

THE SONGS OF THE PEOPLE.

If you sing to the people battle-songs
(For the songs of a people mould them),
Let not the ravishing trumpet note
So high, so clear on your numbers float,
In such glorious dreams enfold them,
That the widow's moan, and the orphan's cry,
Unheard, unrecked of, may rise—and die.

Paint not alone, with your magic words,
Bright pictures of fame and glory;
Let smoking homesteads, whose inmates, fled,
Are seeking afar and in vain for bread,
Have their part, too, in your story;
Let the people, undazzled, count the cost
The battle exacts, be it won or lost.

—Katherine B. Coutts, in *The Week*.

INVENTION AND THE PRESS.

The growth of the printing business is one of the most wonderful phenomena of the century. The increase in the number, size, and circulation of daily and weekly journals, magazines, and other periodical publications is startling even to those who have watched its course for fifty years. The consumption of printing paper in the United States amounts to about as many tons in 1890 as it did pounds in 1790. The regular Sunday issue of a leading metropolitan daily requires from sixty to eighty tons of white paper. Many trains of freight cars would be required to transport the weekly output of one of the many great publishing houses. Science and invention have been taxed to supply material for paper, and the printing industry, as it now exists, exhibits some of the greatest triumphs of inventive genius. The newspaper had a slow growth until the steamship and the telegraph annihilated distance and made all the civilized world one common neighbourhood; then, as if the conditions for which it had waited were come, it entered on a career of development such as the wildest enthusiast could not have foreseen in his most fantastic dreams. It is to-day the most potential of all influences in moulding public opinion and directing the course of events. Doubtless the newspaper has its faults, for it is made to suit the demands of the reading public and, therefore, caters to various tastes. It is too often an intermeddler in private affairs, too often intensely partisan in politics, intemperately sectional in religion or unwholesomely bigoted in sociology. But, with all its defects, the newspaper is, next to the school, the great educator of our time, and the amount of good that it accomplishes should make us tolerant of the evil that is justly charged to its account. The daily papers gather from the pulpit, from legislative halls, from secular and religious conventions, from scientific and sociological bodies, from magazines, books, interviews and all other sources of information the freshest thought, the latest views on all sides of every question that attracts public attention. The cream of current thought is found in the editorials, interviews, correspondence, and extracts printed in the leading daily papers. The results of the learning of all the ages are condensed in these utterances. When they are classified and collated so as to give a just and adequate view of present opinion on a live issue, who can conceive of a more powerful and useful educational influence than such a collection?
—*The Inventive Age*.

CANADA'S GREAT FAIR.

A GREAT LIST OF ENTRIES AND MANY ATTRACTIONS FOR THE COMING SHOW AT TORONTO, FROM SEPT. 8TH TO 20TH.

The success that has attended the great Industrial Fair, which is held annually at Toronto, has been remarkable, and it is evident that the Exhibition for the present year, which is to be held from the 8th to the 20th of next month, will again surpass its predecessors. The entries, which have already been received from all parts of the Dominion, the United States and Great Britain, are sufficient to fill all the buildings on the grounds, and they are reported to be of a much finer quality than any heretofore exhibited. A large entry list is generally a good indication that it will be followed by a large attendance of visitors, and as very cheap fares and excursions have been announced by all the Railway and Steamboat lines from all parts of Canada and the adjoining States, this indication will doubtless be fully verified on the present occasion. The Governor-General and Prince George of Wales will probably visit the Exhibition. Several more new buildings have been erected this year and still there is no space to spare. Special exhibits have been entered from Spain, British Columbia, Manitoba, and other sections of Canada; and large displays will be made by the Dominion and Ontario Experimental Farms. A long list of special features have been provided, including a large Wild West Show, grand display of fireworks, concluding with the magnificent spectacle, the "Last Days of Pompey," Edison's wonderful talking dolls, a great dog show, and a multitude of other features that cannot fail to entertain the many thousands that will doubtless visit the great Fair. Full particulars of all that is to be seen will be contained in the Official Programmes which will be issued in a day or two. Over two hundred and fifty thousand people visited the Toronto Fair last year, and, as the attendance has been gradually increasing each year, it is probable that this number will be exceeded this year. A large number of conventions and meetings are to be held at Toronto during the Fair, among which are those of the Stock Breeders, Manufacturers, Ontario Creameries Association, Central Farmers' Institute, Inventors, the Canadian Medical Association, Dog Fanciers, etc., and visitors to the Fair will have an opportunity of attending these meetings. All entries close on the 16th inst., and intending exhibitors should govern themselves accordingly.

THE MISSIONARY WORLD.

