

fering hearts by turning the flood of grief upon some wheel of practical usefulness. An eminent minister who was under a peculiarly severe trial, said to me, "If I could not study, and preach, and work for others, I should go crazy." The millstones, grinding upon themselves wear themselves to powder; but active, useful occupation is both a tonic and a soothing sedative to a troubled spirit. My friend, I entreat you, don't let your sorrows stagnate; they will turn your heart into a fen of bitter waters from which will sprout the rank rushes of self-will and rebellion against God. Turn your sorrows outward into currents of sympathy, and deeds of kindness to other people and they will become a stream of blessing. A baptism of trial may be your best baptism for Christ's service. Working is better than weeping; and if you work on till the last morning breaks, you will read in that clear light the meaning of many of your sorrows.

Life is sweet, but heaven is sweeter,  
Love complete, but there completer.  
Close beside our wandering ways  
Through dark nights and weary days  
Stand the angels with bright eyes;  
And the glory of the cross  
Falls upon and sanctifies  
All our pain and all our loss.  
Though we slip and sometimes fall,  
God is helping—after all.

#### CHRISTIANITY STANDS.

Christianity may be used as a cloak for ~~several~~ <sup>several</sup> hypocrites of various sorts and degrees may parade under its banner; even real Christians, under the stress of sudden temptation, may stumble and fall, but its bitterest enemies have never been able to point out a genuine flaw in its moral teachings or in the character of its Founder. Whatever its professed followers may be or do, the Christianity of the New Testament offers to the world the purest morality, the highest ideal for personal and social conduct, the loftiest conception of manhood of which the human mind can conceive. Its philosophy of life is personal holiness, civic righteousness, the highest happiness of all men, without regard to social condition or mental attainment. Were its principles universally adopted, earth would be a paradise. Nay, if only those who now profess to be guided by them were living up to the full measure of their obligation, how vast a change would be wrought in the whole aspect of society. Genuine New Testament living would be something of a novelty; but the most obstinate infidel, if possessed of ordinary common sense, would be compelled, after a careful study of the New Testament, to confess that it would be a good thing for the world.—*The Examiner*.

—It will surprise not a few to learn that there are several Presbyterian and Anglican churches in Portugal served by Portuguese pastors. There are also perhaps a dozen young men's and young women's Christian Association in the country—2 in Lisbon, 5 in Oporto, and others elsewhere. There are also places of Protestant worship in various cities—8 in Oporto. These are of various denominations, Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopal, Independent. There are a number of city missions, and each church has a school with a Portuguese school-mistress. Religious liberty was accorded by the constitution in 1842, and the Bible in Portuguese has been widely scattered. The Evangelical Alliance has, however, more than once needed to intervene to protect these churches.

### News of the Churches.

**FIRST DISTRICT.**—I have just closed a series of revival meetings, which lasted nine weeks, with the churches at Ortonville, Arthurette and Rowena. In all three churches the work was greatly blessed, many backsliders were reclaimed and believers were strengthened. At Ortonville four were added to the church by baptism; and eleven were baptized and added to the church at Rowena. In all of these places we feel that others will follow the Master in the near future. I was assisted in the work by Rev. L. A. Fenwick whenever he could get away from his own field, and I found him a very commendable yoke-fellow and true helper. We also had visits from Rev. J. Noble and Lic. J. G. Perry, which encouraged us.

I have decided to remain another year in this field, for I know of no other place where there are greater opportunities of doing good. I trust the year will be blessed by God in the salvation of many precious souls. Brethren pray for us.

T. D. BELL.

**MINISTERS.**—Rev. O. N. Mott moved to Campobello last week.

Rev. J. B. Daggett was in Boston and vicinity a week, including Sunday, 18th inst.

Licentiate Cochrane preached at Frederick Junction and Tracey, Sunday, 18th.

Rev. J. W. Smith of the Nova Scotia Conference, who has been seriously ill, is reported recovering.

Rev. A. W. Currie is to become pastor at Millstream, K. Co. He will move there this week or next.

Rev. Jos. Noble was in Frederickton Saturday en route to the dedication at Geary. He is well.

#### OF OTHER DENOMINATIONS.

—Brussels St. Baptist Church, St. John, has a new pastor, Rev. A. Cohoe, of Ontario.

—Miss Clark, a missionary of the Baptist Women's Missionary Society, was given a farewell in the Leinster St. Church, St. John, last week, on the eve of her return to India. She has already spent some years in the work.

—Last year the contributions of the Methodist Church in Canada to Missions, Home and Foreign, amounted to \$330,347. The *Guardian* expresses the hope that soon half a million dollars shall be the mark aimed at.

—At Middleton, N. S., on the 14th inst., Horace G. Colpitts was ordained to the ministry in the Baptist Church.

—Miss Jennie Robb, a member of St. David's Church, (Presbyterian) St. John, has been sent to Corea as the missionary of that church. A service of farewell was held in the church last week.

—The Baptist Sunday Schools Association of New Brunswick met in Sussex last week.

—A cablegram on the 20th inst. announced the death of Mrs. Harcourt, one of the Canadian Presbyterian missionaries in Central India. Her death was caused by the plague. This is the

second Presbyterian missionary from Canada to die in India within a few weeks.

