

Sullivan's Gardens, is in charge of it. He visits the sick in the hospital, and is organizing a women's prayer meeting similar to one held in Rannad. The members meet in one of their houses under the direction of a native lady, and there are prayers, followed by a lyric, Bible reading, and exposition, then a second lyric and a concluding prayer. They call it "Thaimar Sangam," or the "Mothers' meeting." The offertories include a weekly offering, called "rice collection." The women when they prepare rice for their meals, put aside a small handful of rice. The rice put by in this way daily, is collected every Saturday and offered at the altar on Sunday during the service. These handfuls set apart daily, however small they may be, come in the course of a week to be about one-eighth of a measure of rice, even in the house of the poorest woman. The rice thus collected and offered is measured before the chief members of the congregation. From October to March it amounted to 13r. 16a. 11p. There is also a system of "collecting pots." The men of the congregation make monthly payments. The women and children get from their pastors collecting pots, in which they store up as much as they can. These pots are made of clay, oval in form, with a narrow opening to drop in the coins. Mothers and children make it a rule to put in a pice or two when buying new materials for dresses, etc. The sum collected from the pots that were opened on Easter Day amounted to 34r. 3a. 7p. Among the pots was one which was taken by a poor widow, who happened to attend the service when the pots were given out, and though compelled to find work in another village, sent an order for 3r. 4a., asking for the prayers of her sisters that God would accept her poor collection, though it might be the least of all that were received. A ladies' working party meets for three hours on Saturday afternoons to work for the benefit of the Tamil Mission. Mr. Yesuadiyan occasionally goes out and preaches to the Hindus. He also distributes tracts. The Vellore Mission has had many difficulties and discouragements, yet it has not lost heart, but is trying to further the knowledge of Christianity among the heathen, as well as to build itself up in the faith.

Books and Periodicals Dept.

The Methodists and the Church of England. By F. C. Ireland, Toronto. Montreal "Witness" Printing House, St. James' street.

Many treatises have been written on this subject but still the little work before us comes with much freshness and force. It is written by a gentleman who, for many years, was intimately connected with the Methodist body, but who is now an earnest worker in the Church of England. It is clear that the setting up of Methodism as a separate Church was a gradual drifting away from the Church of England by new generations and against the pro-

test of Wesley and many of the great leaders of the movement. Mr. Ireland, when on a visit to England, became impressed with the idea that Methodism there was on the decline. "In looking round Epworth," he says, "the birth place of the Wesleys, there was no Wesleyan Chapel, and upon enquiry I found that there were over fifty towns in England, some of which contained a population of 50,000 people, where no Methodist Chapel could be found," and he asks the question, "Is Methodism going to stand like the old establishment or dwindle to a wreck after all its great achievements in the world?" The spirit of the book is evidently not that of unkindness towards the Methodist body but one which looks yearningly towards union. The author thinks that the Methodists of the present day might well, as individuals, return to the Church of England on the grounds that the Church, in the great evangelistic works, is more Wesleyan than the present generation of Methodists. If a new edition of this treatise should be published we would recommend the author to give the names and works of the authorities that he quotes, as this important point he frequently omits.

The Three Vocations. By Caroline Frances Little, Milwaukee. The Young Churchman Co.

This is a pleasing tale which has for its object the teaching of some useful lessons, such as the inability of unbelief to comfort in time of trouble, the danger of that utter worldliness which practically cuts religion out of the daily life, and on the other hand the security for mind and body which is to be found in a truly religious vocation and walk. The distinctive teachings of the Church are well upheld throughout its pages, and it leaves behind the idea that the sons and daughters of the Church by their conversation and influence might do much towards helping to show the general public the claims which she rightly holds regarding her true and historic position. Price, 75 cents; by mail, 85 cents.

The Church Review. The re-appearance of this venerable periodical, now in its 52nd year, in July last was gladly welcomed, and its continuance as what it has always been—a well edited and valuable Church Review—is much to be desired.

Literature. An illustrated weekly magazine: John B. Alden, 393 Pearl Street, New York. \$1.00 a year.

The issue of August 25th of this magazine contains an illustrated account of the Kalevala, as compared with Hiawatha. The Kalevala is a lately collated Epic poem of Finland, gathered together from oral fragments that have been handed down from generation to generation, like the Iliad and Odyssey of Homer. A remarkable similarity is found to exist between it and Longfellow's Hiawatha.