

declines or refuses to surrender a single ox until the Trans Vaal authorities restore the hundreds of children captured by them during the recent war. This is one of the most painful features of the case. The children referred to are indentured, *aliter* consigned to modified slavery, or involuntary servitude, rather, with their captors. That they will be delivered up to Mahura and his people we can cherish but a very feeble expectation. And until they are restored that Mahura will pay the Trans Vaal Government that indemnity they demand, our anticipations are more dubious still.

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EVANGELISATION OF LONDON.—The Rev. J. H. Wilson, of Aberdeen, now actively engaged in the work of evangelisation in the metropolis, had an interview with the Bishop of London, at his Lordship's invitation, at London House, Piccadilly. We believe his Lordship entered into a long conversation of the most frank and friendly nature, on the want of religious conviction and knowledge amongst the poor, especially in the east of London. His Lordship was much impressed with the fact, that in that district, one Bible was only to be found amongst some twenty or thirty families, and he strongly advised the employment of female colporteurs to sell Bibles amongst the unenlightened portions of the metropolis.—*Patriot*.

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CONGREGATIONAL HOME MISSIONS.—Between fifty and sixty ministers met at the Congregational Library on Thursday, at the summons of a sub-committee of the Home Missionary Society, to confer upon the best mode of reorganising and carrying out the objects of that Society. S. Morley, Esq. was called to the chair. The questions before the meeting were discussed in a spirit of simple earnestness, which quite precluded anything like dissension; and it was unanimously resolved to recommend the Home Missionary Society to confine its operations to country districts, working as heretofore through the country associations, and that a separate Society shall be established for London, rendering aid to those Churches that can usefully employ evangelists, and helping to raise up new causes in the poorer districts.

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MISS BURDETT COUTTS AND COLONAL BISHOPRICS.—Miss Burdett Coutts has, for the third time, endowed a bishopric. She has given 15,000*l.* for the Bishopric of Columbia, and 10,000*l.* for the other clergy.

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RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IN SWEDEN.—In Sweden a Royal decree abrogates a law enacted in 1726, interdicting all religious meetings of the members of the Lutheran Church, except at the regular services. This decree, which applies the law voted by the Swedish Diet last year, is a step in advance with respect to liberty of the conscience.

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MUNIFICENT BEQUEST TO THE FREE CHURCH.—The Edinburgh papers state that the late Miss Mary Barclay, of Carlton-terrace, has bequeathed her entire property, amounting it is estimated to about 30,000*l.*, to the Free Church. Of this the trustees are to apply 10,000*l.* for the purpose of building a Free Church in the New Town; but the will gives them power to allow that sum to lie in abeyance till it accumulate to 20,000*l.*, when the erection of the church may be proceeded with. The other 20,000*l.* is to be devoted to the education of the sons of the clergy.

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THE PERMISSIVE MAINE LAW BILL.—The United Kingdom Alliance have mapped out the British Isles into districts, and appointed superintendent agents, who are forming electoral committees and organisations for the purpose of agitation in favour of this bill, and already their efforts are telling on the people. Statistics sent in to the head-quarters of the alliance, Manchester, show that the returns received are greatly in favour of the project; as, for instance, St. Peter's parish, Bristol, containing 240 houses, 7 of which are void, and 20 devoted to the liquor