

**AFRICAN MISSIONS.**—Seven or eight years ago the chiefs of Abbéokuta and Ibadan, in Yoruba, Western Africa, compelled by force the European missionaries to depart from the country. There were left on the field only a few negro pastors or evangelists; truly pious and devoted, indeed, but always regarded as useful auxiliaries, rather than as men competent to direct, carry on, and consolidate the work. However, the sequence proved that these native helpers were both capable for all these requirements and intrepid. Under their direction the churches withstood the tempest of persecution; church edifices, closed for a time, were re-opened; additional ones were soon required and built; and to-day the number of communicants in Abbéokuta alone has reached 1,300, nearly double what it was at the time of the expulsion of the foreign missionaries.

A Presbyterian Church in Indiana of about eighty members, has the financial plan for each member to give one-tenth of his income, and the money is thrown into the box on Sabbath morning. Though the members are usually poor, about \$1000 is usually thrown into the box during the year, from which the minister's salary is paid.

The revised Discipline of the M. E. Church, now in the press, will contain these well chosen words, in their appropriate place, as imprudent conduct:—“Indulging sinful temper or words; the buying or selling intoxicating liquors as a beverage; dancing; playing at games of chance; attending theatres, horse-races, circuses, dancing-parties, or patronizing dancing-schools, or taking such other amusements as are obviously of misleading or questionable moral tendency, or disobedience to the order and discipline of the Church.”

**EXHORTATION.**—We hear the complaint made that among the ministry of the present day hortatory preaching is seldom heard. It may be that this noble gift of the fathers is falling into decay. We no longer hear those warm, earnest, powerful exhortations from strong natures, filled with the love of God, which

characterized, and indeed comprised largely the preaching of a former era. Ministers seem to fear that if they exhort in preaching, somebody will say they are only exhorters.—*Can. Baptist.*

**PREVENTION OF CRIME.**—The reformatory system is telling on the criminal population; is taking the young of the criminal classes, and making honest men and women of them. There are fifty-three reformatories in England, and twelve in Scotland, and they contained last year 5,419 boys and girls, with an additional 1,049 out on licence preparatory to discharge. It is fair to assume that all these young people—for nearly half of them were not above fourteen years of age when they were committed—would have grown up criminals. They were every one of them promising apprentices to the trade of roguery. Yet taking the average of years, something like 70 per cent. of them are actually rescued and reformed. Even the remaining 30 per cent. have not necessarily become criminal. Taking the whole number of boys discharged during the last three years, about fifteen in every hundred are known to have been again convicted, eleven in every hundred are untraced, and about three are of doubtful character. It is therefore fair to conclude that, by our existing system of trapping young criminals and training them before they are developed into their full manhood and womanhood, nearly eight out of every ten are turned into honest courses.—*Daily News.*

Rev. Dr. Mullens, secretary of the London Missionary Society, speaks of the results of the labours of the foreign and native workers in the islands of the South Pacific as a matter of history of the most remarkable kind. “A few English missionaries proceed to isolated, barbarous tribes on the other side of the globe. For ages they have known nothing of their fellows; nothing of the great doings in the old empires and kingdoms of the earth; nothing but the wonderful religion revealed in the Lord Jesus Christ. These foreigners preach and live and teach; believing in Christ, his gifts, his spirit, his promises. After a while the outcast races understand,