## Correspondence.

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For the Christian Messenger. The Worcester Convention.

Since Mr. Moody's return from England a short time since, he has been holding what have been called Christian Conventions. The object has been to stir up the churches to greater activity, to suggest also new and wiser methods of work in the churches, to awaken also a revival spirit by united prayer for the descent of the Spirit of God. Revivals are certainly needed, even though many conservating people are afraid of them on the ground of being worked up by human contrivance. Revivals should come down-yes, of course, and is not the office of prayer to bring them down in contradistinction to working them up. Mr. Moody thinks it is time that something should be done, since more than 400 Congregational Churches round about, report no accessions to their number. And pastors and people generally echo the opinion. What is a church for? Is it not to shake up the community? The apostles went even farther than that, "turned the world upside down" upon the confession of the staid people of the time. And when the old methods of presenting the gaspel fail to attract the people's attention, is it not time to introduce changes. Novelty may have sacred uses. The people must first be gathered, and then God's truth can be poured upon them as a flood of light, like the sun bursting of 3,000 and sometimes more, waited of the "Heart of Christ" and of infrom a dark cloud. But the Church of hour after hour at the services, hungry spiration. Christ should not be satisfied unless she has taken the ear of the people, unless she agitated them with her great themes and messages from God. The gospel was meant to be and is the greatest exciting cause the world has ever received. Do you remember the second division of Dr. Fuller's elequent rousing sermon delived in Baltimore before the General Convention of the Baptist denomination in the United States in 1841 on the "Power of the Cross"-"whatever the heedlessness of a man there is an energy in the Cross to rouse him." Will you have a taste of that sermon and especially as it illustrates the disposition to which many pastors and laymen in Massachussetts have come "Why look at history ;-I Pappeal to facts; -I appeal to the thousands of all nations, ages, sexes temperaments, and conditions who have confessed this energy of the Cross, and vielded to it. And if there be, in all this uncounted assembly, one who has never felt anything while a bleeding Jesus has been lifted before him, then I know nothing of the human heart; let him stand up; I wish to look at him; he is more or less than mau.

Never felt anything; but it is impossible.- I know better. No, my brethren, hardened a man may be; he may have a heart of stone, of steel; he may glory in his obduracy, but if he has ever listened to that tale of love and sorrow he has not been wholly unmoved. No, no, no, it cannot be! We have amongst us a class of people, who are always crying out- No excitement, we do not want excitement in religion. Very well, let them get a preacher who knows othing of Christ crucified in the pulpit, and he will walk at their head, and lead them quietly and comfortably enough down to hell. The Cross will excite. It is the most restless and resistless of agitators." The inference from these truths is that, if our towns and cities are not agitated over the soul-truths of the Bible, we have not additions to so many upon profession of faith! Something is wrong with the laborer when no harvest appears.

Conventions have been held in Boston, in Portland, in Worcester and Troy. The only question with the distinguished evangelists Mr. Moody and Mr. Sankey, now is, shall they go on holding these Conventions in populous centres, or shall they go to St. Louis or Cincinnati, and settle down to labor for the winter. Wise leaders of but we are now seeking the non-church does; I am happy however in feeling the Y. M. C. A. counsel them to hold Conventions, and so reach with their hymns. The hymn must be adapted to may appoint him, he and his young wife strong common sense consecrated to the taste of the non-church goer, if you will receive a warm welcome. In their Christian work, and with their devout spirit born of the grace of the Holy Gospel Hymns or those sung at the Spirit, the largest number of ministers and leading workers in the churches. At this writing the purpose of the Evangelists is not known, but the wise leaders of the Y. M. C. A. like Mr. H. purpose, showed us how to do it. In M. Moore of Somerville, Mr. Shaw of ten or fifteen minutes he had apparently Middleboro, Mr. Remington of Fall nearly the whole audience of 3,000 When I think of it Mr. Editor, if you River, and Mr. Sturges of Boston, seem | singing, platform, gallery, floor -someto have the mind of the Divine Spirit.

