

THE matter of a missionary spirit among the people (says the *Mission Church News*) is largely in the hands of the clergy. If they never preach missionary sermons; never instruct their people in the elementary truth that the Church of Christ is the divine instrumentality for carrying the Gospel, the good news of life and salvation, all over the world; never tell them of the splendid achievements of missions, both in the past and the present, then the people are likely to go on in their humdrum way of paying their pew rents, putting a nickel into the weekly offertory, and buying a fancy pincushion at the semi-annual bazaar.

THE Rev. R. P. McKim, rector of St. John's Church, West Toronto Junction, has held through the winter a series of monthly missionary meetings for his congregation, with good results. It was done through the junior members of his Woman's Auxiliary. Missionaries who had had experience in distant lands were secured as speakers, and increased interest in the subject was evidenced by the steady growth of the attendance of the people at the meetings. Efforts of this kind in all the parishes of Canada would revolutionize the ideas of people regarding missionary work.

WE shall await eagerly the account of the great missionary conference appointed to be held in England from May 29th to June 1st, inclusive. Good results must flow from such a grand gathering as this. From England, with her solid wealth and lofty prestige, great results are looked for, and the country, as a whole, cannot be aroused except by special conferences and continued agitation. A rich array of subjects, embracing almost every form of missionary work, is set down for the occasion, and many experts from different parts of the world will lead and take part in the discussions. Happy those who can be there!

THERE seems to be some mystery about the expenses of bishops. The Bishop of Manchester (England) says that he lives as plainly as any workingman and believes that he works harder and more hours than nine out of ten workingmen; and yet is compelled, by the expenses incident to his office, to spend nearly five thousand dollars a year more than his official income. His Lordship's income is \$20,400 a year. The Bishop of Saskatchewan and Calgary (Canada) says in a printed circular that though his episcopal income has been in excess of \$4,400 a year, he finds himself not as well off as when, in 1869, he was simply incumbent of St. James', Manitoba, with less than \$800 a year. The uninitiated will naturally wonder at the reason of this.

WHILE the generality of mankind no doubt regard the report of a missionary society as very dry reading, yet in point of fact it is very interesting, and gives one a good idea of what is going on in different parts of the world. The report of the S.P.G. for 1893 is at hand. This year it contains numerous illustrations of the society's missionaries and buildings. The gross income of the society is not as large as that of the previous year, but the figures for the "general fund," on which the real working of the society depends, show an increase, notwithstanding the "hard times," which the report still bemoans, of a little over \$5,000. Among the contributions for "special funds" is an item of over \$26,000 towards the cathedral of St. John's, Newfoundland, and \$8,500 towards the endowment fund of the Diocese of Calgary, in the Canadian Northwest. Some of the evil results that are likely to flow from the "Parliament of Religions" recently held in Chicago are mentioned in the report. Two of the Japanese delegates, since their return to their own country, have been busy preaching to their own people what they call the great weakness of Christianity, and declaring that there is no better place for propagating the teachings of Buddha than in America. They announce as the result of their observations that "Christianity is merely an adornment of society in America, and that it exerts little or no influence upon the actions of those who profess it."

### CHRISTIANITY IN PERSIA.



N exceedingly interesting account of Christianity in Persia is contributed to the *London Missionary Gleaner* by Dr. Bruce, who speaks encouragingly of mission labors in that country for the future. He says: "The intolerance of Mohammedan rulers is the greatest of all hindrances to the spread of the Gospel," and he gives an account of the first martyr who has sealed his faith by his blood since the establishment of Protestant missions in Persia. Many have endured banishment and other sufferings for Christ, but this is the first martyr. The case occurred in connection with the American Mission in Oroomiah and Tabriz.

Mirza Ibrahim was arrested and beaten in Oroomiah in May, 1892, and bore testimony to the faith before the local magistrate who sent him to Tabriz in chains. The governor of Tabriz is the heir apparent to the throne of Persia. Mirza Ibrahim's examination before the Prince's Wazier was a fearless confession of Jesus and the truths of the Gospel. He was cast into the Prince's dungeon, and a petition was sent to the Shah for his release, but no answer came to it. One can imagine what his sufferings must have been during eleven months that he spent in the dungeon, and how

str  
day  
his  
ing  
out  
hin  
hin  
or J  
his  
swe  
Ven  
him  
He  
Chu  
Jesu  
I wa  
the :



progr  
factu  
army  
It i  
the p  
and  
Canad  
nearly  
and to  
In 18  
sixtee  
In the  
Queen  
of the  
double  
As  
Church  
tion.  
each t  
only p  
on suc  
burial,  
various  
per cer  
lie bet  
little ov  
that  
the nur  
The  
Englan  
in regar  
2,205,54  
188,011  
Church  
very ger  
figures a