

from the Four Winds.

A deedless day is lost. We live in deeds, not years.

A man must be great in soul to stand the test of being lifted up.

When Satan sees a blessing descending he sends a temptation to offset it.

The use of tobacco is forbidden to the employees of the Boston & Maine Railroad Company while on duty.

Bibles have at length for the first time been permitted to enter Peru, after eighteen months of litigation.

"The time comes when one feels the need of the slumber of death, as, at the end of a toilsome day, one feels the need of sleep."

Unoccupied missionary territory to the extent of 1,000,000 square miles still exists in central Africa, an area larger than the whole of Europe.

The returns of the Established (Presbyterian) Church of Scotland gives 620,376 as the number of communicants, an increase for the past year of 7,965.

"The Secession movement is spreading in the Highlands. It has six ministers, 17 students, 50 missionaries (assistant preachers), and 56 preaching stations."

The horrors of the opium habit are scarcely seen in this country. Rev. Hudson Taylor says the opium smokers and their families in China number 150,000,000.—*Heathen Women's Friend*.

Orders have been sent to London for 5,000 Bibles, 7,000 hymn books, and 5,000 catechisms, to be sold in the Fiji Islands. The Fiji Islanders gave nearly \$25,000 to foreign missions last year.

"There is one Christian minister for every 900 of the population in Great Britain, and there is but one in every 114,000 in Japan, one in 165,000 in India, one in 220,000 in Africa, one in 437,000 in China."

According to Rev. J. M. Eppstein, there are no less than 160 Israelites in holy orders in the Church of England, who have either been converted or else are the sons of parents who have been converted.

"A correspondent of the *London Times* says that thirty thousand Armenians would be a low estimate for those who have been slain, taken captive or rendered homeless over a region of two hundred square miles."

"The Salvation Army, started 29 years ago, flies the flag in 45 countries, speaking 29 languages, has 11,000 officers who support themselves and circulates 1,000,000 periodicals monthly; 1028 officers attend to the social work."

"The London County Council have determined to prohibit cricket and other games being played in their parks on Sunday, on the ground that their allowance would be sacrificing to the sport of a few the quiet and pleasure of the many."

"Nearly every one of the many reporters and editors in the press quarters, at the Boston C. E. Convention, was on his feet at some time during the consecration service. A hopeful sign of the day when Christ shall be acknowledged by the press everywhere."

"Twenty towns in Minnesota have already adopted the curfew ordinance. It provides that young people under sixteen years of age, who are found on the streets after the ringing of the curfew are subject to arrest. The first offence is punished with a fine, the second with imprisonment, and the third with both."

A writer in the *Children's World* says:—"Of every six infants in the world, one is born in India; of every six orphan girls, one is wandering in India; of every six widows, one is mourning in India; of every six men that die, one is passing into eternity in India. Think of it, and give India a part of your prayers."

"The United Presbyterian Church of Scotland reports 150 trained agents in the foreign field, with about 750 native helpers; 116 full congregations and 170 congregations in embryo, with almost 20,000 members. 'While the average increase for the last fourteen years has been 682, last year shows the memorable figure 777.'"

"As a nation, Japan is a child of the nineteenth century. The progress of Christianity in Japan is one of the marvels of modern Church history. The first live years of faithful Christian struggle produced one convert. In 1872 was organized the first Evangelical Church of eleven members. Now there are 865 churches with a membership of 35,534."

"The organizations that belt the world are becoming like the rings of light around the planet Saturn. To the missionary societies, the Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations, the World's Christian Temperance Union and the King's Daughters, we may now add the World's Christian Endeavor, organized during the convention of 1895 at Boston."

The ears of 3,600 whom they had conquered, was the token and trophy that Japan sent home from a victory in Corea three centuries ago. Now they take as much care of the wounded Chinese as of their own, and their best steamers are at the service of the Red Cross Society; and a quantity of wooden limbs was recently ordered for those who had been maimed in the last war, their own soldiers and Chinese prisoners as well.

"Dr. Breckenridge, a well-known American clergyman, and his two brothers, also of the same profession, one day paid a visit to their mother. "Do you not think, mother," said he, "that you ruled us with too rigid a rod in our boyhood? It would have been better, I think, had you used gentler methods." The old lady straightened up, and said, "Well, William, when you have raised up three as good preachers as I have, then you can talk!"

"The last census shows nearly half of the whole number of Roman Catholics in the United States are to be found in the one hundred and twenty four cities which have a population of twenty-five thousand and upward, and in the four principal cities of New York, Chicago, Philadelphia and Brooklyn. Roman Catholics constituted two-thirds of the whole number of Christian communicants in those cities. In these four cities there are one-sixth of the membership of the Episcopal churches and about half of it is in the cities of more than 25,000 population."

"Hindu 'saints' submit to very severe penances in order to win salvation. Says a Presbyterian missionary writing from Jeypore:—

"They do subject themselves to terrible penances. I saw a man there on a bed of spikes, men hanging by the heels to a tree, a man buried up to the neck, a man sitting between five fires before the blazing sun, a man lacerating himself till the blood gushed out, a man holding up a right arm till it dried up. This was all done to gain salvation—not, alas! in the Christian sense. Salvation has with them various senses. Absorption into the Great Spirit, deliverance from the fear of having to take another birth, and such like. Even with some it means only the good things of this life—plenty to eat and nothing to do."