And now what is a Christian Convenfour days, or a series of meetings as thick as they can follow one another for about that length of time. Singing,

continue and their enteres

in the services. Topics of vital interest half an hour, let the preacher go on may be ever followed by the Lord's wool of Theosophy—pseudo-Budhism, to the growth of the churmes, are pro- with his great theme, and declare the blessing. consecrated common sense and forcible called, should. The sermon must be breathe out a holy passion for Christ a hymn is singing. Do not pronounce and his Gospel upon the congregation. Such themes as these occupied some of to, and then ask as many as will to stay the New. Mr. S. says: "We have care goers?" "How can pastors promote talk and inquiring among those inrevivals of religion?" "How to promote spiritual life in church membership?" "How to conduct prayerowe to young converts?" "The Holy that now the church members are to Spirit for service."

strikingly manifest. I happen to know several pastors and laymen who came home fairly enthused with new energy | that should ring a little bell every three and already, in some of the smaller cities | minutes; and when they had taken the and towns, the effect is apparent. New hint he could turn the bell off by a spirit and new prayer are seen and button, and did turn it off and on as heard in the workers for God. We only needed, until the people had formed hope they are the harbingers of the fulfilment of Mr. Moody's prophecy

to hear more from God and about His work. Admission was by tickets distributed by committees in the several churches in the city. This plan was know just whom, whether yourself, the adopted so that those who need such a Convention most might be able to get cellent editor, the old one; I think it into the Hall. On Sunday Nov. 2nd meetings were held for men and for women separately so that the more loyal service to the denomination, and could attend. Mr. Moody preached, that his fine mantle has fallen upon such and of course Mr. Sankey sang, and great grace and power rested upon the people. Some of the world's people got in, and there were a goodly number of conversions. Mr. Moody called for those to rise who wished now to begin a Christian life, and upwards of sixty rose promptly, or at his call " Are there not some more to come to Christ now.'

There are thousands of non-church goers in this land, so that Mr. Moody struck | Dear Editor,at the very first of the Convention, atopic worship on a fine Lord's day. What that is eating into the religious life of rican churches something like this, if rule to prophesy after the event. the churches shall get the non-church goer. Sing new hymns-the latest Methodist Camp Meetings, and sing unfamiliar as well as familiar tunes. The leader must wake up all to sing; and Mr. Moody without telling us of his appreciate such warm hearted kindness times the gallery singing, sometimes the floor or a part of it. Let the tion? It is a meeting lasting three or minister do this himself, if he has not

posed, stirring addresses are given, the word of God as men whom He has masterful talks of Mr. Moody come in short 20 or 25 minutes, and at the end admirably, and the solos of Mr. Sankey of an hour, let all go who want to, while terested. Long prayers and long talks must be abandoned, one, two or three minutes at the outside, two minutes is follow up the work of the pastor. Dr. good people of long praying and speaking be had a wheel put into the clock good habits, and then he had no trouble.

These are some of the hints and sugthat the morning of a glorious work of gestions given at the first meeting of the grace wide-spread over the land, is Convention, and may be of service to pastors and workers in cities and towns Just think of it now. The last days of Nova Scotia. The two grandest adof one of the most exciting political dresses of the Convention were given campaigns in the history of the country, by one of our Baptist pastors in Boston, were upon us. And yet Mechanics Dr. A. J. Gordon, on "How to promote Hall in Worcester, was crowded to spiritual life in church members? and overflowing by men and women eager to by Dr. O. H. Plumb of the same city," share in the services; and from some on "What does the church owe to of them, hundreds of people went away young converts "? It was worth going a unable to obtain admittance. Au liences journey to hear them, they were so full

before closing however, I would like to congratulate somebody, and do not new editor or that most amiable exmust be congratulation to both, to the old editor for long continued, able, honorable shoulders; to the new editor, because of the prairie-like field of usefulness upon which he has entered and has the power to cultivate so admirably.

ROLLSTONE. Nov. 14th, 1884.

> For the Christian Messenger. From England:

I have once again to apologise for long all wanted to hear discussed, and none silence. I find however, by the welcome more than the ministers present. Not | weekly Messenger that you keep readers more than about one quarter or one familiar with general home news, both third of the Protestant population of civil and religious. I myself often find our cities and large towns, attend public | English news in the Messenger which is news to me; thus shewing that you shall be done respecting this dry-rot Mr. Editor although some three thousand miles away look more closely into even the best parts of this land. Does affairs here than myself. Well, of course it trouble Nova Scotia people any? you are aware that the Franchise Bill is You do not have the organized infidelity the absorbing question here just now. to battle against which we have here, The second reading is expected to night but perhaps you have religious indiffer- when it will be no doubt passed, but ence, and the non-church goer may not | whether the Lords accept or reject it is be a stranger among you. But what altogether uncertain. Should they redoes Mr. Moody tell us to do about it? ject it they will set going an agitation He says, first of all work to get the which will in all probability result in people, arrange the services so as to their own overthrow. The feeling of attract the people, advertize them. the country is growing stronger daily Have them short. Men think quicker against the House of Lords, not perhaps now than they used to, they drive more, so much against that House as such, but and religion must meet this quick on account of its being an irresponsible action and thought. The services must hereditary assembly, and as many conbe pithy, not all preach, preach, tend generally opposed to systems of like the old fashioned sermons two hours reform of every kind. Extreme Radior so long. There must be variety, cals hope they will reject the Bill, as The food must be given condensed, and | they think the Lords will thereby hasten not in sandy acres. Let the minister their own overthrow more than by any feed the flock of God in the morning other means. I believe some plan will really put those truths before the people with all his might, and at night rush be devised whereby the threatened as they are. So many churches, and no along to win the sinner. The evening agitation will be averted; I will predict services should be made up in the Ame- no more at present, as I prefer as a