PROGRESS ABROAD IN 1889.

In the Foreign Mission report of the United Presbyterian Church in Scotland the following statement of facts is presented:—

JAMAICA.—Congregations, fifty; out-stations, sixteen; ordained missionaries, thirty—of whom fifteen are natives; native catechists or evangelists, seventeen; members in full communion, 9,444; candidates, 1,679. Sabbath schools, sixty-three; scholars, 7,704; teachers, 845. Day schools, seventy-nine—scholars, 7,196. Contributions, \$35,753. The Church in Jamaica shows again a decided advance. The membership now stands at 9,444, being an increase of 313 over the previous year, while the candidates number 1,679, showing an increase of 196. The attendance at the Sabbath schools has also been well maintained. By means of their Foreign Missionary contributions, the Jamaica Church has paid the salaries of Miss Anderson in Rajputana, and the Rev. E. W. Jarrett, in Old Calabar; while in the Home Mission Department they have supported all the native catechists, seventeen in number, and by means of the Augmentation Fund added considerably to the smaller stipends of the native pastors. All the day schools, seventy-nine in number, are supported by local contributions.

The students who completed their course last year at the College in Kingston have all been ordained to the ministry, making up the number of native pastors in Jamaica to fifteen, the European missionaries numbering also fifteen.

In last year's report it was stated that the Board was endeavouring to prepare such a scheme for the training of the future ministry of Jamaica as would not prove too heavy a burden on the resources of the native Church. This scheme has now been completed, and has been cordially accepted by the brethren in Jamaica, Europeans and natives alike. Two of the missionaries, the Rev. George B. Alexander, M.A., and the Rev. Robert Johnston, B.D., will act as tutors. The students will be under the charge of one of these brethren for two years, and for two years more will be under the charge of the other, who will not only superintend their studies, but will also give them a training in practical work in connection with the stations. It is expected that the expense incurred under this new scheme will not exceed \$500 per annum—a sum which will in all likelihood be fully met by local contributions.

An urgent request was received from the Jamaica Synod which met in January 1889, that the Board would send out an evangelistic deputy to visit the congregations in the island with the view of stirring up their spiritual life and stimulating them to renewed consecration to the service of the Master. The Board was not unwilling to comply with this request, and having approached the Rev. George Robson, M.A., Inverness, they were much gratified to find that he was prepared to undertake the duty. From Mr. Robson's well-known evangelistic sympathies and gifts, as well as from the earnestness with which he is carrying on the work, we anticipate a rich blessing to the Jamaica Church, who cannot but feel that the Church at home is caring for the highest spiritual interests of their coloured brethren in the far-off land. The Rev. Dr. Boyd, one of the members of the Board, kindly volunteered to accompany Mr. Robson to Jamaica at his own charges, and to spend some weeks in the island. During his brief sojourn, Dr. Boyd visited a number of the congregations, who greatly appreciated his presence and his counsels.

TRINIDAD.—Congregations, three, out-stations, three; ordained missionaries, three, of whom one is a native. Members in full communion, 387. Sabbath schools, nine—scholars, 567. Contributions, \$5,306. We have favourable reports from this mission field. The membership is on the increase, while the Sabbath school and other work is vigorously carried on.

OLD CALABAR.—Stations, eight, out-stations, nineteen; ordained missionaries, ten, of whom two are natives, and one native of Jamaica. Other European agents, four; native agents, twenty-one. Members in full communion, 328; candidates, 122. Sabbath schools, fifteen—scholars, 979. Day schools, twenty-three—scholars, 781. The work in Old Calabar has been carried on with vigour during the past year, and we are grateful to be able to report that it has been attended with many marks of success. There has been an increase in the membership of the native Church. The native evangelists and teachers are well reported of both as regards the Christian character they maintain and the work they are doing; while they are also diligently prosecuting their studies under the superintendence of the local Presbytery, with the view of qualifying them for further usefulness. The influence of the mission is felt by all classes of the community, and the new stations recently opened in the up-river districts give promise of ready access to multitudes in the interior who have never been visited by any messenger of the Cross.

The Rev. Hugh Goldie will, in a short time, complete his fiftieth year of missionary service; and the Board is persuaded that the Synod and the Church will unite in congratulating him upon the good work he has been enabled to accomplish. By his eminently upright conversation he has gained the respect and confidence of the people; by his steady labours from year to year he has done much to establish and build up the native Church; while by his "Efik Dictionary," his translation of the New Testament, and his recent "History of the Calabar Mission," he has conferred a benefit on Calabar and its tribes, the value of which we are not able as yet fully to estimate.

