

THE BIBLE ECHO

VOL. 14, No. 1.

Melbourne, Victoria, January 2, 1899.

ONE PENNY.

THE BIBLE ECHO.

DEVOTED TO

An Exposition of Bible Truth and Signs of the Times.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT NORTH FITZROY VICTORIA.
FOR TERMS SEE LAST PAGE

GREETING.

We have pleasure in presenting to our readers the first number of Volume 14 of the BIBLE ECHO.

Just thirteen years ago the first issue of this paper was published. For about

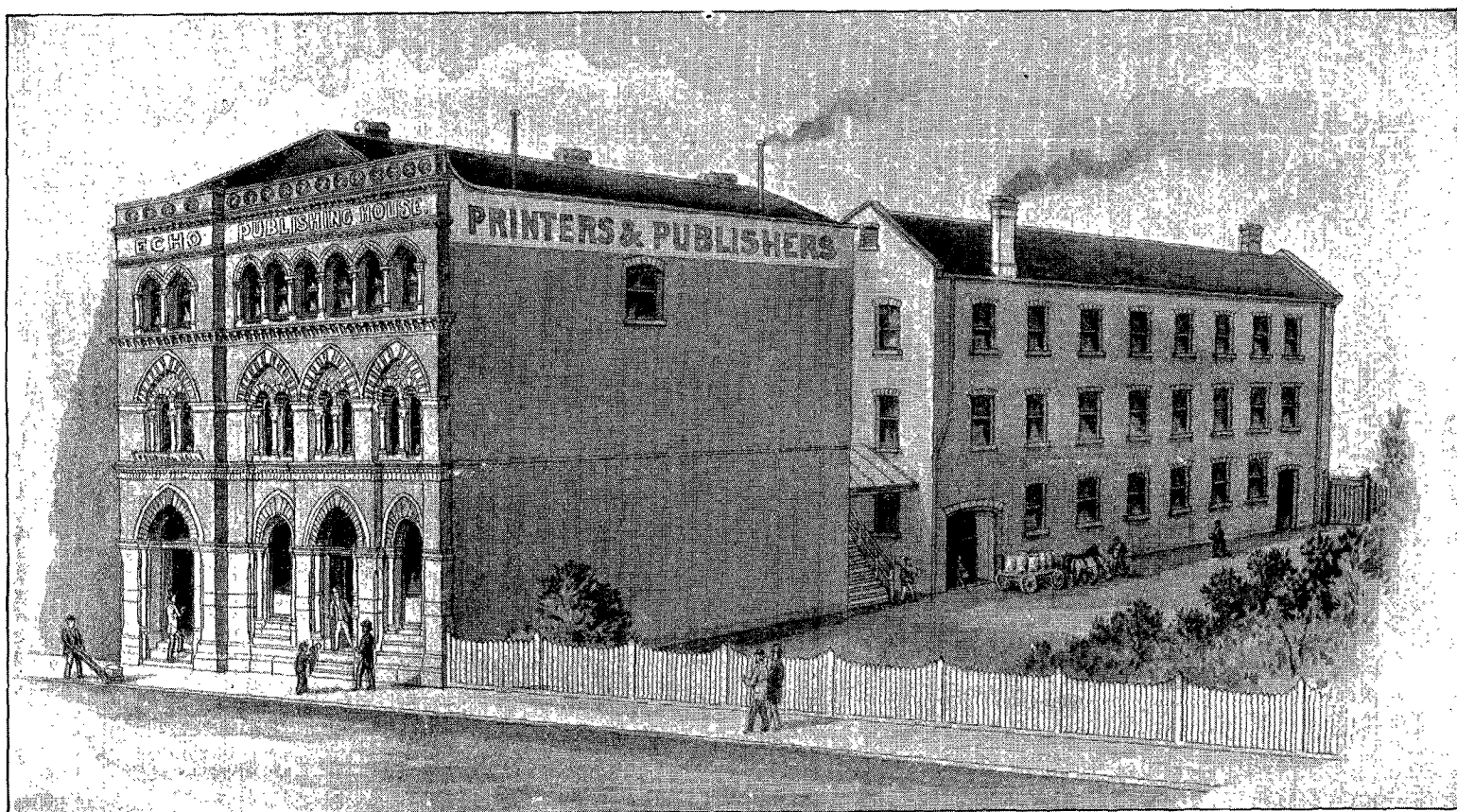
and that would act as a faithful reprove and sentinel, discerning the signs of the times, and heralding the fulfilment of the prophetic Scriptures.

With greater determination, and still more earnest desire to accomplish the above purpose, the publishers now enter upon the fourteenth year of publication.

We trust that those who are waiting for the coming of the Son of man may be cheered and encouraged by the weekly visits of this silent messenger, and that the Father's love and mercy may be so

seeking it for one's self alone; true happiness is always the result of an endeavour to bring joy to others."

Many changes have occurred since the establishment of our office of publication in the latter part of 1885. Some of our readers will remember the old building at the corner of Rae and Scotchmer Streets, North Fitzroy. From this address the BIBLE ECHO was issued till January, 1889. At a meeting of workers and friends, held at this time, it was decided to purchase land and erect a commodious building at our



Registered Office and Factory.

three years it was presented as a 16-page monthly, afterwards as a semi-monthly, and in December, 1893, it was decided to publish weekly, reducing the size to eight pages and the price from threepence to one penny. A largely increased circulation is evidence that the latter change has been much appreciated.