I trust Brethren Powell and Waters goer to them. First a praise service of who have lately reached your country, about half-an-hour, and do not sing are happy and prosperous, and will soon Coronation and others of those old feel quite at home, but more than all "Hymns of the Ages." They have now that they may prove successful soul become only special hymns for special winners. A third brother Rev. D. Price or peculiar occasions. The old Chris- of Holyhead expects to sail from Livertians can sing them when they are by pool on the 18th inst. The cold weather themselves to their greatest delectation, will have arrive I supposed before he satisfied that wherever the H. M. Board shall draw him. Sing such as are in Master's name I will bespeak such a

When a man leaves country, home and friends for a foreign land, a stranger among strangers, he well knows how to as experience taught me the good people of Nova Scotia are capable of shewing. meet with the brother who speaks of give him my love, and tell him that

Mr. Spurgeon's "ever-flowing" entitled "My Sermon Notes," price half a crown. It has sixty-four outlines. He purposes publishing four volumes, use this mighty spokesman of the Mathe benediction, but let all go who want two on the Old Testament, and two on the hours, "How to reach non-church for half an hour longer for prayer, and fully prepared them to help lay-preach- farce is played out, and the curtain has ers. When they are hurried and driven, fallen. The Hindu heart gushed, but they may be guided to a subject by this the pocket did not. Whereupon the volume. . . We dare say that Colonel and his attendant Sibyl, Madam ministers may get a lift from these meetings?" "What does the church an abundance; and let it be understood sketches, when they are hard pressed, they call the "Master' to proceed to if so they are heartily welcome." His England-whither they have accordingseventh volume of "The Treasury of ly gone, amid many manifestations of The power of the meetings, was Plumb of Boston said that to cure his David" will be out shortly. He was approval from other than the Mahatmas. within 7 or 8 Psalms of completing it some months since. The first was comper volume. Dr. Parker is about to lishes an article in the Madras of the price, and the deep thoughts proving her an artful humbug. This ordinary minds will find it difficult to comprehend. If the Doctor think at all, he must think deeply. May the published and the explanations append. position and clearer understanding of The Theosophists of course cry forgery. the Sacred Book.

> and very favourably reviewed. It gives | this more anon. a large amount of trustworthy informa- It has long been rumored that Madam 480,060 Methodists, 370,000 Presbyterians, 340,000 Anglicans, and about all, the temper of her people. 290,000 Roman Catholics. 1 observe that Baptists are not mentioned. Is it is time for the few to wake up.

> The Health Exhibition in South Kensington has been a great success. Attendance over four millions; profits, \$150,000. Medals awarded—gold, 242; silver, 5,096; bronze, 554. The exhibi as it is, is in fact the capital of India. tion next year will be devoted to the The Governors of Bengal, Madras, Bomarts and industries of India and the colonies. I hope Nova Scotia and the reighboring provinces will be seen to residences in the capital town of each some purpose on that occasion, and will Presidency, spend the greater part of carry off a fair share of the first above mentioned medals. I visited the exhibition twice, but saw no Nova Scotian. Next year I hope to see several.

unusually abundant this year, consequently they are very cheap. About a thousand tons of potatoes reach London daily; and need enough too, as well as arge quantities of other food and neces saries of life when, in addition to the constant increase of its population from the country and foreign parts, there come trooping in every week between two and three thousand little bald-head ed tyrants from No-Man's-Land, as a writer in Harper's choses to call them. Only last week there were no less than two thousand six hundred and ninetyfour London homes invaded by these, The only real and original Home Rulers," who rule every house with imperious sway.

