

SOME EMPIRE FACTS.

Here are some interesting facts and figures about the British Empire:

King Edward VII rules over one continent, 100 peninsulas, 500 promontories, 1,000 lakes, 2,000 islands, 10,000 rivers, 11,371,000 square miles of land, 400,000,000 people. The nation's wealth is estimated at £12,400,000,000. Seventy out of every 100 ships that sail the seas fly the Union Jack. The British Empire is three times as large as Europe, three and a half times as large as the United States, fifty-two times as large as Germany, and embraces about fifty nationalities.

For the last 100 years on an average about two acres of new territory have been added to the empire every time the clock ticked. It is supposed that England has lent to foreign nations about £2,000,000,000. In square mileage of the various countries Russia is second with 8,775,000 square miles; France with 3,821,000; next the United States with 3,501,000; then Germany with 1,229,000; Spain, 603,000; United Italy, 299,000; Austria-Hungary, 264,000.



THE CHURCH'S DUTY.

Observing the fearful influence of the legalized liquor traffic, we have forced upon us the question: Would this state of affairs continue if the church were awake to a true sense of her responsibility and consequent obligation to duty?

The Christian church is living below her privilege in regard to legislative enactments which affect the moral welfare of the citizens. She has too long harkened to the popular voice, saying that the political realm is one in which she could not travel, that the platform and not the pulpit is the agency for reforming evils and bringing about social changes.

If this be true, how greatly did those noble ministers of the gospel err who from their pulpits denounced the awful sin of the American nation—legalized slavery. What has been the result of the church's giving ear to this popular cry? It has been that the grandest opportunities for advancing the best interests of the country have been allowed to pass by unimproved, and upon the statute book of the nation there remains laws which legalize a traffic which is holding in a bondage worse than slavery thousands of the citizens of every land, citizens who through the legalized liquor traffic have had their working force reduced, their physical and social power impaired, and have been changed from wealth producers to parasites on the community.

The church should shake herself free from this false notion, and recognize her responsibility and the consequent obligation. She should arise from a state of indifference and inactivity, which is as displeasing to God as it is detrimental to the best interests of the national welfare.—*The Pioneer*.



A CHURCH DISPUTE.—The following anecdote, clipped from the *Patriotic Advance*, may be read with profit by any who are inclined to contend that theirs is the only true church: "Two men were disputing over their respective churches. One was a Presbyterian and the other was a Baptist. Finally one called a neighbor who was passing and asked him his opinion as to which was the only church in which to be saved. 'Well,' said he, 'my son and I have hauled wheat to the same mill nigh onto forty years. Now, there are two roads that lead from our place to the mill—one's the valley road, t'other takes over the hill. And never yet, friends, has the miller asked me which road I took, but he always asks, 'Is your wheat good?'"

A GREAT WORK TO BE DONE.

Of the great Canadian west, and the Christian work to be done there the *Northwest Baptist* says:

The tide of immigration which last year numbered about 75,000 swelled this year to upwards of 121,000; next year's figure must be larger still. Will it be 200,000? The magnitude of these figures impels every Christian to redoubled exertion that these new settlers may have the gospel preached to them.

In this mighty inrush there are people of many tongues and nations. Men of our own race and country come to us from Eastern Provinces and the Mother Land. Men of our own race are coming in ever greater numbers from the neighboring Republic. Immigrants come from Northern Europe whose severe winters and sterile lands give their inhabitants a hardiness fit to wrestle with difficulties. They come from Central and Southern Europe—from regions where freedom's banner has been sadly trailed in the dust, and men rendered unfit to discharge the duties involving on the citizens of a free country. There are amongst us now 40,000 or 50,000 Galicians, and thousands of Doukhobors, Germans, Scandinavians, Finns, etc. Can anything save the gospel of Jesus Christ unite elements so dissimilar into one nation and train all its children to the duties of free citizenship?



A CURE FOR GRUMBLING.

"Not long ago," writes some one in the *Quiver*, "I went for a walk, feeling rather a martyr, because a new boot hurt me. I had not gone more than 100 yards when I saw a boy in a sort of a box on wheels, who had no feet. On another occasion I felt the most ill-used person in the universe, because a slight accident had disabled my right hand for a day or two. Taking another walk through crowded streets, I met one man with a leg deficient, another without the usual number of arms, a blind woman, a girl with her face terribly disfigured, two deaf and dumb men talking the sign language, an old man with a 'church-yard cough,' two funerals, and a van full of prisoners going to be tried. Having passed these, and then come to a place where I was confronted by a lunatic asylum and a work house, it occurred to me that instead of grumbling, I should be very thankful that I was not as badly off as thousands of more deserving people."



THE R. C. BIBLE.—The *Boston Transcript* says:

The Douay Bible was first published in 1609. It is the standard for English-speaking Catholics. The Bible trade among the 11,000,000 Catholics in America is worth about \$40,000 a year, the number of Bibles sold reaching about 50,000. This is the estimate of the trade. There are a few publishers elsewhere, but practically all of this 50,000 edition is made in Baltimore. In the family Bible trade there is a falling off, only a few country families buying the big books, but smaller Bibles are increasing in their sales. The New Testament sells for 15 cents, and the Bible at \$1. Roman Catholic prayer books, though, sell in enormous numbers. All department stores keep them, and the trade in America alone is said to be worth \$2,500,000 a year. The prices are from 10 cents up.

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- 1 Green Dec. China Tea Set now \$6.60 reduced from \$7.50
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LEMONT & SONS

THESE PRICES ARE STRICTLY CASH.

—The Chinese Sunday-school of the Clarendon Street Baptist church, Boston, organized some fifteen years ago by the late Dr. A. J. Gordon, is still flourishing. Some 55 of the 60 or so regular attendants "are members of the church, and have given an intelligent account of their belief, and of the scriptural ground for it. They receive the simple fundamental gospel truths with readiness, and are remarkably faithful

and consistent in their Christian living. They have organized among themselves a Young Men's Christian Association, and they hold a prayer-meeting of their own on Sunday afternoon, all in Chinese, and comparing favorably with any other young men's prayer-meeting. They have for several years supported a native evangelist in China, and two or three of them have gone to Canton, there to obtain further training in their own dialect, that they may themselves proclaim the gospel to their own people. One of the latter has a chapel in his native village, and is preaching the gospel with good results."



—It is said that the leading churches of Japan have been receiving from ten to twenty-five new members at each communion service, and that the work of the Young Men's Christian Association and kindred organizations is receiving constant encouragement.

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