

to use the literature of our board, but uses instead, because cheaper, periodicals which do not teach our doctrines and tend to pervert our customs. Congregations which have in time past received aid, owe something to the church in this respect. They may owe the Board of Publication nothing, but they owe the church at large a good deal. The papers that the children carry home from Sabbath school will have much to do with the loyalty of the home to the church."

CHINESE WOMEN SLAVES.

A petition is being signed in San Francisco for presentation at Washington, the preamble of which reveals a horrible condition of affairs on the Pacific coast. It is asserted that there are in California more than one thousand Chinese women who are "held as slaves by reason of purchase from dealers who import their victims from China." They are imprisoned in disreputable resorts in the section of San Francisco known as Chinatown; and "are subjected by their degraded owners to the most cruel treatment." Mission workers know the facts and efforts have been made to effect the release of the women, but in vain. A system of traffic is in vogue and countenanced so that it is impossible to break through it. The practice has, of course, many supporters, as all vices have, and alas some who are leading citizens either deny the extent of the evil or say it is inevitable. It was ever thus. Vice will have its votaries, and in the ramifications of Commerce and Society are interests which buttress vice.

MISSIONARY SUCCESS.

THE periodical charge that Indian Missions are a failure is going the rounds of the press once again. All the old arguments are being trotted out, such as the number of conversions at so much money per head, the insincerity of professing converts, the loosening of the old faith without accepting the new, etc. It is questionable whether a deep impression is made by these sayings of the disaffected ones, but they must be followed and answered once in a while.

One of the strongest testimonies for the other side is given by Dr. J. H. Barrows. Among other things he says that the forces which make for Christianity in India are growing strong. The failure of Hinduism to furnish peace and moral healing to the individual and regeneration to its millions of votaries is becoming apparent to Hindus themselves. The reforming sects are an emphatic announcement of this social and religious failure. The Hindu spirit to-day is strangely stirred and restless, and there never was a more favorable time for a large re-enforcement of the various departments of Christian work. As to the attitude of the natives, he says: "Of course I heard many criticisms of missionaries, but I never heard a Hindu, Brahman, or Moslem say, what ignorant and prejudiced Europeans have sometimes said in my hearing out of India, that the missionaries were doing no good. Frequently the chairmen at my lectures, or the Hindu gentleman who moved the vote of thanks, spoke with grateful appreciation of the work which missionary educators are doing.

He gives the following remarkable testimony by the famous Hindu ascetic, the Holy Man of Benares: "I think Jesus Christ was a very good man. He must have been something like Mr. Hewlett a deceased veteran of the London Mission Society. Missionaries are often foolishly criticized by natives, but they are trusted by them, and this is the highest praise which a Hindu can pay to mortal man. I know a missionary of

the American Board in southern India who was asked to take charge of the funds of one of the greatest Hindu temples."

Testimony such as this is worth a great deal and completely vindicates the faith and hope of the church in laboring to plant Christianity in the dark places of the earth.

THE WEEKLY REST.

THE relation of the Sabbath to hygiene knows no more eminent exponent than Dr. Haegler of Basel, who has brought a trained mind to bear on the facts of the question as few have done. Some of his conclusions, together with the experiments of Voit and Pollikofer, have been cited by Dr. Crafts recently with admirable effect. He shows from examinations of the corpuscles of the blood, that the night's rest does not fully restore the day's waste, but needs to be supplemented by the weekly rest. He points out that man does not take as full breath when at work as when at rest, as everyone will recognize when attention is called to the fact. Scientists estimate that a man breathes from one to two cubic inches less at each breath when earnestly at work than if perfectly at rest. Estimating on the basis of one and one-half inches per breath, for eighteen breaths per minute there will be a loss of 12,960 cubic inches in eight hours of work, as compared to the same length of rest. Meantime the worker is using more oxygen than he breathes, and drawing the excess out of the bank of his own body. In the case of a certain laborer, taken for example, the debt to nature thus made in a fair day's work is one ounce. He sleeps, and breathes more oxygen than he uses, but gets back only five-sixths of his lost ounce. Dr. Crafts then goes on to show that this loss of the work-day week is restored during the weekly day of rest, enabling one to begin another week of labor on a good physical basis. Dealing with the archeological argument, Dr. Crafts argues the existence of the Sabbath before the Jewish race. The oldest literature, especially that of Accadians, the immediate descendants of Noah, whose pottery libraries have arisen from the dead to confirm Moses and the prophets, contain the very word *Sabbatu*, which appears in these ancient tablets as the name of the seventh, fourteenth, twenty-first and twenty-eighth days of each month, on which certain work was omitted—such a corrupted survival of the Edenic week as we should expect when pure worship had fallen into idolatry.

THE SCOTCH EVANGELIST.

THE evangelistic services conducted by Rev. John Robertson, Glasgow, in Cooke's church, terminated last Sabbath afternoon, the Evangelist having been called away to fulfil an engagement in New York, the date of which prevented him from carrying out his promise of two weeks meetings in Toronto. The pastor of Cooke's church, Rev. Wm. Patterson, who is known on this continent as an able evangelist, will continue the meetings this week and they will doubtless be well attended.

It must be admitted that Mr. Robertson's services were not attended during the latter days of his visit as well as had been expected. Whether his peculiar views on questions esteemed by Presbyterians as of vital moment have had anything to do with the falling off in the attendance, as some might readily and naturally infer, is a matter of doubt, for we are informed that no illusion whatever had been made to them by the Evangelist in his Toronto addresses, he confining himself to a plain statement of the Gospel message, leaving objec-