—Rev. E. H. Roper, who has been superintendent of the Seaman's Mission, St. John, since last fall, has resigned.



#### A VISIT TO NEW BRUNSWICK.

It has been my good fortune to be somewhat connected with our New Brunswick brethren, through their work in India, for some time. Their missionary, the lamented A. B. Boyer, was a prime mover in establishing the Balasore High School, and was ready to open it when he died. So I was, in a sense, his successor, and more recently some of the work supported by the Woman's Missionary Society of their conference has been in my charge. Hence it was a pleasure to be able to attend the annual session of their conference at Millstream, October 3-6.

There was no mistaking the cordiality of their greeting, as soon as the stranger made himself known. And during my stay they extended every possible courtesy. It was a pleasure to see the conference at work, and it might be worth while for some of the brethren this side of the line who drag out an hour or two in doing a little routine business, to slip over there some time and take a few lessons in the prompt despatch of conference work. There were several very interesting discussions, in which the brethren proved themselves past masters of the art of hitting the nail a hard rap on the head, and keeping sweet all the while, even when it was one of their own nails that suffered.

There is a good interest in missions in that conference. The Woman's Missionary Society had a public meeting Monday afternoon. The president's address was a model. Large receipts for the last year were reported, quite an increase over the year before, I believe. Miss Gaunce spoke of the reports she had received about their work in the field. Some new work has been taken on for the next year, and still more is in prospect. The sisters, with a sprinkling of brethren, listened attentively while I endeavored to make plain to them something of our work in India.

In the evening came the reports of the home and foreign mission secretaries, with brief speeches by various brethren. When an audience might be supposed to be tired enough to go home, they were ready to listen most attentively for the better part of another hour to a mission address by the writer. Indeed, I think I never saw people so ready to go to church and to stay there, as were those met in New Brunswick.

It was refreshing to clasp the hands and look in the faces of the loyal children of the King in that conference. I came away a better man, I think, and I expect more interest in the Lord's work in our India field as the result of his blessings upon the thoughts scattered during those pleasant days.—*Rev. G. H. Hamlen, in Morning Star*.



—The *Glasgow Leader* pays the following tribute to the memory of John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist denomination: "As a preacher, a teacher and a writer, John Wesley accomplished a work which not only lasts till this day, but will continue for all time. Such a life is worth remembering. His voice is silent now, but his influence is living still. To-day the Methodist churches of England and America number 43,500 ministers, over 7,000,000 church members, and more than 20,000,000 adherents. The church which he founded, and the whole world will not readily forget the debt they owe to Wesley." Our Methodist brethren did well to give the bicentenary of Methodism a world-wide celebration.

### General Religious News.

—The German Baptists have had one of their best years. Upon the field covered by the German Baptist Union there were 3,715 baptisms, making a net gain of 2,113. The Baptist churches of Europe live largely by emigration, but notwithstanding this, the churches are being planted. The most rapid growth is taking place where it might be least expected, in Austria and Hungary, where there was a gain of 10,419, making the membership of the churches in these countries 9,611, and for the whole union 43,795. In Austria and Hungary the work is limited for want of pastors. In Germany the churches are well supplied with pastors, through the work of their theological school at Hamburg, which this year sends out eleven graduates.

—Rev. Thomas Spurgeon has just completed ten years' service at the Metropolitan Tabernacle, London, England. In 1893 he occupied the Tabernacle pulpit for the first time, and nine months later he was elected to the pastorate. The task to which he came was formidable, consisting as it did of the oversight of a church with such a huge membership, the presidency of the college and its association of more than six hundred ministers, the presidency of the Stockwell Orphanage and the Colportage Association, to which was added at a later stage the editorship of the *Sword and Trowel*. This and other changes rendered the first few years of the new pastorate difficult. In 1898 the Tabernacle was burned down, yet in two and a half years a new building was erected, at a cost of \$225,000. At the end of ten years Pastor Thomas Spurgeon lives in the affections of his people and is respected by a wide circle of Christians in all lands.

—The *Hartford Religious Herald* says, "One of our religious exchanges tells of a certain church possessing a lady who saves the congregation where she worships \$10,000 a year. A woman of wealth and high social culture and position, she makes it her rule and the fashion to dress for church in so plain and inexpensive a manner as to throw the whole social influence of the congregation against extravagance in dress." Would to God there were at least one such wealthy, sensible Christian lady in every congregation in all the land. How much more liberally the cause of missions would be supported. The great curse of the church in these modern times is extravagance in dress and pleasure-seeking on the part of professed Christians.

—In her last report, Mrs. Ballington Booth states that the Volunteers' organization, of which she and her husband are the leaders, has now leagues formed in sixteen state prisons, embracing 14,000 prisoners who are living reformed and subordinate lives within the prison precincts. A correspondence for the moral elevation and benefit of their families is carried on with some 22,000 men. There are two large homes known as "Hope Halls," one leased in Chicago, accommodating sixty men, another owned by the Volunteers in Flushing, which, with the new wing, accommodates eighty men, and is surrounded by ten acres of ground. Thus far over seventy-five per cent of these men have given satisfaction in the places of occupation and trust to which they have been drafted.



In four years Kentucky governors have pardoned 1,131 convicts out of the penitentiary, 120 of them being murderers. No wonder that human life is so cheap in the Bluegrass State.