KAFFRARIA.—Stations, twelve; out-stations, ninety-six; ordained missionaries, twelve; native agents, sixty-three; members in full communion, 2,425; candidates, 916. Sabbath schools, forty—scholars, 1,174. Day schools, thirty-seven—scholars, 1641. The advance reported last year in our South African Mission has been maintained during the year now closed. Notwithstanding the large emigration from our Colonial stations to the gold fields, the membership at these stations has not been diminished, but shows rather a slight increase, while the increase in the Transkei stations has been very gratifying. The total membership of all the stations now stands at 2,425, showing an increase over the previous year of 118. The candidates have been increased from 545 to 916, thus giving promise of a large accession of members during the year now begun. The attendance at the Sabbath schools and day schools has also increased. The native evangelists and the day school teachers are all, with few exceptions, supported by local contributions, while the cost of repairs and new erections is largely met from the same source.

A remarkable work of grace has appeared at several of the stations, particularly at the Emgwali, and it is hoped that this will extend over the whole of the mission field in answer to the prayers of God's people.

Work has been begun among the Xesibe tribe, the new missionary, the Rev. P. L. Hunter, having arrived on the ground some months ago. He has been cordially welcomed by the chief and the people, and there is every reason to believe that in a short time he will obtain a firm footing among them, and gather many from this hitherto unvisited tribe into the fold of Christ.

On account of the long distances between the Colonial congregations in the west and the Transkei stations in the east, it has been found almost impossible to arrange meetings of Presbytery with any prospect of a good attendance of members. The Board has, therefore, agreed to ask the Synod to give them power to divide the present Presbytery of Kaffraria into two Presbyteries, corresponding as nearly as possible to the two committees into which the Presbytery is divided at present.

The Rev. John F. Cumming, of Emgwali, has completed the fiftieth year of his service as a missionary in Kaffraria. We are persuaded that the Synod and the Church will unite in congratulating him on the good work which, during this long period, and often in the face of many difficulties, he has accomplished on behalf of the Kaffrarian Mission; and in expressing the hope, now that he has retired from active duty, that he may enjoy in the evening of his days much comfort and happiness.

INDIA.—Stations, eleven. Missionaries, ordained and medical, sixteen, of whom three are both ordained and medical; European teacher, one; native agents, thirty-four. Baptisms—adults, nine; children, forty-two; members in full communion, 485; Sabbath schools, forty-seven—scholars, 1,526. Day schools, seventy-nine—scholars, 4,579. We are happy to report an increase in the membership in connection with our Rajputana Mission. Twenty-nine have been added to the roll of communicants during the past year, and though this number is small, anyone who knows the state of affairs among the Indian castes will at once admit that it means far more than the mere numbers seem to indicate. Apart from mere statistics, the results of the work of the mission are neither few nor small. "There are hundreds and hundreds of young men (the Rajputana Committee state), who, having passed through our schools, have carried away with them into their several spheres more or less of the influence of Christianity, and are now unconsciously waiting for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Beyond these is a wider circle, in which a knowledge of the one true God and of the Saviour, Jesus, is surely spreading; and in the regions beyond that even the popular belief in image-worship is surely crumbling away. These all are unconsciously waiting for the troubling of the waters, when the Spirit of God will descend with power on the hearts and consciences of men in Rajputana. All this preparedness is very largely the result of all these years of work."

The Board and the Rajputana Committee have, in obedience to the remit of last Synod, directed their special attention during the year to the educational work of the Rajputana Mission, and the results are submitted to Synod in a separate report.

Two new States, Kotah and Tonk, have been fixed upon in which to begin mission work. One of the missionaries has been labouring in Kotah during the past winter. He has been living in tent, but it is hoped that soon a site will be secured for a mission-house. We are happy to be in a position to state that the students of our college have taken up the equipping of this station as their scheme of effort during the present year, and it is hoped that in their pleadings they will meet with a liberal response from the members of the Church. It is expected that work will soon be commenced as well in the State of Tonk.

THE Rev. Henry Macready has been placed by the General Assembly of New South Wales on the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund. For nineteen years he was pastor at Rathfriland, County Down, and since 1867 has laboured faithfully in New South Wales, for seventeen years in Pitt Street Church, Sydney. Nine years ago he was Moderator of Assembly.

BISHOP CHINNERY-HALDANE was assisted by Mr. Suckling, of St. Alban's, Holborn, at the dedication of the cross erected in Mamore Forest by the friends of Mr. Mackonochie on the spot where he breathed his last. Rev. A. H. Stanton, another friend and a fellow-labourer of Mr. Mackonochie's for twenty years, also took part in the service.