

take occasion to draw the attention of the Legislature to the injustice of this clause of the license law, which allows a majority of the electors (generally composed of fanatics) to oppose absolutely the granting of licenses to existing hotels and restaurants without regard to their respectability or interest in trade. 'Your petitioners, moreover, call attention to the fact that the League has taken the liberty of distributing notices boycotting the grocers who sell liquors'

"SOME NEW THING."—For a quiet social evening among Christian people—an evening that will not leave an uneasy feeling of time wasted behind it—we do not know anything better than one enlivened and distinguished by loaned and contributed "curios." It may be in a dwelling, or a hall, or a S. S. room, as the case may suggest. *Every family* has something they show and describe to visitors. Let them send or bring these, and label them properly—with sometimes a little bit of their history—and it is wonderful how much interest will be excited. Hundreds of such *curios*—whether more or less so—are in the families of every church and Sabbath School. Let a "Curio Party" be tried: it will both instruct and amuse.

"WHEN THE KYE COMES HOME."—Rev. W. Cuff, in opening a bazaar at Felixstowe in aid of the enlargement of the Free Church, related an incident which occurred whilst he was preaching in the locality some years ago. It was a hot Sunday afternoon, and during the sermon there was a man in a smock-frock sitting in the gallery over the clock, who every now and then leaned over to see what was the time. This irritated Mr. Cuff exceedingly, and in a tone which was well understood at the time, he said, 'I beg to inform that man who has just looked at the clock that it is 23 minutes past four, and I shall have done my dreary sermon in a minute or two.' 'If you please, sir,' said the man, 'I worn't a bit tired of your sermon, but the cows must be milked.'

IF DESIGN, THEN A DESIGNER.—Scientific research runs the danger of substituting conjecture for knowledge when it accepts a theory because it is the only explanation that can be conceived. It is like saying in politics that a proposal 'holds the field,' but this will not do in science. We are not bound to find a

theory if facts will not supply a sound one. Nature propounds riddles, to which the only reasonable answer is the profession of ignorance. Time has brought its revenge when a philosopher prefers to believe that which can be neither demonstrated nor imagined, rather than run the risk of such a heresy as belief in creative design. As Weismann admits, we must fall back upon it, if natural selection is rejected. As Lord Kelvin said twenty years ago, proofs of design lie around us, and, if perplexities turn us away from them for a time, they come back upon us with irresistible force, teaching that all living things depend on one everlasting Creator and Ruler.—*Lord Salisbury*.

A LONG RIFT.—Some of the papers and discussions at the British Association have a bearing on Bible questions. In the evening discourse on Friday Dr. J. W. Gregory, of the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, described the great trough-like valley which runs from the Jordan Valley down the Gulf of Akaba and the Red Sea, and then traverses the African continent as far as Lake Nyassa, its course there being marked by a long series of lakes. This 'Rift Valley' is over 4,000 miles in length, and appears to be due to a connected series of earth movements of comparatively recent date. Evidence in support of this is derived from the folk-lore all along the line, such as Arab traditions of the formation of the Red Sea, and the story of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. It was suggested that before the movements Palestine was covered by a large lake, which fed a river that flowed down the depression that is now the Red Sea, and joined the other river near Aden. This is how it happens that the fish fauna of the Lake of Galilee belongs to that of the equatorial rivers of Africa.—*Christian World*.

THE CHILDREN.—At a very helpful County Meeting in St. Catharines, in the interest of Primary teaching in the Sabbath school, attention was called to the important fact that the little ones *believe every word* the teacher says; and therefore the teaching must not only be true, but very plain and unambiguous. Much use may be made of the blackboard: a line will show a river, a row of marks indicate men; a dot will represent something spoken of! Don't teach them a *new hymn* every