

"Pastoral Theology," and "Study Table," under the conduct of Prof. J. M. Hoppin, Dr. W. C. Wilkinson, and Dr. J. M. Ludlow, show no falling off in interest. Funk & Wagnalls, 10 and 12 Day Street, New York.

THE AMERICAN McALL RECORD QUARTERLY, July, 1886, has just been issued. It contains the Annual Reports of the Association of the Auxiliaries in America, and others of a business character. Mr. McAll says: "I observe that very nearly one third of the entire income of the Mission for 1885 was sent to us across the Atlantic. For this we unfeignedly thank you; or, rather, we render praise to Him whose grace has prompted these unwearied efforts, these willing offerings." The sum expended for the work in France, amounts to \$27,020.75. Mr. McAll says further: "The actual increase of attendance, as shown in our report for 1885, has been most cheering. In Paris, without addition to the number of stations or sittings, the year's aggregate increase, counting old and young, has been 61,000, that in the entire Mission 85,000. We regard with even greater thankfulness the silent, but, as we believe, effectual advance, in our older Stations; of the hold gained on our people—their marked progress in Christian knowledge, and, consequently, in the Christian life. It is, indeed, still the sowing time here; we are daily coming in contact with people who never before in their lives heard the Gospel, and there remains even yet an immense introductory work to be achieved in dissipating widespread and almost national misconceptions of and prejudices against the Gospel. But we now see around us, as the fruit of years of toil and watching, Christian lives, Christian families, and Christian workers. And, while our Fraternal Societies tend much to the religious culture of the new converts, we rejoice to see many of them, both in Paris and in its provinces, uniting with the surrounding French churches. The large proportion of men to be seen in many of our rooms, together with the fixed attention accorded to the directest utterances respecting man's fallen state and salvation by the death of Christ, resistlessly proclaim that a deep want of the soul is coming to be widely felt, a want which Sophism and Nihilism are found to be unable to supply." It is stated also that France has a population of thirty-six million. Of this number seven hundred thousand are nominally Protestant, for this number of Protestants there are eight hundred pastors. At the beginning of this century Protestantism could not count one hundred and fifty pastors; it had no Christian works of instruction or of evangelization. It simply existed. To-day it has a list of one hundred and fifty-five Christian works, and, as has already been stated, eight hundred pastors to carry on the work of evangelization among the scattered churches. The annual gifts of French Protestants for the support of churches and Christian work are estimated at \$940,000. It cannot, therefore, be said that French Christians are giving nothing for the advancement of Christianity in their midst. We have only to compare their gifts with those of American Christians, whose numbers exceed those of our French brethren by millions, and it is well to remember, also, that there are very few, if any, rich Protestants in France. "The cross of Christ in France is lighted up anew; its light is life. Over against the dark background Love shines out from it, and in that Eternal Love is salvation to the uttermost." Quoting Victor

Hugo, "Give to the people who work and suffer, give to the people for whom this world is bad, the belief in a better world made for them." "Therefore, sow the villages with Gospels—a Bible for each cottage," one writes. "And this is our work: to sow France with God's truth. We are not to calculate our success: the wisdom of faith lies in abstaining from such calculations. It calmly says, 'If the work is God's, go forward.' In quietness and confidence shall be your strength." Let us not be worried or wearied; God is a mighty ally, and He who shook Nineveh can shake Paris. It is by faith that Christians conquer and carry all before them, and we become irresistible in proportion as we keep hold of this power, or rather, as it keeps hold of us. Say not ye, 'There are yet four months and then cometh the harvest.' Behold, I say unto you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are white already to the harvest.' Let us hear the Divine command, 'Thrust in thy sickle and reap.' And let us look well to our sickles: they may be rusted by slothfulness; they may be blunted by the cares and overwork of this world. Watch, then, our reaping-hook, and let us not trifle with its edge, as if it were a small matter whether it be blunt or sharp. France is open to the Word of God. The people are ready to accept its teachings. Thousands and thousands flock eagerly to hear the Gospel of love. The McAll Mission works in true Christian harmony with all the various branches of evangelical work, and God is using it to unloose the bands of spiritual apathy in which centuries of repression had bound the Protestant Church of France. 'A great door and an effectual has been opened,' yet there are many enemies: infidelity and Popery are not dead. The evangelistic movement has scarcely begun. It may be feeble, but in the things of God weakness is strength. There may be many imperfections about, but it is by imperfect workmen and inadequate means that God has always accomplished His greatest works, that no flesh may glory in His presence."

THE CENTURY for October lies before us. No doubt the first instalment of the authorized memories of Abraham Lincoln is a prominent feature of this number, but we confess ourselves most drawn by the article on the "Gloucester fishing fleet." The waiting homes, the anxious wives, the stormy sea, and the terrible dangers met by those who supply our tables with one of the luxuries of life, spoke to us as we read words calling for sympathy and gratitude, and reminding us of the lines in "Caller herring":

"Buy my caller herrin',  
Ye little ken their worth,  
Ye may ca' them vulgar farin',  
Wives and mothers most despairing,  
Ca' them 'ives o' men."

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