toronto College of Music is progressing rapidly from year to year in public favour, and is in a flourishing condition, not only from a financial, but also from an artistic point of view. During the past year two very important matters in connection with the College have been completed; the incorporation of the institution and its affiliation with the Toronto University. The importance of this last step with respect to its widespread influence upon musical education cannot be exaggerated as, in effect, the Toronto College of Music will in the future occupy the position of the Faculties of Music in the Universities of the Old Country. The curriculum in Music is at present under the consideration of the managing body of the University, and until finally decided upon, no very reliable information is forthcoming as to what it will comprise. This much, however, we are authorized to state, that in any case the degrees granted in music will be first and foremost for practical musicianship. An Arts test will certainly be imposed, which will, roughly speaking, consist of an examination in English, Latin, some modern language, elementary mathematics, etc. At the same time it is, we are informed, the intention of the Directors to attach more importance to music as an art, and less to cognate subjects more or less remotely connected with its theory, than has been customary in the older universities. In short, it is intended that the holders of these degrees shall be musicians first and Bachelors and Doctors of Music in recognition of that very talent. On this account we wish all success to this new departure on the part of a degree-granting power, and hope that they will be enabled to steer clear of, or surmount the difficulties and obstacles, which may be found to exist in the realization of so commendable a scheme.

The staff of teachers remains practically unchanged since last season, with a few additions which are calculated to add to its strength. A most excellent feature in connection with the College is the distinction made in the diplomas granted to ordinary amateurs and those granted to intending teachers; possession of the latter necessitating not only the thorough knowledge of the subject for which such diploma is granted, but also a knowledge of the best and most concise way of imparting instruction on that particular subject to others. To this end special instruction how to teach is given, and knowledge of this most important point has to be proved by examination before the teacher's diploma can be gained. Several free scholarships are included amongst the many advantages enjoyed by the students at the College.

It is very gratifying to be able to announce an increase in the public favour and confidence in this institution; and with

an ever widening experience of the needs of the students, and an unflinching regard for the noble Art, to whose interests it is devoted, the effect upon the public in general can but be beneficial.

THEY HAVE GONE FURTHER.

A man or a woman who makes a study of, say, for example, what are the best things to eat and drink, can generally order a better dinner from a bill of fare than those who do not pay much attention to the subject. Over a hundred of our best physicians in Canada have stated their positive opinion that the ladies' undervests, just introduced as the "Health Brand" (each one being stamped with the word "Health," or else not genuine), are the best things they have ever seen of the kind; they have gone further, and in most instances adopted their use into their own families. These are for sale by W. A. Murray & Co., and the first time you are out, even if you do not want to buy, go in and see them. You will at once see that these medical men know what they are about.

THE MOST IMPOSING THING.

"Julian, old fellow, you were at the seaside last season?"

"Yes!"

"Now, what was the most imposing sight you saw while there?"

"Well, the most imposing thing that I can recollect was my hotel bill."

The most imposing sight that a good wife, mother or daughter can behold is when a faded and soiled dress which has been worn in summer is dyed with Diamond Dyes of some fashionable shade, and made to look new for Autumn and Winter wear. This means to the true and thrifty housewife many dollars of good money saved, which can be applied to other purposes. Now is the season to get to work, and thus be provided for emergencies.

Last year's fancy knit wool goods can be re-coloured and made to look like new. Your husband's suits and boy's clothing can be beautifully dyed and made fit for wear again. In fact your household furniture, curtains, draperies and articles of ornament, can be improved and beautified by using Diamond Dyes and Diamond Paints.

If you want these things well done be sure and use only the Diamond brand, as they are the only guaranteed goods on the market.

AGITATION REGARDING THE COVERING OF THE MONTREAL RESERVOIRS.

This important question is now agitating the public mind in Montreal, and the City Council has already discussed the matter. Some of the aldermen strongly advocate the complete covering of the reservoirs at once, and all the citizens and tax-payers will, without a dissenting voice, say, "Amen, so let it be."

It is an undeniable fact that all such reservoirs are often the dumping places for much decomposed matter; and often become for a time, the resting place for innocent babes, as well as the suicide. It is not advisable that our Canadian people should become a nation of alarmists, but when millions of lives are in a great measure dependent on pure water, then it is time to cry aloud and say we must be protected no matter what the cost be. Has it ever occurred to the average citizen that, notwithstanding all the care that may be bestowed on reservoirs and aqueducts, that a vast amount of sickness and disease is caused by the many impurities that come even from the fountain head of all reservoirs. Still it behooves the authorities of all cities and towns to make the water supply as nearly pure as possible.

While absolutely pure water cannot prevent the vast amount of sickness and suffering we see in our midst, it can to a large extent ameliorate the condition and help to lessen the amount of disease. No amount of the purest water will ever give relief to the restless, sleepless and irritable man or woman. It cannot calm and quiet the unstrung nerves, and soothe or ease the throbbing worn-out brain.

The best and purest water that heaven has ever bestowed cannot take away that worn-out and languid feeling under which many are burdened; it cannot enable the stomach and bowels to work harmoniously, so as to avoid that terrible Dyspepsia and Indigestion; it cannot either restore the proper functions of the kidneys and liver when disordered.

Although water is a God-given gift to man, and that without it man could not exist, still it is an acknowledged fact that something more potent and possessing wonderful curative and strengthening powers must be looked for to eradicate the diseases above mentioned, and to give to the weak body and brain, vitality, strength and vigour.

Here Paine's Celery Compound comes to the rescue of those who suffer. Being a highly scientific vegetable preparation designed especially for giving tone, strength and vigour, the weakest and most depressed mortal need have no dread if this great remedy is faithfully and honestly used as directed. It is accomplishing wonders every day when other remedies are found useless, and where physicians fail, and give up the patient as incurable.

Paine's Celery Compound has no equal in the sick room, and every household should be provided with a bottle, especially where the drinking water is not pure. A small dose taken once or twice a day by even healthy people will safely guard them from the bad effects that are often felt from drinking impure and badly filtered water.