

British and Foreign.

THE Rev. Adam Montgomery, the oldest member of Belfast Presbytery, is dead.

ARCHDEACON FARRAR distributed the prizes on foundation day at Mill-hill school, the Dissenting Eton.

THE Sustainment Fund of the Irish Presbyterian Church, shows an increase of \$3,890 during last year.

AN Irishman, Mr. W. McFaydon Orr, a native of county Down, is the senior wrangler at Cambridge this year.

DR. SOMERVILLE recently laid the memorial stone of the new Free Church, in course of erection at Rafford, Morayshire.

MR. W. E. BRUNATE, son of a Wesleyan minister, is the second wrangler at Cambridge; he was educated at Kingswood school.

IN the recent examinations by the instruction of youth committee of the English Presbyterian Church, the medal-list were all ladies.

THE Rev. C. Trench, M.A., son of the late Archbishop, was one of the speakers at a meeting in Liverpool, against compensation to the publicans.

THE Rev. William L. Robertson, of Brechin, has accepted a call from Free St. Thomas, Greenock, as colleague and successor to Rev. Dr. Laughton.

THE Church of Scotland General Assembly authorised the Foreign Mission Committee to defend the action which Mr. Hastie has raised in the Court of Session.

THE parish minister of Buittle, Scotland, has intimated that funerals will not be permitted in the churchyard on Sundays except in cases of infectious diseases.

MR. GEORGE B. BRUCE, a member of St. John's Wood congregation, the Rev. Dr. Munro Gibsons', and a devoted servant of the Church, is to receive the honour of knighthood.

PROFESSOR LINDSAY, of Glasgow, occupied the vacant pulpit at Regent Square on a recent Sunday. Dr. W. M. Taylor, was to occupy Dr. Dyke's old pulpit on the following Sunday.

THE London correspondent of the Glasgow Herald has heard it whispered that the Archbishop of Canterbury is not altogether out of sympathy with some of the views of Henry George and his school.

OF all the men and women that have sung, says Professor Charteris, none have been to me what Charles Wesley and Dr. Horatius Bonar are. Dr. Bonar is the Charles Wesley of the nineteenth century.

DR. ADAM, Mr. Robertson, of Garturk parish Church, and Mr. Ramsay, of Coatbridge U. P. Church, preached at the opening of the new church in Bank Street, Coatbridge, on a recent Sunday.

THE mission station at Strathbungo, founded and fostered by Queen's Park congregation, was constituted recently into a separate charge; and on a recent Sabbath Rev. David Burns, the pastor, preached to large congregations.

ROBERT M. K. TICKELL, of Dublin, a man of about forty, who was found in a railway carriage at Peterborough shot through the heart, had written on a card: On the road from London to Peterborough, an ill-spent life is fitly terminated by a cowardly act.

IN spite of his Sunday mission work among the Italians at Saffron Hill, the late Professor Leone Levi never missed the morning and evening service at Regent Square. To accomplish this he walked for a long course of years not less than ten miles every Lord's Day.

THE Latin pupils in the Glasgow normal schools presented to the government inspector during the last session all passed without a flaw, as also did the seventy-three presented in the three stages of animal physiology—a result never before attained in this country.

THE largest sum ever collected at a charity dinner is announced. It amounted to \$260,000, and was received at the centenary festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for girls, held at the Albert Hall, and attended by the Prince of Wales and the King of Sweden.

MR. JAMES SALMON, a Glasgow architect, whose skill in Gothic is illustrated in the finely proportioned spire of Free St. Matthew's Church in that city, and who wrote a Scottish pastoral poem entitled "Gowdean," died lately in his eighty-third year. He had been a Free Church elder since the Disruption.

THE Rev. W. Ross, of Cowcaddens Free Church, Glasgow, is engaged on a memoir of the late Dr. MacLauchlan, of Edinburgh. Mr. Ross was one of Dr. MacLauchlan's favourite pupils, and has other qualifications for the work he has been requested to undertake. It is expected the volume will be published in the autumn.

PRINCIPAL CUNNINGHAM preached in Mr. David Macrae's pulpit at Dundee on a recent Sunday, and in the evening the service was conducted by Mr. Cameron of Rosebank Parish Church, Dundee. Dr. A. K. H. Boyd has also consented to be one of the preachers while the effort is being made to liquidate the remaining debt on the Gilfilan Memorial Church.

