

THE WORLD OF ENDEAVOR.

During recent revival services in a Harrisburg, Penn., church one of the Endeavorers held afternoon meetings for the children. As a result of this, thirty-five boys and girls have joined the church. A Junior Society will be another outcome.

The Congregational Chinese Endeavorers of San Francisco have within recent weeks contributed seventeen dollars toward the International Convention Fund, and thirty dollars to the American Board. These Endeavorers support six missionaries in China.

Two hundred Italians are employed on a city contract two miles from York, Penn. These men were destitute of religious privileges and one of the Christian Endeavor Societies of the town has begun holding gospel services with them.

A prize was offered several months ago by the Publishing Department of the United Society of Christian Endeavor for the best Christian Endeavor Day exercise. It has been awarded to Rev. J. H. Bomberger, president of the Ohio Christian Endeavor Union, whose exercise "Cardinal Points of Christian Endeavor," will be used by many hundreds of Christian Endeavor Societies in celebration of the second of February.

Dr. Clark sends from Europe, as a suggestion to the Christian Endeavor Societies of the world, the plan of occupying a few moments in every Christian Endeavor prayer-meeting, or at least occasionally, with a summary of the pastor's morning sermon. The plan should prove helpful alike to young people and pastor.

It has been the custom of the town of Chico, Cal., to hold a ball on Thanksgiving evening, and the young people had either to attend it or do without public entertainment. Last Thanksgiving the Endeavorers got up a refined entertainment that attracted a great throng of people, many of whom were thus kept from the dance.

Fifty Endeavorers, most of them from widely separated parts of America and Canada, were present at a Christian Endeavor reception given by Dr. and Mrs. Clark in Berlin, a few days ago. A society is to be formed in the American Church at Berlin, and another is already in operation in the American and British Church at Leipzig.

SATISFACTORY STATEMENT.

We would direct the attention of our readers to the annual statement of the North American Life Insurance Co., in another page of this paper. It is most gratifying to note that in spite of the alleged hard times that the business of the year is greater by 18% than that of '95, the whole insurance of the Company now amounting in round figures to seventeen and one half million dollars, while the assets of the Company are now over two and a half million dollars. The address of President Blaikie was as usual very exhaustive and will be read with interest by the financial people of the country. The report as a whole is another tribute to the careful and able management of the Company under the direction of its Manager Mr. Wm. McCabe and Secretary Mr. L. Goldman.

LOOKS INTO BOOKS.

HERBERT SPENCER'S LAST WORDS.

The last volume which completes the series of Herbert Spencer's Philosophy and the last he is ever likely to write has just been given to the public. The first part of it deals with the Evolution of Religion and closes with the following significant paragraph:

"But one truth must grow ever clearer—the truth that there is an Inscrutable Existence everywhere manifested, to which he" (the thoughtful observer) "can neither find nor conceive either beginning or end. Amid the mysteries which become the more mysterious the more they are thought about, there will remain the one absolute certainty,—that he is ever in presence of an Infinite and Eternal Energy, from which all things proceed."

If this statement is not all we would like to have as the conclusion of the whole matter, it at least points in the right direction and logically leads to pure Theism. Whether he himself ever finds his way there or not his followers can hardly fail to do so. Before very long we may find that the Evolutionary Philosophy is really the firm supporter of Christianity—instead of the deadly enemy that many consider it to be. Now that an evolutionist occupies the archiepiscopal throne of Canterbury we may look for a better understanding between schools of thought, which have hitherto regarded each other with mutual suspicion, and discover that they are friends after all.

The *Living Age* under its new management retains much of its former excellent character for the wisdom of its selections

while the new features greatly add to its interest. The article on "Young Turkey" by Karl Blind in the number for Jan. 10th. probably throws more light on the existing situation there than anything else in recent journalism. The *Living Age* Co. Boston \$6.00 a year.

The *Presbyterian Quarterly* which represents the Southern Presbyterian Church of the United States has been reduced to a dollar a year but presents the same quantity and quality of matter as before. The January number has articles on "Regeneration" by Dr. Primrose, on "Christ's Apocalyptic address" by Luther Link, on "the Civil Sabbath" by Dr. Norrie, the "Literature and worship of the Early Aryans" by Dr. Moore, the "Presbyteries and the Standard of Ministerial Education" by Dr. T. O. Johnson, "Aims and Conditions of Seminary Life" by Dr. Hall, "the Elder in his Ecclesiastical Relations" by Ralph E. Prime, the "Vrooman Case" by Dr. Reed, also the usual book reviews in which the first place is given to Dr. Baethge's new work on the *Presbyterian Standards*. Whittet and Shepperson, Richmond Va.

THE ECLECTIC MAGAZINE OF FOREIGN LITERATURE, established 1844. New York: E. R. Pelton, Publisher, 120 Fifth Avenue. American News Co., and New York News Co., General Agents. Terms, single numbers, 45 cents, yearly subscription, \$5.00.

The December number of our old favorite came duly to hand and may be pronounced the best in a year in which every issue was of the best. For fifty three years "The Eclectic" has maintained a record of invariable excellence, furnishing its readers every year with 1728 pages of carefully selected, instructive, never sensational, matter by the ablest writers on both sides of the great literary and scientific questions of the time, with the addition of a modicum of fiction of the choicest quality, and many lighter articles and humorous sketches. The writer has been a regular reader of "The Eclectic" for nearly a quarter of a century and bears willing testimony to its educational value no less than to its general attractiveness. The cream of current magazine literature—and only the cream—is always to be found in its pages. Among many good things in the number before us may be mentioned a suggestive and helpful paper on "The Social Philosophy of Charity Organizations," by John A. Hobson, from the "Contemporary Review"; "The Old Order Changeth" from the same magazine, by Julia Wedgewood; "A Eulogy on William Morris," from "The Fortnightly"; a racy review from "Blackwood" of Andrew Lang's recently published "Life of Lockhart" in which the writer gives to the public some interesting passages in Lockhart's personal history in connection with "Maga," apparently not known to his talented biographer. Of lighter articles we have "In Holy Russia," also from Blackwood, an extremely bright sketch of experience off the beaten tract in that fascinating country, "Cupid the Fiddler" from Macmillans, a humorous narrative of events which took place half a century ago in an out of the way English village; and "Youthful views of the Arch Enemy" in which The Spectator proves by many quaint instances that, "If there are some persons in the present day who find it difficult to believe in the personality of the Evil Spirit, children are not among them. There are some things in which their eyes may perhaps see more clearly and truly than our own."

ARTICLES YOU SHOULD READ

IN FEBRUARY MAGAZINES.

"The Awakening of a Nation," by Charles F. Lummis, in "Harper's."

"The Miniature Portrait," by Evangeline W. Blashfield, in "Scribners."

"The Battle of Copenhagen," by Alfred T. Mahan. Illustrated by How & Payne, in the "Century."

"The Making of the Bible," by H. J. W. Dan, in "McClure's."

"Old Boston Booksellers," by Edwin M. Bacon, in "The Bookman."

"How Plants and Animals Spend the Winter," by W. S. Blatchley in, "Popular Science Monthly."

"The Storm Centre of Europe," by Rev. W. H. Withrow, D.D., "Methodist Magazine."

"When Kossuth Rode up Broadway," by Parke Godwin, in "Ladies Home Journal."

"Ah Gaw's New Year's Celebration," by Theo. Wares, in "St. Nicholas."

"The Significance of Browning's Message," by the Dean of Canterbury, in "Review of Reviews."

"The Gold Fields of Alaska," by G. M. Hill, in "The National Magazine."