

the latest data attainable the number of workers in the various evangelistic churches are,—Missionaries, ordained and unordained, 57; teachers, 41; colporteurs, 11; Bible-women, 4. This does not include those sent out by the British and Foreign Bible Society.

WE are in receipt of a copy of the first issue of *Home Cheer*, a neat four-page paper, conducted and edited by Miss Bowes, President of the Vancouver W. C. T. U. The name is a happy choice, bringing to the mind thoughts that make life sweeter and dearer to the weary and tired. Its aim is to amuse, cheer and instruct, and we have no doubt but Miss Bowes will do this and much more. We wish *Home Cheer* long life with increasing success, and will be pleased to put it on our exchange list.

*The Gifts of the Royal Family*, prize essay, by REV. JAMES COOKE SEYMOUR. Toronto: William Briggs. Some eighteen months ago a prize of £50 sterling was offered by a gentleman in Toronto for the best essay on systematic beneficence. In response to this offer, five and twenty essays were submitted. A number of these were of a high order, but two were of exceptional merit, and the adjudicating committee recommended the division of the £50 prize between them. The writers were the Rev. Charles A. Cooke, Baptist minister, Toronto, and the Rev. James Cooke Seymour, Methodist minister, Thomasburg, Ont. Mr. Cooke's essay we have not read, and hence cannot institute any comparison between it and the other, but from a hasty perusal of Mr. Seymour's, we can heartily commend it to all who desire to spread sound teaching in regard to a much neglected Christian duty. The headings of the chapters are suggestive, the style direct and vigorous, the matter well digested and arranged. Our Woman's Missionary Society would do good service by helping to give the little volume a good circulation.

"BOMBAY," writes a missionary, "is a perpetual wonderland. Whence came the 800,000 inhabitants? Last week a Greenlander called, seeking work. Two days after a man from Australia wrote me, asking a favor. A few weeks ago a West Indian came to attend to repairs on my house. Last Sunday night I preached to a congregation in which sat, side by side, a Russian from the Baltic and an Armenian from the foot of Mount Ararat. Among my parishioners is an Abyssinian, Turks from the Dardanelles, Greeks from the Adriatic, Sidhee boys from Zanzibar. Norwegians and South Africans live, do business, and die in this human hive. Is it not a wonderland? God is working in this city. I found the Greenlander trusted him; the Abyssinian wept as she talked of him, and the Sidhee boy from Zanzibar needed him."

## Editorial and Contributed.

### THE IMMEDIATE EVANGELIZATION OF THE WORLD.

THE question which is taking a prominent place in the minds of those who have been watching the marvellous march of events in connection with missions during the present century is, "Can we carry the Gospel to the whole world before the end of the present century? Eleven years will bring us to the year 1900. In these few years can we fulfil the Saviour's command to preach the Gospel to the whole creation? The answer, based on the state of the world and the opportunities of the Church, is, "It *can* be done; it OUGHT to be done; it MUST be done."

#### THE STATE OF THE WORLD.

All the world is open to the Gospel. This never was true before. It is easy to reach almost any part of it. Let the proposed railway be completed from Constantinople to Bombay, and from Bombay to Shanghai, and a traveller may leave Toronto to go around the world, and in six weeks see King Street again. Transcontinental railways, canals, and ocean greyhounds, have made neighbors of the Antipodes. A whisper will yet speed round the world. The American Board of Foreign Missions can reach from Andover one-half of their missionaries in all parts of the world in twenty-four hours. Central Asia and Central Africa are the only points difficult of access. American and European syndicates are begging the privilege of threading the provinces of China with double lines of steel, and in Africa six railways are being pushed from the coast to the interior. The international sentiment, which is making a brotherhood of the human race, and will soon find its expression in international codes and courts of arbitration, has become what General Grant called "a conscience of the world"—a power making for diplomatic righteousness, the foster-mother of young civilizations, and the protection of the missionary enterprise everywhere. The Christian nations are the nations whose national life is the ideal of the vast awakening nations of the East. Their forms of government, literature, philosophy and religion are exerting a profound influence. The nations which bow to Christ lead the world in commerce, science, and civilization, and, consequently, in international influence. The present march of events is annihilating distance, obliterating lines of ancient division, unifying the interests of the world, bringing the tribes and nations of men to feel that they are members one of another, teaching them a common language, making them partners in a world-wide commerce, and opening them all to every wind