THE Rev. Jackson Wray is never tired of proclaiming his decision regarding the temperance question and he finds that a large number of his friends are becoming abstainers through his influence and example. When he started for America with a sick wife they thought it well to take a flask of brandy with them. They carried it with them 25,000 miles, and brought it home untouched.

THE Ladies' Association for foreign missions held its fiftieth annual meeting last week in the Assembly Hall under the presidency of Dr. Gray, Moderator. The income for last year reached \$29,025, while the expenditure was \$27,015. Rev. George Wilson spoke of medical missions as one of the great forces of the future. It was resolved that efforts be made to promote the formation of Presbyterian and parochial auxiliaries.

regulative principle, the share of the labourer in the product of his labour constantly tends to decrease. If that fact were known to the labourers, would it not tend to produce discontent and discouragement among them, begetting vice and pauperism? And would not this degradation of the labourer in its turn react upon production, lessening its amount and depreciating its quality?—Dr. Washington Gladden, in *New Princeton Review* for May.

THE AVERAGE MAN'S VERDICT.

I am of average intelligence, average culture, average income, average prejudices. I hit the *juste milieu*. What prompts me to buy a magazine? I approach the question the more readily because, as the Congregationalists ministers say nowadays, when they approach the discussion of the use of a ritual, "my position on this point is, on the whole, a meliorating one." I buy on impulse.

No doubt the craving for good literature influences me in the long run, and no doubt I am influenced by persistent advertising in a particular purchase; but neither of these motives count for much in swaying my average mind. I open the magazine on the counter of some book store, or as it alights in my lap with a whirl from the left hand of the train boy. I take it up because I have some pleasant associations with the colour of the cover or with the names. If in the list of writers I see some name which awakens in me reminiscences of a pleasant quarter of an hour, I give my money. 'Tis a little matter decides me.

Do not say that I buy for the sake of amusement, and must be guaranteed beforehand. I enjoy the flavour of delicate viands, but I am shy of new cooks. Nor can anybody predict that a new dish will please me.

Therefore, angry writer, blame no longer the patient editor who rejects your story, which you are sure I would like and buy. I am inscrutable. One can judge of extremes, but not of the average man. Consider well that if any one could predict my likings, such an one would not long remain an editor, nor even a publisher. He who could read a novel in manuscript and say, "The average man will buy this. Print 30,000;" he who could accurately cast the horoscope of a book would be possessed of the "potentiality of wealth beyond the dreams of avarice." He would be daily more valuable than all writers, for he could forecast the literary future. Such a man is not possible, for he would be able to predict my action, which is more than I can do myself. Perhaps his coming would disturb the intellectual economy of the world. He will not come.

The other day you told me wrathfully that an editor told you that he would readily give Browning \$5 a line for a copy of verses which he would not print if he were forced to withhold the poet's name at the bottom, and were certain that the secret of the authorship would not leak out. Blame the editor no longer as "purblind, and sordid and commercial," but recognize that he frankly admits his human fallibility, and say, "Brother, I too am fallible;" for I myself, the arbiter of literary reputation, in the average man, say boldly that I should not read the verses unless the name were appended.—*July Atlantic*.

THE DANGER BEFORE US.

We have already alluded to the importance of housekeepers paying more attention to the kind of baking powder used in leavening their bread. This is a matter to which we cannot draw attention too often, because it is something which involves the most serious consequences to the general body of mankind. Temperance apostles tell us—and there is ample foundation for the statement—that there is disease, both moral and physical, in the intoxicating cup; and in the same way there is disease, slow perhaps, but certain, in the lime and alum leavening agents employed in many of the homes on this continent.

No punishment is too severe for those manufacturers who place these poisonous alum and lime baking powders before the public, with the assurance that they are pure and wholesome articles. In the belief of the truth of such statements such baking powders are largely used in the preparation of food, and in this way the poisonous ingredients are taken into the system without a suspicion of their presence. By and by come spells of headache, distress in the stomach, loss of appetite, a fluttering of the heart; the child is seized with an apparently causeless cough. The coating of the stomach is destroyed, perhaps; one of the vital organs is rendered almost useless; the kidney's are attacked with Bright's disease. The health of the child is irreparably broken down; the adult becomes a chronic invalid. These are the doings of the modern cheap baking powders that are composed of lime and alum, or that contains sulphuric or phosphatic acids.

