

FAITH, though weak, is still faith—a glimmering taper, if not a glowing torch. But the taper may give light as truly as the torch, though not so brightly.

It is estimated that the University of Cambridge has now no fewer than 400 Nonconformist and Methodist undergraduates amongst its resident students.

IN Boston, on the Sunday after Mr. Beecher's death, Rev. Phillips Brooks declared that the three greatest Americans of the century were Daniel Webster, Abraham Lincoln and Henry Ward Beecher. When Charles Kingsley heard Mr. Beecher, says Dr. Parker, "he sat and wept like a child through the whole discourse, and when it was concluded he said: 'Mr. Beecher has said the very things I have been trying to say ever since I entered the Christian pulpit.' The Dean of Canterbury said to Mr. Beecher himself: 'There is one thing, Mr. Beecher, for which we must all thank you, and that is, for what you have taught us respecting the Fatherhood of God.'"

THE *Christian World* must bear the responsibility of the following: Something very serious nearly happened to the Queen and Princess Beatrice at Aix-les-Bains on Good Friday. There was actually no English clergyman in the place on Thursday, and, owing to what is styled "the very unfortunate blunder" of the Colonial and Continental Church Society her Majesty was almost reduced to the necessity of reading her Bible without any clerical assistance whatever on Friday! As it was, the English chaplain at Vevay was telegraphed for, and "kindly consented to come," though it appears that the sacrifice was a purely personal one on his part, as we are told "no possible inconvenience could be caused at Vevay by his absence." However, the royal visitors at Aix were able to worship in the regulation manner, even though they arrived at the church only as the communion service was being commenced.

THE life of the Czar of Russia is not to be envied. More than any other monarch on the face of the earth he must feel that "uneasy lies the head that wears a crown." The Autocrat of all the Russias has just escaped one plot, but he must be in daily and hourly fear of renewed attempts upon his life, which may prove more successful. The Revolutionary Party have addressed a letter to the Czar, informing him that his death was decreed on February 27, and that the execution of the sentence has been entrusted to fifty different persons. Meanwhile, one important result of the abortive plot is the issue of a statement by the "advisers of the Czar," in which they declare that "the autocratic form of government, tempered by a just administration of the codified law, is desirable until Russian territorial expansion has reached the limits set to it by Pan Slavist ideas."

THE *Christian World* informs us that Dr. Charles Mackay says that Sir Henry Bishop assured him that

he composed the music of "Home, Sweet Home," in early manhood for Messrs. Goulding & D'Almaine, who were publishing a series of national melodies of all countries. The words were by Mr. Howard Payne, an American then resident in England. A "Sicilian melody" was wanted, and as Sir Henry was unable to find one, he composed "Home, Sweet Home" and passed it off as Sicilian. Several other publishers, thinking that it really was Sicilian, and not copyright, pirated the music, and a series of actions ensued. Sir Henry Bishop deposed on oath to the facts above mentioned, and Messrs. Goulding & D'Almaine obtained nominal damages. This statement is clear and explicit, and should set at rest a long-disputed question. As the song is equally popular on both sides of the Atlantic, it is fitting that an American and an Englishman should have been conjoined in its production.

ONE evening as the great Italian General, Garibaldi, was going home, he met a Sardinian shepherd lamenting the loss of a lamb out of his flock. Garibaldi at once turned to his staff, and told them that he intended to hunt over the mountain in search of the lamb. A grand expedition was immediately organized. Lanterns were brought, and old officers of many a campaign started off, full of zeal, to hunt the lost pet; but no lamb was found, and the soldiers were ordered to their beds. The next morning, Garibaldi's attendant found him in bed fast asleep. He was surprised at this, for the general was always up before anybody else. The attendant went off softly, and returned in half an hour. Garibaldi still slept. After another delay, the attendant waked him. The General rubbed his eyes; and so did the attendant, when he saw the old warrior take from under his coverings the lost lamb, and bid him convey it to the shepherd. The General had kept up his search through the night, and until he had found it.

THE religious statistics of Prussia, taken in December, 1885, have been published. According to these the Protestants number 18,243,587 persons, or 64.42 per cent. of the total population; the Catholics, 9,621,624, or 33.97 per cent., of these 1,437 being members of the Greek Orthodox Church; 83,020, or 0.3 per cent. belonging to other Christian denominations; 366,543, or 1.30 per cent, 155 confessing other religions, 3,529 making no statement of their religious views. Of the "other Christians" 4,711 are Brethren, 13,022 belong to the Apostolic Church, followers of Edward Irving, 22,728 Baptists, 13,948 Mennonites, 2,321 Methodists, Quakers, or Presbyterians, 1,372 members of the Established Church of England, 23,918 called themselves Dissenters, members of Free Churches, Christian Catholics, Mormons, etc. According to statistics, published by the Seventh Day Adventists, that Church is now working in America, Switzerland,