

AN ODD WILL:—Mr. Josiah F. Twiss, of Hollis,

N. H., a man of eccentric habits, died a few days ago. It was provided in his will that the funeral music should be furnished by a brass band, which should be paid \$40. for its services; that his body should be buried under a clump of Balm of Gilead trees, which he set out a few years ago; that \$20 should be expended for peanuts and candies with which to treat the mourners; that his wife should have half of his property, his six children \$2 each, and that \$1,000 be held in trust forever for the pur-

McNeil, second year students, have also made ex-

THE DOMINION GOVERNMENT, it is said, have called the attention of the Imperial authorities to the advisability of having all the great ports of the

It is also stated that the British war department have cabled the U. P. R. to know if it could transport to British Columbia a quantity of torpedoes and other material for coast defence. The company's answer was to the effect that it was in a position to perform the work.

No DOUBT is left that the dread Asiatic contagion has hibernated in Spain. It has never lingered over into a second summer abroad without invading America. The lessons of previous epidemics ought to be sufficient to teach every household the necessity of precaution. Disinfectants are not costly, and the common instincts of self-defence should overcome the tendency to

**AHEAD**—The boys will have to look sharp. Miss Maggie Newcombe, who graduated this year at Dalhousie College, Halifax, is first-class and prize in political economy, first class and prize in German, and second class in French. Miss New

combe is the first girl graduate from Dalhousie College, and has left most of the boys far in the rear. Miss Antoinette Forbes and Miss Charlotte McNeil, second year students, have also made excellent records.

**OF MINISTERS.**—Two very old ministers died last week in the United States—Dr. Taylor (Presby-

### REVIVAL BRIEFS.

It is estimated that there were 40,000 additions to Methodist and 25,000 to Presbyterian churches in the Western States in the first three months of this year. Extensive revivals are still being

ported in English and American papers. . . . Atlanta Ga., has been blessed with a revival for several weeks past, and special meetings are still in progress in many of the churches. 200 conversions are reported.

---

**SUNDRIES.**

Between wolves and eagles the farmers in the interior of West Virginia have been losing thousands of dollars' worth of sheep and other small stock for weeks past.... A terrible volcanic eruption has occurred in Java, causing great destruction of property and, it is feared, of life.... According to the will of a New Hampshire man, his "dear wife" is to receive \$10,000 in case she remains single eight

weeks after his death....The London Chronicle prints the following as an advertisement: "Wanted. Real genuine homes for two pretty and affectionate cats."

Always discussing plans about how to reach the masses and never reaching them ; complacent, sentimental ; talkative about ideas, plans, theories and never putting them into practice is a delusive pleasant, popular way to miss the masses.

A TRUE SAYING.

(The Christian Advocate.)

One of the reasons for our want of success is that we are too busy talking about it.

dignity of a proverb: "The man who will suffer a private grudge to lead him into a breach of faith is a man not to be trusted by anybody." It may seem harsh, but in many instances it would be the simple truth to apply that to some of the members of the Church who neglect their duty because they do not like their minister, or refuse to pay for the support of the Gospel, or oppose everything which is supported by a person whom they do not like.

UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE.  
(The Methodist Times).  
The employees of a great Sheffield, England, iron foundry—that of Messrs. William Cooke & Co.—lately voluntarily agreed to work for nothing for a week, to assist the firm during the great depression in the iron trade. That is emphatically a Christian strike. When capital and labor hold such relations to each other, these painful and

perilous violent outbursts among laboring men will be at an end. Such an event could not have happened if it had not been preceded by honorable and generous action on the part of the company.

AN OLD SERMON.  
(The Standard.)

"What is an old sermon?" some one shrewdly inquired when on a recent day one of the homiletical classes at Morcan Park was discussing the

of preaching old sermons. Dr. Sage, the instructor, in his apt and ready way, responded in substance that there are some sermons which are always old—old from the start, and others which never grow old. They have the freshness of perennial life in them. Such a discourse was the Sermon on the Mount. Notwithstanding, the principle was insisted upon that the repeating of sermons is in general dangerous, and in the long run detrimental.

BOYS' READING.  
(Canada Presbyterian.)

A Trustee of the Providence Public Library has gathered into a scrapbook the adventures of the boys who read dime novels, and has made it his business to ask the boys, one by one, who are interested in these stories to spend an hour or two in reading, not the imaginative story, but the way in which the small boy has attempted to realize how

to figure out life, and what they ought to be allowed to do. It is said that the dime novel boy usually reads the scrapbook, which is rapidly increasing in size as the fresh exploits of the dime novel adventurers are added to it, about two hours. He then lays it down in disgust, and nothing can induce him to return to those stories again. He asks the person in charge of the reading room for a better class of books.

ALL SORTS.  
[BY PEN AND SCISSORS.]

Japanese desirous of understanding the English language import several thousand copies of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary every year.

Lobsters, says Professor Beclmore, are now taken almost entirely from deep water, and at the present

*"Let a preacher,"* says Phillips Brooks, "once get the idea that every sermon, or that any particular sermon, is to be a great sermon, and he is all

*A member of Parliament recently stated in a dis-establishment meeting at Woolich, Eng., that the total income and real estate of the Church of England, if realized, would yield £200,000,000.*

Hard times are having one good effect, in curtailing the manufacture of whiskey. The distillers are only running 28 per cent. of their capacity, and say the demand for the vile stuff was never so small.

There are now about 88,000 miles of submarine telegraphic cable. And each cable contains an average of 40 strands of wire, over 2,700,000 miles of wire are used in their construction, or ten times

The *Abyssinian* alphabet consists of 208 characters, each of which is written distinctly and separately. The labor required to write an *Abyssinian* book is, therefore, immense, and sometimes years are consumed in the preparation of a single volume.