

the power of the Gospel. She died in the midst of distractions brought against her by a nominally Christian nation, and yet illustrating the spirit of Christ to a degree worthy of all imitation.

SOUTH SEAS—SAMOAN GROUP.—The Rev. George Turner gives, in the *London Chronicle*, an account of the remarkable work accomplished by the London Missionary Society in the group of Central Polynesia, consisting of ten highly volcanic islands. The native population is now 35,000, a slight increase within the past forty years. When the French navigator, La Perouse, in 1787, sailed away from this group, twelve of his men having just been killed, he said: "I willingly abandon to others the care of writing the uninteresting history of such barbarous nations. A stay of twenty-four hours, and the relations of our misfortunes, suffice to show their atrocious manners and their arts, as well as the productions of one of the finest country in the universe." Forty-three years later, in 1830, Christian missions entered this unpromising field. Heathenism is now a thing of the past. Of the population, 27,000 are under the care of the London Society (5,000 being church members), and the rest are either Wesleyans or Roman Catholics; more than 8,000 are in the schools. The London Society has a staff of seven European missionaries, aided by upward of two hundred ordained village pastors, who have all passed through a four years' course of study. These pastors are entirely supported by the people among whom they labor. In the Malua Institution for the training of a native Christian agency, there have been 1,750 enrolled students, 600 of them young women. Self-support has been secured by keeping up the fishing and agricultural habits of the students for an hour or two daily. From the institution, missionaries have gone into several of the island groups of the South Seas. The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were printed as early as 1863. Already 23,000 copies have been sold, and at the British and Foreign Bible Society has been reimbursed to the entire amount of the cost. This elevation of the people from a savage to a civilized life has created a call for articles of commerce, and the Samoans now pass to the stores of the merchants, annually, from a quarter to a half million dollars' worth of native produce. For the past twenty years, not less than \$6,000 a year have been contributed by the islanders to the funds of the London Missionary Society. Let it be remembered that commerce turned away from these islands as a hopeless field; but since Christians, from higher interests than those of trade, entered the region, these mighty transformations have occurred. It is the Gospel which saves men and blesses the world.

It is said that 30,000 women in Paris make their living by manufacturing artificial flowers.

SPECIAL NOTE. Will our friends show and distribute the enclosed circular or circulars, and do their best to largely increase our circulation for 1885. Please make an early canvass, so that we can have an idea how large we shall need to make our next year's contract.

The British Royal National Royal Life-boat Institution last year saved 955 lives, making a grand total of 30,563 saved by its efforts.

Ribbon of Blue Temperance Notes, or Gathered Thoughts for the Thoughtless.



COMFORTING facts and figures for those who love strong drink. Bass's great brewery in England includes six acres of beer barrels; and it is estimated that the keer from it fills up each year, about six acres of grave yard. At a recent temperance meeting in New York city, Major C. B. Cotton thus confessed:—I manufactured liquor for twenty five years. I began the liquor business selling beer over my father's bar when I was 15 years old. I know all about it, and can make any kind. The adulteration of liquor is something you know little about, and the extent of it will surprise you. A man stands about as good a chance of being struck by lightning as to get a pure article of brandy in New York. With rectified whisky as a basis we can imitate any kind of brandy. The French are more expert than we are. We begin where they leave off, and God pity the man who drinks the stuff we make. We make champagne, which you buy for the genuine article. It costs to manufacture \$4 a basket; we sell it for \$10 to dealers. We make the stuff and put it in our own bottles, make a facsimile label of the genuine import. Spanish corks for the bottles and French straw and baskets to pack them up in. We want to make a genuine imported wine. We buy one larrel of it. Our cooper takes the barrel as a pattern and makes ours by it. They are new and bright. We put them through a staining process, and they come out old and nasty and worn, just like the genuine importation. Thirty-two deadly poisons are used in the manufacture of wine. Not one gallon in fifty sold here ever saw France. We send thousands of gallons of whisky to France to have them come back to us something else. Of all poisonous liquors in the world Bourbon whiskey is the deadliest. Strychnine is only one of the poisons in it. A certain oil is used in its manufacture, eight drops of which will kill a cat in eight minutes and a dog nine minutes. The most temperate men in New York are the wholesale dealers. They dare not drink the stuff they sell.

The wary traveler no longer drinks "the wine of the country" in Paris for fear of the evil effects of water. In the last report of the Paris Municipal Laboratory, under whose chemical scrutiny the wines of city trade must pass, the number of good wines found in the analysis of 3,361 samples was only 357, while 1,093 were passable, 1,709 were bad, and 202 positively dangerous.

STRONG DRINK IS RAGING.

The lamented Keshub Chunder Sen was orthodox on the temperance question. His latest utterance on this topic is full of earnest, truthful endeavor to rid India of the universal scourge. He says: "So long as God is with us in this cause we have nothing to fear. Roll, roll back then, O thou fatal tide of intemperance, and swallow no more the fair children of our Holy Father. Statesmen, patriots, reformers and philanthropists of England, come and strengthen our hands, that we may, by personal and individual influence, and by joint co-operation, save if possible