

LIVING ISSUES FOR PULPIT TREATMENT.

The Stranger Within Thy Gates.

The stranger that dwelleth with you shall be unto you as one born among you and thou shalt love him as thyself.—Lev. xix. 34.

In the Boston *Congregationalist* we find this card published :

"FATHERS AND MOTHERS OF NEW ENGLAND."

"An open letter from Park Street Church, Boston. Rev. David Gregg, D.D., Pastor.

"Have you a son who has left your fireside and come over to this great city? Removed from the sympathy and restraint of his home and home church, is he among us homeless and churchless? If he is, and you wish him brought under the care of the church, and into the *friendships* of the church, send us his name and address, and we will invite him to become one of our church family, or introduce him to the fellowship of some sister church. Have you a daughter among us, desiring a church home? Then tell us this, and we will take her into our church family, and surround her with the sympathy of our noble young women.

"CH. E. RICHARDS, Clerk.

"Park Street Church, Boston."

There is a certain element of population that is beyond the reach of statistics. It comprises that constantly changing multitude who drift from the country to the city, sometimes take root and become permanent factors in the great city life; sometimes drop out altogether; sometimes find their way back, sadder, if not wiser men and women. It is not necessary to describe them. All have seen them, at least in some stage of their existence, but with the ever-shifting phases of our life they are too apt to pass out of sight and out of mind. In the multitude of the demands upon its energies, city Christianity reaches out after these, but too often with an uncertain hand. The Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations welcome them to their halls by every means in their power, but they cannot touch them all or nearly all.

The nearest approach that we can give to statistics is the following table taken from the United States Census for 1880. The first column gives the aggregate population of

some of the principal cities of the country; the second their population native to that State; the third their population native to the other States:

	Total.	Native Born.	That Other States.
New York, N. Y.....	1,306,299	647,299	80,330
Philadelphia, Pa....	847,170	554,449	88,488
Brooklyn, N. Y.....	566,663	344,324	44,645
Chicago, Ill.....	503,185	197,728	100,508
Boston, Mass.....	362,839	196,256	51,787
St. Louis, Mo.....	350,518	173,453	72,052
San Francisco, Cal.	233,959	78,144	51,571
New Orleans, La....	216,090	151,086	23,847
Washington, D.C...	147,293	65,317	68,734
Kansas City, Mo....	55,785	18,023	28,461
Minneapolis, Minn.	46,887	13,202	18,672
Denver, Col.....	35,629	3,804	23,120

This, of course, is not complete, as it takes no account of those who go from the country towns and villages of any State to the great cities of that State. Neither does it give the number of those who came when children and have really grown up in city life, yet it is sufficiently accurate to be suggestive of much work to be done. Of the more than 25,000 who found their way to New York City from New England homes a very large majority were without doubt young men. Much more is this likely to be true of the 100,000 gathered in Chicago.

Here is a great work for churches and for pastors, but city churches and city pastors will accomplish little except as country churches and pastors help, and especially as Christian parents and friends take active interest in those who go from them. Not a man or woman ought to leave their home for a new residence without there following them a message to God's people where they go. If that is done there will be little danger but that the kindly word, the helping hand be stretched forth to comfort, guide and bless.

Marriage and Divorce.

What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.—

Matt. xix : 6.

THE Report on Marriage and Di-