

tion, not counting Indians and Chinamen, is less than ten thousand. The British Columbians claim that a portion of the Asiatic trade will come their way, especially as the company that is building the road has announced its intention of putting on steamers to connect the Pacific terminus with the ports of Japan and China; and they also point to their fish, their mines of silver and gold, and their forests, as the complement of the prairies of the North-West. All their hopes and dreams cluster around the railway, and those whom it does not enrich will feel that they have a right to be disappointed. They ignore the fact that the people of the North-West or any other country can afford to pay only a certain price for fish or flesh, galena, gold, or anything else, and that if it cannot be supplied at said price it must be for them all the same as if it were non-existent. They fancy that the difficulty the Province has to contend with is not the comparatively small amount of arable land, or the necessity for irrigation in districts otherwise good, or the intervening mountains, or the canyons that prevent river navigation, or the cost of transportation, or the great distances, but simply the presence of some thousands of industrious Chinamen. If Chinamen could only be kept out white people would come in, and wages would go up and keep up. Good prices would then be obtained for everything, and every one could live comfortably."

WEEK OF PRAYER.

The annual concert for prayer has become an institution. We append the topics suggested for exhortation and prayer by the Committee of the Evangelical Alliance in order that the supplications of the Lord's people may be of one accord during the week; but the varying circumstances of different countries where meetings are held may necessitate either amplification or alterations in detail:

Sunday, Jan. 3.—Sermons.—"Occupy till I come."—Luke xix. 13.

Monday, Jan. 4.—Praise and thanksgiving for the spirit of prayer vouchsafed to us; for all the bounties of Providence; for God's long-suffering goodness in that He has not taken away His Holy Spirit from us on account of our little faith and many provocations; for His faithful promises in Christ Jesus; for continuing and multiplying opportunities of proclaiming His gospel of grace; for the progress of Christian missions among Jews and Gentiles, and the free course given to the Word of the Lord, notwithstanding all the opposition of infidelity and abounding iniquity.—Psa. cxlvii.; 2 Sam. vi. 12-19; Psa. cxvi.; 1 Chron. xxix. 10-15; Isaiah lxi.; Acts iv. 18-38; Isaiah liv.

Tuesday, Jan. 5.—Humiliation and Confession.—National sins; social sins; personal sins. Want of

appreciation of the love of Christ; hardness of heart; unfaithfulness and slothfulness in service; false shame in confessing the name of Christ before men, and especially among our own class and kindred; want of zeal in missionary work both at home and abroad; want of brotherly kindness and charity.—Isaiah lviii.; Psa. li.; Rom. ii.; 1 Cor. iii.; Isaiah xlvii.; Jer. iii. 12-23; 1 Thess. v.

Wednesday, Jan. 6.—The Church and the Family.—That the Church of Christ may be more united in the bonds of faith and love; that, holding fast the Head, it may grow with the increase of God; that it may be delivered from false apostles and wolves in sheep's clothing; that Christ may be all in all in its teaching, and that the grace and power of the Holy Spirit may rest more and more on Christian families; on all engaged in the training and education of the young, on Sunday schools, and on Christian associations of young men and young women.—Ephes. iv. 1-24; John xv. 1-12; John xvii. 6-26; Col. iii. 1-17; Prov. xxiii. 13-26; Gal. v.; Acts xx. 28-38; Epistle Jude, Prov. iv.

Thursday, Jan. 7.—Home and Foreign Missions.—For the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the unsaved; for the revival and increase of a missionary spirit in the hearts of all who believe; for home missions and evangelistic efforts—that more labourers, full of the spirit of love and power, may be sent forth, and that a great ingathering of souls may take place; for native Christians among the heathen, that they may be kept steadfast and zealous in seeking the salvation of their countrymen; for missionaries and teachers, that great grace and wisdom may be given to them; for God's ancient people, Israel, that they may be brought into the faith of Christ; and for the maintenance of religious liberty in all lands.—Ezek. xxxvii.; Acts x. 34-48; Rom. xi. 22-36; Joel ii. 21-32; Acts xxvi. 12-23; 1 Thess. i.; Micah iv.; Zech. iv.

Friday, Jan. 8.—Nations and Governments.—For kings and all in authority; for the spread of justice and peace; for the defeat of malicious plots and conspiracies; for the abatement of national jealousies and prevention of unrighteous wars; for the entire abolition of the slave trade, the opium trade, and all forms of immoral traffic; for a favourable reception of Christian missionaries by heathen rulers and peoples; and for the coming of Christ in His kingdom.—1 Tim. ii. 1-6; Psa. xi.; 2 Tim. iii.; 2 Thess. ii.; Psa. lxxii.; Rom. xiii. 1-8; Psa. xxxix.; Matt. xxiv. 29-51.

Saturday, Jan. 9.—The Christian Life.—For increase of Faith, Hope and Charity; for such conformity to Christ and fulness of spirit as may fit us for being more used for our Saviour's glory; for more love to the Bible; for the better observance of the Lord's Day and of family worship; for the success of efforts to prevent or cure intemperance, to relieve the sick, and to rescue the perishing; for benevolent institutions and rescue work of all kinds; that intemperance