

THE STATISTICS OF CHRISTIANITY IN INDIA.

One good result of the recent General Conference of Missionaries, held at Allahabad, is the collection of accurate statistics of the number of native Christians in India.

Ten years ago there were 186,731 native Christians in the whole of India. This number has since then increased to 224,161—that is, to the extent of 84,430 persons, that is at the rate of 61 per cent.

In several missions, the increase has been very remarkable, and is worthy of special attention. For instance, at the commencement of the last decade, the American Baptist Missions in the Telugu country had only 23 converts.

It will be seen from the above that the record of our own Church in India is highly honorable to the laborers we have sent there. In the work of general education, also, the fruits of Christian mission are most cheering.

As to the mission presses in India, Burmah, and Ceylon, here are some facts:

They have published, in the course of the last ten years, no fewer than 3410 separate works, mostly of a Christian and educational character, in 31 languages and dialects.

Table with 2 columns: Description of books and their quantity. Total: 12,317,172.

We leave the sceptics who insist that missions to the heathen do not pay, to digest these facts at their leisure.

IS IT WICKED TO READ FICTION?

That depends. We never knew of a man's receiving serious moral or intellectual injury from reading the Parables of Christ, the Pilgrim's Progress, or Milton's Paradise Lost.

Nations and men are only best when they are gladdest and deserve heaven when they enjoy it.—Richter.

SHEEP-STEALING.

A late editorial in Good News opens with these words, "Sheep-stealing is usually regarded as the meanest kind of stealing."

But we understand herds find certain suspicious characters prowling around our folds, and even occasionally making away with a straggler or so.

Here is a person of the high, prolatinal turn of mind. He peers stealthily over the fences, or lies in ambush by the way, looking out for a weakling or a giddy youngling.

Here is a somewhat amphibious character—a man that will wade up to his waist any day to catch a sheep, or even a lamb (if it isn't too young).

It is intrinsically and necessarily a discourtesy, and is no more entitled to respectful reception than is any other ungentlemanly conduct.

Now, have my readers thought what that means? The Presbyterian who is asked to join the Baptist Church, for example, is asked thereby to say, and all his life to maintain, that when his parents dedicated him to God in baptism they enacted a solemn farce, solemn—that is, in their regard—but in fact empty and sinful.

So with the prelatical person—so-called priest; he modestly asks you to consider him the proper shepherd, and your own pastor the "thief and robber."

There are a great many who see these things in the proper light, and resent them accordingly; but others are thoughtless and short-sighted, or allow themselves to be beguiled by a polite and kindly manner.

As to the mission presses in India, Burmah, and Ceylon, here are some facts:

SHOES.

The early Britons wore coarse bags of hide, made all of one piece, and tied round the ankle, but the Romans introduced daintier foot-gear, and from them the Anglo-Saxons learnt to make both boots and shoes of leather, both being generally of one piece, laced from the toes all the way up with strings, and sometimes protected at the sole with a sort of wooden clog.

The changes of fashion in shoes and boots during the last two or three centuries may be traced in familiar paintings, such as Hogarth's.

I think the first virtue is to restrain the tongue, he approaches nearest to the gods who knows how to be silent, even though he is in the right.—Cato.

PRAYER AND THE PRAYER GAUGE.

This is the title of a discourse by the Rev. President Hopkins, of Williams College, delivered in the First Presbyterian Church in Troy, at the invitation of several of the pastors of that city.

In the first place, if there is anything in spiritualism, nothing could be easier than to demonstrate its truth. Why do we believe, it is asked, in the revelations of the electric telegraph? Because we submit them to crucial experiments every day and every hour of the day.

Somebody once said that the women of to-day are so extravagant in dress, and so helpless in other respects, that none but rich men can afford to marry; and foolish people have been saying the same thing, or something very like it, ever since.

No account is taken of his club expenses, or his unnecessary restaurant bills, or his fast horses, or the vanity which prompted him to buy a bigger or finer house than he needed.

Somebody once said that the women of to-day are so extravagant in dress, and so helpless in other respects, that none but rich men can afford to marry; and foolish people have been saying the same thing, or something very like it, ever since.

Somebody once said that the women of to-day are so extravagant in dress, and so helpless in other respects, that none but rich men can afford to marry; and foolish people have been saying the same thing, or something very like it, ever since.

Somebody once said that the women of to-day are so extravagant in dress, and so helpless in other respects, that none but rich men can afford to marry; and foolish people have been saying the same thing, or something very like it, ever since.

SENSATIONALISM IN THE PULPIT.

Zion's Herald administers a well deserved rebuke to the ministers of the present day who endeavor to attract an audience by the eccentricity of their sermons, and mentions the following case in point: "We have just now seen a card printed for circulation by the pastor of one of the oldest Congregational Churches in Central Massachusetts; a church which has long been blessed with the labours of the most cultivated ministers and men of the finest taste.

