

One of the curses of our country is the travelling concert that "give away costly presents"—It is simply a system of lottery, and the one whose ticket happens to be a certain number gets a prize, and many of our young people get their first taste of gambling at such places. They are contrary to the law of the land as well as opposed to good morals and yet they are carried on for the most part with impunity.

● In another column reference is made to the death of Rev. A. Russell. One touching incident is related in reference to him. He had prepared his sermons for the coming Sabbath and the text in both cases were prophetic, the morning sermon being from the words, "I have finished the work thou gavest me to do" and the evening text from the words, "It is finished." But before the sermons were preached he had passed away.

In our notice on another page of the death of Rev. S. Johnson, his age is given at little over fifty years. He was in his sixtieth year being born in 1829. Strange to say his preparatory training before he went to the Academy at Truro, and West River Seminary was by the late Rev. A. Russell whose obituary is alongside his own in these columns. Teacher and pupil after long years of active service for the Master suddenly cut down about the same time. Mr. Russell with his sermon prepared for the following Sabbath called away before that Sabbath came. Mr. Johnson taken ill on Thursday, Aug. 16th, died on the following day. Each died at his post. Be ye also ready for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man cometh. Blessed is that servant whom his Lord when he cometh shall find so doing.

A few of the "open doors" in foreign missionary work: Of Mohammedans in the world there are 170,000,000; of Roman Catholics, 190,000,000; of Jews, 8,000,000; of Greek Church, 84,000,000; total number of heathen, 856,000,000. Of these there are 80,000,000 women confined in Moslem harems, and 300,000,000 are Buddhist women, with no hope of immortality. There are 1,000,000,000 souls dying in Christless despair, at the rate of 10,000 a day. "Think of these things."

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart ; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

LOVE.

"A poor widow who, bringing a trouble to a Russian Bible Society, was asked if her subscription were not too much. "Love is not afraid of giving too much," was her beautiful reply. We all know that it is not always the largest purse that opens for God's work. The poor too, love to spare somewhat for His service, to lay part of their hard earnings upon the Master's altar. Indeed, we heard once of a laundress who gave from a full heart to missionary work, but who, coming into a fortune, pleaded the multitude of her expenses, and would give but a meagre sum to the once-loved work; so dangerous, save for God's mercy, is the abundance of riches to the human heart!"

A New England clergyman tells this incident: "He preached a rousing missionary sermon and obtained the largest collection the church had ever given. One of the deacons, the richest man in the church, expressed great pleasure at this result, and said that when he came to the place he was a poor boy working for fifty cents a day. He resolved to give a dollar a year to the cause of Foreign Missions, and he would state for the encouragement of his pastor that he had continued to give a dollar a year from that day to this." How many there are who do not increase their gifts as they increase in riches!—*Christian Intelligencer.*

Twenty-nine years ago the Presbyterian mission in Brazil was begun. There is now a Presbytery of fifty churches and thirty-two ministers. Twelve of the latter are natives.

Several interesting communications from our mission fields will be found in this issue and will well repay a careful reading.

The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth.

Wisdom is the principal thing ; therefore get wisdom ; and with all thy getting get understanding.

Hope deferred maketh the heart sick ; but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life.

For by grace are ye saved through faith ; and that not of yourselves ; it is the gift of God.