Newman Hall has been having a " big time" with Uncle Jonathan; his letters which have appeared in the Christian Commonwealth, (a comparatively news but growing paper, and deservedly), have been very interesting. His expeience has been quite different from that of a popular Baptist Minister some years ago, whose letters to another paper, held up Americans and American institutions to the ridicule of those who did not know something about them. Strange how differently different men look upon the same things. The world, which includes America, is very much like a looking glass, which meets us with smiles or frowns as we meet it.

With affectionate remembrance, J. BROWN. Melksham, G. B.

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For the Christian Messenger. Letter from India.

columns the Straits earthquake, the her gallent colonel, and the ominous downwards. But the paradise of gov-

on the Madras steamer. Heis a studiedly received special training in England intellectual looking man, and a canny and India, and entered the service of old humbug. Why did he come to government by a stiff competitive ex-English ministers as "importations," India? In hope, perhaps, that after the amination, under covenant to serve a establishment of a number of societies certain number of years in India on "Brethren from England" would sound Theosophical by unstinted expenditure certain conditions, of which a promise to got a chorister who can. Once in a just as well. I hope to induce more of money, the lide would turn and the abstain from private trade and to adwhile have a solo if some one can brethren to come next spring, trusting rupees flow back into his pockets in an minister justice impartially and accordexecute it well, and let there be silence and praying that those above mentioned ever swelling stream. The Hindus re ing to the law of the land, is chief. prayer, conference, discussions by the and prayer for the Spirit of God to use as well as those who may yet come may ceived him with open arms, and—closed Civilians must serve 25 years, 21 of which meeting be given to Mr. H. M. Stanley evangelists, by pastors and teachers, fill the singing. And then at the end of be men of the Lord's appointing and pockets! Craftily he pulled the soft must be spent in India. The other four for his address.

cant, and yankee cheek-over the eyes Another volume is just published from of the most gullible. High and low bowed before him-the uneducated native deceived and converted by false miracles; the educated, to deceive and hatmas as a prop for tottering Hinduism and a tool against Christianity. But the Blavatsky, received a command from him

And now comes exposure. M. Conlomb, a former intimate friend of Mapleted in 1869 thus averaging 2 years dame B.'s and an extheosophist, pubbegin a commentary on the whole Bible, Christian College Magazine, containing to the majority of missionaries. Freto be completed in 25 volumes. I fear copious extracts from Madam's corres- quently in out-of the-way stations they it will be beyond the reach of general pondence with himself and wife, with readers, both in the necessary highness | the apparently successful intention of which are lively to abound; and which | Monsieur Conlomb seems to have been the engineer in-chief of many of Madam B.'s most wonderful tricks. The letters good Doctor be spared to accomplish ed have every mark of authenticity. the mighty task and may it prove help. The Magazine is a first class one, edited ful, as it is sure to do, to the fuller ex- by widely known Christian missionaries. But it is rumored that the Magazine's The Marquis of Lorne's book "Cana- really heavy guns are yet in reserve." A dian Pictures, Drawn with Pen and successful exposé now would be a death Pencil," has been warmly welcomed blow to Theosophy in India, But of

But my letter is already long: Just tion concerning Canada which will in Blavatsky is a Russian spy. This is not all probability induce many to go to altogether improbable. Should this be that land, and make it their home. her role, she has certainly had every The Marquis in speaking of the religious opportunity of ascertaining the characdenominations says "there are about ter of India's rulers, the nature and condition of her defences, and, above

The excitement over the libert Bill has been continued over the annual because they are so few? If so then it | exodus of government to the Hills. The Viceroy of India receives a princely salary. He has a magnificent palace in Calcutta. Yet he and his government spend the greater part of each year at Simla on the Himalayas. Simla, distant bay, and the N. W. Provinces follow suit; and, although allowed splendid every year on the Hills. The country is thus involved in an enormous additional expenditure; for not only is it compelled to maintain two palaces for each Our corn and potato crops have been governor, but also undertakes to pay his travelling expenses together with those of his suite on this annual flight. This extra expense amounts to some 1,000,-000 Rs. per year. Public opinion says, "We pay you like princes to stay on the plains and rule the country; and we expect you to stay." The demand seems reasonable; and agitation will doubtless result in good.

Lord Ripon, who has become imtion with the Ilbert Bill, is to be superseded in December (rather hastily, it seems,) by Canada's former Governor General, Lord Dufferin. The appointment seems to give universal satisfaction. A feeling of security is growing in the country. And never was a brave heart and a steady hand more needed on the vice regal throne of Her Majes. ty's Indian Empire tnan today. The Russian Bear is prowling on her northern frontier. Complications may arise over the Afghan boundary delimitation They must, therefore, be considered tive press is very hostile and revolution. sopposing every inhabitant of the Congo ary. Internal discontent may at any time burst into open rebellion.

