

Editorial and Contributed.

Editorial Notes.

WE tender to every reader of the *OUTLOOK*—and to everybody else, for that matter—our best wishes for a Happy New Year. Happy may it be in the fullest sense of the term,—happy because you are at peace with God and conscience, and because you are doing the Lord's work in the Lord's way.

WHAT shall the record be for 1893? Three things we should aim at: A revival of God's work on every field; large returns from the week of self-denial; and a full quarter of a million for missions. Each of these movements will help the others, and all carried forward simultaneously would bring the millennium nearer.

LAST year the income came within six hundred dollars of the quarter million line. But this year there is sure to be a heavy falling-off in legacies, which were unusually large the past two years. This shrinkage can be met only by increased contributions to the ordinary fund. Let everybody help.

THE Brahma Somaj movement, about which we used to hear so much, appears to be declining. The reason assigned is that its teaching on sin and atonement, being essentially of the Unitarian type, has failed to impress its followers with any sense of the sinfulness of sin.

INDIA is not yet fully conquered for Christ, but Christianity is now virtually master of the situation, and if her work is carried on in the spirit of Christ, there need be no doubt as to the result. Converts from heathenism are very numerous, and great "breaks" may be expected in the near future.

PERHAPS the greatest hindrance to the speedy triumph of Christianity, in India, is to be found in the attitude of many of the European official class. As a class they are pervaded by a sceptical spirit towards experimental religion; and the thoughtful Hindu argues that if Christianity cannot command the full loyalty of those who have been nurtured under her influence, she cannot have a very strong claim upon the submission of those who are outside her pale.

Onward!

WE do not refer to the admirable paper of that name, edited by Dr. Withrow and published at the Book Room, but to our own efforts to improve and enlarge the *OUTLOOK*, and thus keep up with the times. We do not hesitate to affirm that the *OUTLOOK* is the best and cheapest paper of its class in the range of missionary periodical literature; but we want to make it still more worthy of that proud distinction, and have taken the bold step of enlarging the size without increasing the price. The pages are the same in number as before, but they are lengthened to an extent which makes room for a substantial increase of

matter. Of course this increases the cost, and leads to the remark that we anticipate a largely increased circulation. At present it amounts to about ten thousand: in a Church like ours it ought to be fifty thousand. We ask for a united effort all along the line, to roll up the number. Prices as before: Single copy, 40 cents; in clubs of eight or over, 25 cents per copy. Subscribers in Toronto, Newfoundland, or foreign countries are charged at single rates to cover postage. We ought to say that a good share of the credit for the improvements made is due to suggestions of the Associate Editor, Mrs. Dr. Parker.

New subscriptions and renewals are coming in at an encouraging rate. The largest lists received to date are the following:—

Mitchell, Mrs. J. Williams	20
Castleton, Mrs. M. Knapp	20
Little Britain, Mrs. J. M. Blewett	21
Hawley, Miss J. Meyers	21
Burlington, Mrs. Madden	21
Brampton, Mrs. Sharp	24
Newmarket, Mrs. L. G. Jackson	27
London, Mrs. F. Smith	32
Vancouver, Mrs. Martinson	38
Charlottetown, Mrs. Johnson	41
Winchester, Mrs. Charies	49
Bedeque, P.E.I., Rev. W. J. Kirby	55
Sackville, Miss F. Stewart	60
Hamilton, Mrs. Jones	99

The Distribution of Wealth.

THE unequal distribution of wealth is a subject which has attracted a great deal of attention in recent times, and is regarded by many as one of the gravest problems of our civilization. Stripped of vague and redundant verbiage, the complaint is that under existing social conditions the rich become richer, and the poor become poorer, and that the evil is one which calls for stringent legislation as a remedy. Reduced to its lowest terms it seems to mean, "You have more than I have, therefore you ought to divide with me." On this, as well as on other social questions, there is a vast amount of misapprehension, not to say ignorance, and the strife of tongues has raged around false assumptions and unsound principles, the logical application of which would end in universal anarchy. Wealth and poverty are, after all, only relative terms, and mean different things in different countries. Social conditions which would be regarded as comparative wealth by millions of Chinese, would, in the United States, be regarded as conditions of grinding poverty. In the developments of modern socialism, men seem to be dreaming of an ideal state of society in which each man's share of the aggregate wealth of the world will be approximately, if not absolutely, equal. The chimerical nature of such a notion is made evident by the undeniable fact that if a method could be discovered of making an equal distribution of the world's wealth to-morrow, in less than a twelve-month the inequality would be almost as great as ever. No arbitrary division of this kind would be of any avail unless there could be, at the same time, an equal distribution of ability, intelligence, industry, and thrift; for it is upon the presence or absence of these quali-