

Literary Notices.

VICTORIAN YEAR BOOK.—This Annual, published by the Congregational Union of the Province of Victoria, contains all needful information regarding the cause there. There are 37 pastors, and 15 other Congregational ministers in the province; 66 churches; the income and expenditure of "The Union and Mission," was about £1600. The Home Missionary grants, were £175 to Melbourne and vicinity, and about £180 to 10 churches. The "Jubilee Fund," to strengthen their denominational institutions, has reached over £48,000. There are over 40 pages of acknowledgements; 51 of these being £100 and over; one of £3,108. There are some wealthy colonists there. One object is to *discharge all Church debts* incurred before 7th August, 1883! The third article of the Constitution of the Congregational Union and Mission of Victoria, reads:

This Union fully recognises the right of every separate church to maintain perfect independence in the government and administration of its own affairs; and therefore it shall not, in any case, assume legislative authority or right of interference, save in the case of churches wholly or partially supported from its funds.

The last article excepts this third rule from the liberty of amendment granted in other cases.

THE CONVERTED CATHOLIC.—This little magazine, edited by Father O'Connor, a converted priest, seems to be doing a good work. It does not denounce, but works by love. The April number contains a portrait and sketch of Father McGlynn of New York, and other good articles; including an installment of "The History of the Jesuits," began in March. \$1.00 a year. Rev. Jas. A. O'Connor, 72 Bible House, New York.

THE CENTURY.—Union Square, New York; \$4 a year. The April issue has a valuable article by one of Stanley's officers, on "Slavery in the Congo Basin." "The Serpent Mound of Ohio," and Kennan on "The Latest Siberian Tragedy," will also be read with absorbing interest. Many other pieces make up a good number of this large and valuable magazine.

ST. NICHOLAS, from the above house is full of good things for the children. "The Chinese Giant," and the "Bunny Stories," and "Crowded out o' Crowfield" (continued) in the April number, will amuse all good boys and girls. \$3 a year.

MUSIC touches every key of memory, and stirs all the hidden springs of sorrow and of joy. We love it for what it makes us forget, and for what it makes us remember.—*Brittain.*

For the Young.

THE NEW SONG.

A SERMON FOR THE CHILDREN: BY REV. J. BURTON, B.D.

Rev. xiv : 3. "And they sing a new song."

There is a charm about things new; a freshness and a beauty not elsewhere to be found. The new flowers of spring seem brighter, if less fragrant, than the older glories of autumn. A new house charms by its clear cut lines and fresh front. The old has its charms, too, but of a different kind. An old building may have many tales to tell of memories gone, charming stories of long ago, but for the most part of interest to the aged. We all like the new, and love its coming. Thus when the new year is pictured, it is pictured as a little child with new life. No wrinkles on its fair skin, nor tangles in its hair, a cherub face and rounded form, unmarked by scar or wear. A new copy-book without mistake or blot; a clean sheet on which no scrawl appears. And though the old year may be pictured as a kindly old man, with eye beaming as in the ideal Santa Claus, or with a tear in his eye calling for our sympathy, we gladly turn from him and hasten to greet the new, the happy new year.

And the Bible talks of things new as well as of things old. There are God's mercies, which are "new every morning." There is a new creation in which the old has passed away and all things become new. We read, too, of a new heavens and a new earth, where the old sins and old sorrows have all gone, and in which righteousness ever fresh dwells. A new heart also the Bible tells about, which loves with a new love all things holy; where the old man and his deeds no longer have power. Let me ask you to take it as a pleasant lesson to find out how many *new* things the Bible promises or gives from God to bless us here, and if you will write them down and give them to your minister or teacher, he might read them out some Sunday morning, that all may know something more—for something new the Bible has to every search we make—of the rich things our good Lord has provided for those who hope in His word.

I am going this morning to speak of "a new song," such as that of which David wrote. "He put a new song in my mouth"—"praise unto our God." (Ps. 40.) Our text speaks of this new song as being sung before the throne, and this throne was set in heaven.

1. This new song then, is a song of heaven. Where is heaven? I have little doubt but that you have very often asked that question. I am going to answer it in part by asking another. Where is home? You say such a number on such