Those good home Christians who pay their ministers but four hundred a year, and a donation, and grumble because foreign missionaries get enough to live upon, deserve to know something about salaries in India. Here everything (except mission work) is done by Government. There are in the Madras Presidency no less than fifteen great governmental departments Even salt is manufactured under direct governmental inspection. These various departments are filled almost wholly with Englishmen. Only recently have na-Since last my name graced your tives been admitted to the better ap green sunsets, Madam Blavatsky with liberal, ranging from Rs. 5000 per month open. agitation over the Ilbert Bill, have come ernment officials is the Covenanted Civil Service. This is not a department Early in the year I met Colonel Olcott It comprises a body of men who have

may be taken as furlough. They do not serve in any one department, but may be appointed at the discretion of government to the Judicial, Financial, Revenue, or other minor departments. Civilians usually commence service as deputy collectors, on Rs. 500 per months and are promoted according to length of service and good conduct to the position of Collectors at a salary of from Rs. 2250 to Rs. 2500 per month. A certain percentage of this salary they pay into a government fund, from which on retiring they receive a life pension of about £1000 per year. Should the husband die, the widow receives a life pension, and the children an allowance until reaching majority or marriage. Civilians are usually well educated, middle class Englishmen, and separated from the glamour of office, are not a whit superior intellectually or socially are the missionary's only English acquaintances and friends. Yet a civilian after, say 11 or 12 year's services, receives a salary of Rs. 1100 per month, the missionary only Rs. 250. Such an official receives every month for travelling allowance alone an amount greater than the missionary's whole income. I'ruly these officials are aptly termed "the heaven-born." Probably in no other country are government officials of the same intellectual and social status so handsomely remunerated as in

The Government also runs an ecclesiastical department—machine it may be called. Its objects is to supply spiritual food to Government servants. Chaplains must be either Episcopal, Roman Catholic, or Presbyterian, they com-

In view of these facts, surely missionaries are not overpaid! Many an East Indian native receives a larger salary than he Not only is his salary insignificant as compared with that of men whom he meets every day, and with whom he frequently associates on terms of equality, but he is wholly without the means of providing for his wife and children in the event of sudden death. The workman is worthy of his hire; and no man earns his pay by harder toil and under conditions more trying to faith than the missionary.

## The Congo Missions.

The London Freeman remarks very correctly: If American and English Baptists put forth all their strength on the Congo, and sustain their missions there with vigour and liberality, the 45,000,000 of souls who are now ignorant of God and the great salvation should in a few years hear and know the joyful sound. Prospects on the Congo brighten.

In an address by Mr. Stanley on the

Congo, given a week or two since he said, when he first saw the River Congo in 1877, there was a population there of 19 Europeans. The total number of Europeens on the Lower Congo at the present time is 163. On the Upper and Lower Congo the total number is 233. The number has so greatly increased. There are 186 mensely unpopular through his connece Europeans, as against 63 Portuguese, and yet both banks of the Congo are claimed by Portugal. Portugal cannot demand customs, trade to the extent of £2,800,000 mouth of the Congo. Traders pay an ad valorem duty of about six per cent. to the natives. He spoke contemptuously of the claims of Portugal. The claims of Portugal to the Congo were not, and never had been recognized by her Majesty's Government. He brought historical proofs to prove that assertion. question. The tone of the Indian na. null and void. He calculated that, basin had one Sunday dress every year, 320,000,000 yards of calico would be required. Proceeding still further with these figures, he found that if two Sunday dresses and four every-day dresses were used in one year, the enormous total of 3,840,000,000 yarls would be required, which, at 2d per yard, would be of the value of £16 000 000 sterling. But this did not exhaust the epormous trade to be developed in this field. He estimated that a trade of £26,000,000 annually could be done in the Congo basin. It was the easiest matter in the world to induce Africans to wear cotton. But it would take them centuries to learn how to make it themselves. No other nation could compete with England in the manufacture of cotton goods, pointments. The salaries paid are very provided they kept that trade free and

Mr. Jacob Bright, M. P., proposed: \_.. That the Chamber of Commerce of Manchester hereby expresses its warm sympathy with the earnest efforts of his Majesty the King of the Belgians to establish civilization and free trade on the Upper Congo. It also trusts that the independent State or States proposed to be founded there may be recognized by all nations, and that the beneficent work now inaugurated may be ultimately extended throughout the whole of that river from its sources to