In view of these facts, surely all housewives should exercise the care that is, we know, now exercised by some in the selection of a proper brand of baking powder. She who does not do so, whether the neglect is the result of ignorance or recklessness, cannot free herself from the responsibility for the health, perhaps life, thereby endangered. No housewife need be ignorant of the quality and composition of the article which she uses to leaven her bread, biscuit and cake. The official reports of the government chemists who are certainly unprejudiced, have been published and show very clearly the quality and strength of all the baking powders in the market. The Royal Baking Powder, which is accessible at every hand, is reported absolutely free from lime, alum, phosphatic acid, or any injurious ingredient. It is further stated by the most eminent authorities on food hygiene that food leavened with it is more wholesome than when raised by any other method. Its use is therefore to be commended. It is to be regretted that no other baking powder, when there are so many in the market, some of which will find their way into use, is free from all of these substances. The official analysts assure us, however, that all, except the Royal, contain either lime or alum. The housekeeper who regards the health of her loved ones should not only order the Royal, but make personal examination to be sure that no other brand is sent her in its place.

(To be continued.)

THE SIN OF OMISSION.

It isn't the thing you do, dear,
It's the things you leave undone,
Which gives you a bit of a heart-ache
At the setting of the sun.
The tender word forgotten,
The letter you did not write,
The flowers you might have sent, dear,
Are your haunting ghost to-night.

The stone you might have lifted
Out of a brother's way,
The bit of heartsome counsel
You were hurried too much to say,
The loving touch of the hand, dear,
The gentle and winsome tone
That you had no time not thought for
With troubles enough of your own.

These little acts of kindness,
So easily out of mind,
These chances to be angels
Which even mortals find—
They come in night and silence,
Each chill, reproachful wraith,
When hope is faint and flagging,
And a blight has dropped on faith.

For life is all too short, dear,
And sorrow is all too great,
To suffer our slow compassion
That tarries until too late.
And it's not the thing you do, dear,
It's the thing you leave undone,
Which gives the bitter heart-ache
At the setting of the sun.

—Margaret E. Sangster.

DARING ENGINEERING FEAT.

RENEWING THE NIAGARA SUSPENSION BRIDGE.

The Niagara Falls railway suspension bridge carried successfully a heavy traffic for twenty-six years; it was then found that some repairs to the cable were required at the anchorage. These repairs were made, and the anchorage was substantially reinforced. At the same time it was found that the wooden suspended superstructure was in bad condition, and this was entirely removed and replaced by a structure of iron, built and adjusted in such a manner as to secure the best possible results. For some time it had been noticed that the stone towers which supported the great cables of the bridge showed evidences of disintegration at the surface, and a careful engineering examination in 1885 showed that these towers were in a really dangerous condition. The reason for this was that the saddles over which the cables pass on the top of the towers had not the freedom of motion which was required for the action of the cables, caused by differences of temperature and by passing loads.

A most interesting and successful feat was accomplished in the substitution of iron towers for these stone towers, without interrupting the traffic across the bridge. This has been accomplished very recently by building a skeleton iron tower outside of the stone tower, and transferring the cables from the stone to the iron tower by a most ingenious arrangement of hydraulic jacks. The stone towers were then removed. Thus, by the renewal of its suspended structure and the replacing of its towers, the bridge has been given a new lease of life and is in excellent condition to-day.

This Niagara railway suspension bridge has been so long in successful operation that it is difficult, now to appreciate the general disbelief in the possibility of its success as a railway bridge, when it was undertaken. It was projected and executed by the late John A. Roebling. Before it was finished, Robert Stephenson said to him, "If your bridge succeeds, mine [the Victoria tubular bridge at Montreal] is a magnificent blunder." The Niagara bridge did succeed.—*Scribner's Magazine* for July.

ETHICS AND ECONOMICS.

It is quite as easy to show how ethical causes produce economical effects, and *vice versa*, as it is to show the causal relation between the bodily and the mental experiences of men. Do not the vices of the labouring classes affect the productive industries of the nation? Is not the deterioration of the labour force, through poverty and insufficient nutrition, almost always accompanied by moral degradation? Is not the loss of stamina often suffered by masses of labourer during seasons of industrial depression a tremendous fact of the moral as well as of the economic realm? Suppose that the deduction of Cairns be true (I do not assume it), that under a wage system, with unrestricted competition as the