Oh wisdom, with how sweet an art doth thy wins and oil restore health to my healthless soul! How powerfully merciful—how mercifully powerful art thou! Powerful for me, merciful to me.

SPIRITUALISM.

In the first place, if there is anything in spiritualism, nothing could be easier than to demonstrate its truth. Why do we believe, it is asked, in the revelations of the electric telegraph? Because we submit them to crucial experiments every day and every hour of the day.

Somebody once said that the women of to-day are so extravagant in dress, and so helpless in other respects, that none but rich men can afford to marry; and foolish people have been saying the same thing, or something very like it, ever since.

No account is taken of his club expenses, or his unnecessary restaurant bills, or his fast horses, or the vanity which prompted him to buy a bigger or finer house than he needed.

Somebody once said that the women of to-day are so extravagant in dress, and so helpless in other respects, that none but rich men can afford to marry; and foolish people have been saying the same thing, or something very like it, ever since.

Somebody once said that the women of to-day are so extravagant in dress, and so helpless in other respects, that none but rich men can afford to marry; and foolish people have been saying the same thing, or something very like it, ever since.

Somebody once said that the women of to-day are so extravagant in dress, and so helpless in other respects, that none but rich men can afford to marry; and foolish people have been saying the same thing, or something very like it, ever since.

Somebody once said that the women of to-day are so extravagant in dress, and so helpless in other respects, that none but rich men can afford to marry; and foolish people have been saying the same thing, or something very like it, ever since.

THE DANGERS OF OCEAN TRAVEL.

A correspondent of the Scientific American points out the dangers of ocean-going ships, laden with material very easy to burn, even if not dangerous from spontaneous combustion; and he asks what would be thought if the railroad companies should build two-story cars, the lower floor being devoted to highly inflammable goods and the upper floor to passengers? Yet, he says, this is exactly the arrangement on an ocean steamer.

Men willingly believe that they wish to be true.—Cæsar.

Scientific and Useful.

LOBSTERS AND LIZARDS.

If a lobster's claw is broken off below the third joint, another will soon appear in miniature at the end of the stump; about the third year it will overtake in size the one on the other side.

When, by accident or otherwise, a Brazilian lizard's tail is missing, another crops out immediately, requiring considerable time, however, to develop into full proportions. It is to thomas indispensable an appendage as a balancing pole in the hands of a rope-dancer, in maintaining their centres of gravity while racing through the top of a tree in pursuit of prey.

IMPROVED COOKING VESSEL.

For some time past we have employed in our domestic establishment one of Warren's improved cooking vessels, and find it to be an important and valuable addition to the culinary service. It is, in fact, an automatic cook, and performs its allotted duty with a great deal better judgment and far less fuss than the best forty-dollar-a-month French cook that ever officiated over a stew pan.

STONE-COLORED WASH.

I painted a board fence and a rough out-building two years ago, and it is nearly as good to-day as it was when finished, and it cost comparatively nothing.

"Take two pounds of flax seed and boil it in a common wash boiler for an hour or more, in four pails of water; after thoroughly boiling, strain it into an old tight barrel; put in one peck, in bulk, of common sand plaster, one peck of nicely sifted wood ashes, one quart of wheat flour, and one quart of salt.

The above was made in quite warm weather, and worked up like sponge batter, two or three times, before putting it on; but a good stirring would, in a minute or two, reduce it again to its creamy consistency.

CHATS WITH SEDENTARY PEOPLE.

John Smith, a book keeper, asks what he shall do. Dyspepsia, nervousness and all that sort of thing have got hold of him. He has no time to get the fresh air, no time to exercise—no time for anything, and would I advise him to change his occupation.

"John Smith, what time are you due in the counting-room in the morning?"

"About half-past eight."

"Could you put it off till nine?"

"Well, perhaps so, if I didn't let my work get behind hand."

"And you want to know whether you had better change your business? I advise you against a change. A man should not change his occupation lightly, and you, John Smith, need not change yours on account of your health. Book-keepers may be as healthy as cartmen, if they are willing to embrace their opportunities. Let me tell you how to manage it, and I will promise that the advice I am about to give you is exactly adapted to half the population of this city.

1st. You must retire at nine o'clock every night.

2nd. During the spring, summer and autumn you must rise at five o'clock. During the winter, at six o'clock.

3rd. Beginning moderately, you will soon enjoy two hours of out-door walking and recreation before breakfast. Ninety-nine persons in a hundred, including both sexes, between ten and sixty years of age, will, if they begin the early morning exercise gently and prudently, within three months rejoice over a happy change in their health and spirits, and they will mourn over the great loss for so many years of those precious hours of the early morning."

Men willingly believe that they wish to be true.—Cæsar.