

IV.—EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

The March of Events.

Of course the event of the month of July was the gathering of the 50,000 Christian Endeavorers in Boston, from the 10th to the 15th. They had a right royal welcome, and left a fine impression on the whole, though there was no little criticism on the sight-seeing which occupied too much time on the Sabbath. The peril of this noble society will be twofold: first, *pride of numbers*; and secondly, *conformity to the world*. If they can escape these two risks, which numerical prosperity and enthusiastic popularity inevitably incur, and can develop a thoroughly *missionary spirit* and a *systematic giving*, and *keep out of politics*, no one but God can foresee the future of this organization, whose unparalleled growth is like that of a mushroom, and which is now about to call a world-wide convention of Y. P. S. C. E. at Washington in 1896.

Meanwhile, a convention, not less significant in its way, had been meeting in the world's metropolis in June. The *World's Women's Christian Temperance Union* celebrated its third biennial convention by meetings in Queen's Hall on Wednesday and Thursday, June 19th and 20th, Miss Frances Willard giving her masterly presidential address, whose scope was well-nigh universal, covering the problems of poverty and misery, of temperance and purity, of color lines and prison reforms, etc.

The Polyglot Petition by Women directed against the Drink Traffic was festooned about the Albert Hall on Thursday evening, covering the whole façade of the balcony and box sections—thirteen immense rolls of paper pasted on linen, containing over 7,000,000 signatures in over 50 languages, and representing all countries, the whole petition being occupied with this monster remonstrance against the demon of the cup.

If these godly women do not succeed in abolishing this greatest evil of mod-

ern society, it will not be because energy, patience, and prayer have not combined in the effort.

The convention may be thus summed up:

There were 250 delegates from 22 countries, who spoke in 250 pulpits and halls. Westminster Abbey gave reserved seats to the leaders of the different countries, and a temperance sermon was preached by the Bishop of Dover, in which he welcomed the delegates, and said the temperance cause was sacred, and was made light of only by the ignorant or thoughtless. It is probably the first time that a woman's organization has ever been recognized in the most historic of the English cathedrals.

There was an excursion to Windsor Castle, a garden party given to 1000 White Ribbon women by Lady Henry Somerset at the Priory, Reigate, etc.

The annual addresses of the two presidents and the resolutions adopted by the two great conventions, the "World's" and the "B. W. T. A.," cover every phase of that modern movement by which Christianity is being applied to the customs of society and the laws of the land. The Polyglot Petition will be presented to the British Government, and afterward conveyed to the various governments of the world. This will take a year or more, after which the petition will probably be placed in the archives of the British Museum.

The Island of Formosa, about the middle of May, was threatened with anarchy, by the resistance of the people to the recent terms of the treaty with Japan. Chinese soldiers besieged the governor's castle; a young Chinese *literator* named Chu was reported to be elected king, and to have repudiated Chinese rule, and to be prepared to resist annexation by the Japanese. Riots were said to be of daily occurrence, and that Hakka had proclaimed himself king of the northern part of the island.