

GLEANINGS.

Have you decided yet what you are going to do with Christ?

"God chastens his people when they sin and comforts them when they suffer."

A preacher's grip on the people depends upon his grip on heaven.—*J. H. Johnson.*

No man ever finds out much about himself until he finds out a great deal about God.

If you can't do the work you like to do, pray that you may like the work you have to do.

As we must render account for every idle word so must we likewise for our idle silence.—*St. Ambrose.*

"There are no promises in the Bible for those who hunger and thirst after the ball-room and theatre."

A heathen priest once said to one of our missionaries, "The reason your religion makes such progress is because your Lord loves little children."

"Ours is a lost world. The Gospel is a trust. No Pilate-like washing of our hands can rid us of our responsibility for its promulgation."—*C. H. Strickland, D.D.*

At a prayer meeting in England not long ago a good old man in humble life prayed—"O Lord, may we not only be justified and sanctified, but may we be missionaryed as well!"

During the first six months of the present year, more persons of foreign birth sailed from New York to Europe than arrived there from the other side of the Atlantic.—*Phil. Pres.*

It is said that during this century over 160,000,000 copies of the Word of God have been printed in over 360 languages and dialects. No very important tongue of the earth is now unrepresented.

Paul tells us that if we live in Christ we are changed into his image. All that a man has to do, then, to be like Christ, is simply to live in friendship with Christ, and the character follows.—*Phil. Pres.*

"The water will not hurt me but the rum will," said a native Christian in the South Sea Islands when an American captain threatened to throw him overboard if he would not take a glass of strong drink.

Japan consists of 3850 islands, with an area of 147,600 sq. miles, and a population of over forty millions. It is said that a larger proportion of the population can read than in any other country in the world.

In Switzerland the State gives protection to the railway workers. It has intervened and forced the companies to give employees fifty-two rest days in the year, of which seventeen must be Sundays. They are now striving to increase the number of Sundays.—*Phil. Pres.*

The population of the Fiji Islands is estimated at 123,000, of these 103,775 attend the services of the Wesleyan Churches, and about 10,000 are Catholics. There are 40,000 children in the schools under the care of 1095 teachers; and there are 10 European missionaries, 72 native ministers, 40 catechists, 1838 local preachers.

There is no more pitiful story, writes S. J. Humphrey, D.D., than that of the Hindu mother who has lost her child, walking in the fields and peering wistfully into the eyes of dumb beasts, of loathsome reptiles and of odious, creeping things, in the dim hope that through the windows of their eyes she may catch some glimpse of the soul of her lost babe.

"The Church Missionary Society (England), the largest in the world and having an income of \$1,300,000, published an appeal as its fiscal year was closing, in April. A debt of \$60,000 was impending. In thirteen days that debt was wiped out and a balance of \$20,000 left in hand. Of the amount thus raised, at least two ladies gave \$5,000 each, and a third, \$1,500.

"There are in India," says Dr. Pentecost, "no more missionaries than there are ordained Christian clergymen in New York City. Were New York treated as India is treated, the city would have about seven clergymen for its two millions of people. As it is, those two millions enjoy a Christian leadership equal to that given to three hundred millions in India.

"When the first missionary society was started in Tahiti a rule was made that a subscriber was one who gave every year one bamboo full of coconut oil, or three balls of arrow-root, or a hog, or four baskets of cotton. At Griquatown, South Africa, the first contributions were thirty pounds of elephants' teeth, one ox, nine bulls, twenty three sheep, four heifers and five goats."

"We ought to have some good or kind thing to say of every one. Of course, there is nothing new in this remark. The originality consists rather in its practice. Men talk about it as a beautiful saying, but its freshness and power lie in its exemplification. He who turns it into a living reality, makes himself conspicuous by his singularity; but it would be for the glory of religion and the welfare of society, if there were less of the singular, and more of the common in this respect."

It is very easy for men to talk about the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man and then settle back in the easy chair of selfishness saying that "other brother" is a long way off; I do not know much about him. Let him take care of himself. But he who does this is himself the sufferer. Not until men put legs under their liberal words and send them to find that "other brother" do they fulfil their manhood, not to say Christian manhood.—*Miss Studies.*

In Bombay, in "Midnight Mission" work, a worker was rudely attacked, and sought protection from the law. The judge had not the slightest doubt that the accused had committed assault of the most violent nature, and yet excused him on the ground that he had good reason for being provoked on account of the warning he had received, that if he continued in his vicious course he would go to hell. The *Indian Standard* says that warning men of the evil consequences of their sins seems to be, according to this new interpretation of the law, a penal offence, and those who do such things must be bound over to keep the peace!

Mr. Moncreu D. Conway, an ardent admirer of Hindooism, and an assiduous student of Hindoo literature, says, after a visit to India, "Among all those teeming myriads of worshippers not one man, not even one woman, seemed to entertain the shade of a conception of anything ideal, or spiritual, or religious, or even mythological, in their ancient creed. Not one glimmer of the great thoughts of their poets and sages lightened their darkened temples. To all of them the great false god which they worshipped, a hulk of roughly carved wood or stone, appeared to be the authentic presentment of some terrible demon or invisible power, who would treat them cruelly if they did not give him some melted butter! Of religion in a spiritual sense, there is none."—*St.*