

Bo-and-so with her baby.' As the young mother came up with her heart's treasure, he said to the baby, 'Oh, you little darling!' and to the mother, 'You have a beautiful baby.' He went to the post-office, got his mail, and went home without any idea that he had done anything unusual. But he had made four people feel glad. He had drawn to himself the good feelings and kind thoughts of four hearts, and they all went to hear him preach the next Sunday morning, for people love to be noticed; every human heart loves to be appreciated, for God has made that a part of our nature. Nothing kills the good feelings in the heart of a child quicker than neglect and indifference, from his minister especially, if he has been taught to respect and reverence the minister as the man of God. And we are all children in our hearts, for the heart cannot grow old, and that ties us to eternal youth.

Both these men were perfectly natural; both were good preachers and Christian gentlemen; each one had acted according to his nature, but one was fortunately constituted in being naturally sociable, and the other had a very unfortunate defect and a very small congregation, for 'a man that hath friends must show himself friendly.' (Prov. xxviii, 24.)—Methodist Protestant.

### The Playthings of the World.

'I was preaching in an American city,' says Gipsy Smith, the well-known evangelist, 'and at the close of the service in a large church a lady with a little boy came up to me as I was walking down the steps of the pulpit into the vestry. She said:

"Sir, will you shake hands with my boy?"

'I said: "Certainly. Why are you so anxious that I should shake hands with him?"

"Well," she said, "I have had great blessings in these meetings, and I should like my boy to shake hands with you so that in after life my boy can say that he shook hands with a gipsy whom God had saved and made into a preacher."

'The boy put out his left hand to me, and I said:

"Is there anything the matter with your right hand, my boy?"

"No, sir," replied the lad.

"Well, then," I said, "let me shake hands with your right hand. I do not like to shake hands with the left."

'The boy looked at me with his great eyes, but would not put out his right hand.

"Now, my boy," I said, "it must be your right hand or nothing. I cannot wait. I must go."

'The boy then drew his right hand slowly from behind his back, and offered it to me. I saw it was tightly clenched, and said:

"My boy, open your hand. I cannot shake hands with a closed fist like that?"

'Slowly and reluctantly he opened his hand and there in the middle of it were three or four marbles.

'To me,' adds Gipsy Smith, 'the sight of these marbles was very touching. The boy could not take my hand because of his marbles, and there is a dear Hand held out to every sinner, and he cannot take it because of his playthings. Men are being eternally lost by their playthings—their gambling-books, their cards, their money. They can't open their hand, and clasp the hand of Him who is mighty to save.'—A. C. W.

### Religious News.

Dr. F. E. Clarke has recently written:

The schools of France leave much to be desired, for they are for the most part not only godless but positively skeptical, if not atheistic in their teaching. Abraham is treated as a myth, as are all the rest of the patriarchs. Miracles are denied, and the Bible disputed, when not ignored. Of course the morality and spirituality founded upon Bible teaching have little influence in the schools: and the churches, Sunday-schools, Christian Endeavor societies, and missions have the double task of counteracting the skeptical teaching of the public schools and instilling the principles of pure religion and morality in all those whom they can reach. In this respect the McAll Mission is doing an invaluable work just at this time, wherever its activities reach.

Never was there a more important or critical time in the spiritual history of a great

and brave people than the present. Never was there a time when the comparatively small Protestant force more needed the sympathy, prayer, and material aid of the Christians of other lands. May it be granted in full measure.

Not long since about 150 students attending the universities and divinity colleges of Scotland visited Aberdeen on a campaign for the institution of systematic study of missions and social problems. Practically every Protestant church in the city—Established, United Free, Congregational, Methodist and Episcopalian—was open to the students, two of whom gave pulpit addresses in each church, and afterward addressed united meetings of young people. Keen interest was aroused, and definite promise to form study circles was given. The working of model circles was demonstrated and explained, and Professor W. P. Paterson, Edinburgh, and Professor Sir William Ramsay, Aberdeen, addressed a crowded meeting in the Y. M. C. A. Hall.

The Maharajah Gaekwar of Baroda, who paid a visit to America a year or so ago, is a keen advocate for the extension of a sound and practical education among the people over whom he rules. He has led the way in India in the establishment of free and compulsory schools, and the law includes girls as well as boys. The maharajah has swept away class and caste distinctions in the schools by sending his daughters and his relatives to sit side by side with other scholars; no social distinctions are allowed to interfere with the knowledge offered to all comers. It is estimated that, including the compulsory schools, there are now in the state 350 girls' schools, Mohammedan, Marathi, Gujarati, and in Baroda there is a high school for girls, which prepares them for the matriculation examination of the Bombay University. Instruction is given in the vernaculars, and English has only been added lately.—'Brooklyn Eagle.'

### Work in Labrador.

NOTES OF THE WINTER FROM DR. GRENFELL.

Dear Mr. Editor:—

The winter in Labrador, and our northern section of Newfoundland has been one of extreme severity—more snow has fallen during the winter months from December to March than any resident remembers, and with that a rather mild temperature has prevailed in the southern districts, so that travelling has been exceptionally difficult—a very serious additional trouble has been an epidemic of distemper which has killed a very large number of our dogs. The disease began somewhere near Quebec early in the year, and spread rapidly eastward—it struck our most western hospital somewhat this side of Anticosti Island early in February and the Doctor's kennels lost sixteen of the best hunting dogs—as the mails all along this coast are carried by dog sleighs, and as the two mail teams were first attacked and subsequently obliterated, it was at first supposed the disease spread by contagion, but later the disease suddenly appeared at our nursing station on the north-east coast of Newfoundland, having made a jump from the post we have at Forteau, just across the Straits of Belle Isle, and a distance of nine miles or more over impassable floating ice. Alas the trouble did not even stay there, but gradually worked its way round the coast, and all teams, including our splendid teams at the east coast hospital of St. Anthony, paid a heavy tribute to its virulence. At this hospital also, we have a large wired enclosure in which we have

Dr. John Bancroft Devins, the eminent editor of the New York 'Observer,' is organizing the Oriental Travel League for Bible Teachers and Students in connection with the White Star Line, a 'Cruise of the Arabic' to the Mediterranean and Orient in January 1910. Dr. Devins will accompany the League personally, and hopes to make this one of the most important educational events of its kind that has ever been planned, and is preparing a comprehensive course of contemporaneous reading preparatory for the trip as well as a course of lectures to be delivered on board the steamer

been trying to open another local industry by breeding foxes. The great amount of snow had for some time prevented the man who feeds them from seeing the animals, some of which are unusually tame, but he gradually noticed less and less tracks, and on digging up laboriously vast heaps of snow he found some of the animals badly affected, and two of the best of them dead. Some reports I received recently from a friend, who has been trying a similar experiment on a large scale, for commercial purposes, on the Aleutian Island, states that owing to a disease called hooke worm, which has played havoc with his stock, he has had to close down and go out of what promised originally to be a very remunerative industry. The majority of his foxes were of the 'blue' variety, whereas ours were 'silvers,' the prices of which range so high—a good dark one fetching even two hundred to two hundred and fifty pounds—that we had hoped for great things. One result of the trouble has been, however, to show a very greatly enhanced value for our new experiment in domestic reindeer; for our poorer neighbors have suffered like ourselves, and they have found it almost impossible to haul out of the country even the necessary amount of firewood to keep their stoves going. Under these circumstances our reindeer have proved a most invaluable stop-gap, and in this department of work have shown themselves very much more efficient than they did our first winter. The stags have been able to maintain distances of thirty miles a day regularly, and with ease, and have been hauling loads of six and seven hundred pounds without losing any weight. The enormous advantage of these beasts becomes at once apparent, when we remember they need neither hay nor cereals from year's end to year's end; indeed, hay seemed to involve a form of gastritis which is liable to prove speedily fatal. The only effort we made this year to help out those regularly working in the food line, was to gather and stock in a single open enclosure some additional supply of their favorite variety. This we did only to allow them to get it more quickly and so enable them to have more time to rest at nights, while they were working all day.

Yet another hopeful aspect of this branch of work has become apparent from experiments with their milk. Last autumn some milk was stored in sterilized bottles fitted with spring air tight caps, and now, after six months have elapsed they were opened and found to contain milk as sweet as when originally drawn. Of course the weather has been cold most of this long period; but one of our bugbears in the inception of the scheme was how we were to distribute to the scattered centres the milk from a herd that from the nature of our work at the best milking time it was necessary to centralize, this at any rate offers us one solution of the problem. We have promptly ordered a large supply of proper, easily-cleaned glass bottles, and we hope in this way to be able to maintain fresh reindeer milk on tap all the season.

WILFRED T. GRENFELL.

### Acknowledgments.

#### LABRADOR FUND.

Received for the launch:—Jas. J. Carter, Norwood, \$5.00; Robt. P. O'Brien, Noel Shore, N.S., \$5.00; Total . . . . . \$ 10.00  
 Received for the cots:—Mrs. A. Forbes, Burford, Ont. . . . . \$ 2.00  
 Previously acknowledged for all purposes . . . . . \$ 404.48  
 Total on hand June 29 . . . . . \$ 416.48

Address all subscriptions for Dr. Grenfell's work to 'Witness' Labrador Fund, John Dougall and Son, 'Witness' Office, Montreal, stating with the gift whether it is for launch, komatik, or cots.

NOTE.—As the Montreal Labrador Medical Association have now forwarded their last shipment to Labrador for this season, Miss Roddick asks that no further supplies be sent to her address, but that all now sending clothing, etc., shall forward direct, express prepaid, addressed either to Dr. Liare, Deep Sea Mission Hospital, Harrington Harbor, Canadian Labrador, or to Dr. Grenfell, care of W. Peters, Esq., St. John's, Nfld.