The desire of the publishers has ever been to produce a paper that would faithfully proclaim the everlasting gospel; that would convey words of good cheer and encouragement to the homes of its readers;

faithfully presented, that many who have not yet learned to love our Lord's appearing may look to Him and live.

We cordially extend the old-time greeting. May each of our readers enjoy a "Happy New Year." We would, however, present this salutation as an exhortation rather than as a wish, for true happiness can only be enjoyed when we unselfishly labour in the service of God for the good of humanity. A popular author has truthfully said: "No true joy was ever experienced as the result of

present address, to accommodate the increasing business of the office. Several hundreds of pounds were immediately subscribed for this purpose. In April of the same year the Echo Publishing Company, Ltd., was registered, and shares were rapidly taken up at £1 each, shareholders understanding that no dividends would be paid, but that all profits would be used for the advancement and development of the work of publication.

Since the formation of the Company, its work has grown quite rapidly. When

the first building was erected at the present location, it was thought that one floor of the main building, with the machinery room at the rear, would give sufficient room for the factory, and that the top storey could be used for church purposes. The Federal Hall was thus appropriated for a year or so, and was

The chapel has been set apart by the Company for the use of the employees, and is used for religious and educational purposes. A short service is held with the workers each Monday morning, and classes in Bible, grammar, philosophy, and drawing, are conducted by able instructors each Monday evening. On

Lord Brassey, has favoured the Company with his patronage, and he has repeatedly expressed his satisfaction with the manner in which his various orders have been executed.

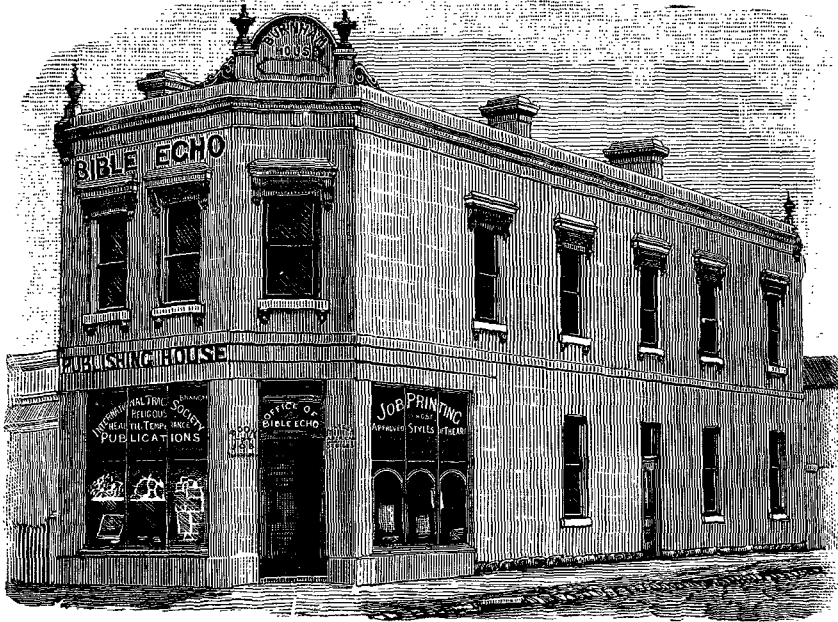
In connection more especially with our commercial interests, a city office has been established at 343 Flinders Lane. This was done with the object of placing ourselves in closer contact with our numerous city customers, and the effort in this direction has proved successful.

Most of the Company's work, however, is of a religious character; and the managers never lose sight of the great purpose for which the office was established and the Company formed. Almost 2,000,000 copies of the BIBLE ECHO have been circulated, and a quarter of a million books and pamphlets produced, also half a million tracts on various vital questions. Our present facilities are perfect for the production of the finest book and periodical work at the shortest notice, and it is confidently expected that the output of the future will far exceed the work of former years.

We gratefully acknowledge God's prospering care and guidance, and ascribe all praise to Him.

HOW THE "BIBLE ECHO" IS PRODUCED.

WE doubt not that our friends will read with interest a short description of the present methods employed in producing our well-known, and, we have



Bible Echo Office of 1886.

frequently let for public meetings. But a portion of the hall was soon required by the Company, and the directors were shortly compelled, not only to convert the Federal Hall into a workroom, but also to add another floor to accommodate the book-binding department. Shortly afterwards a stereotyping foundry was added at the rear of the press-room. These extensive alterations provided ample accommodation for the Company's business for about five years, by which time, at the close of 1897, additions were again rendered compulsory by the still increasing business. So it was decided, in November, 1897, to erect the rear building shown in our illustration, thus almost doubling the floor space of the factory, and by the addition of some fine machinery, largely increasing the Company's facilities. We have now 12,000 feet of floor space, and find that all the room is required. The block of land next to the Company's buildings has also been secured, in case subsequent additions are found to be necessary.

Great care has been taken to so locate the various departments of the work that space may be economised and the work facilitated. The factory proper is located principally in the rear building, the ground floor being occupied by the printing machinery department, the second storey by the type composing department and proof-reading rooms, and the top floor by the bindery and the stereotype and electrotyping foundry. The top floor of the front building is also used by the bindery and folding departments. The business offices are on the ground floor of the main building; the factory chapel, editorial room, and stock department, occupy the second storey.

Thursday evenings the meetings of the Echo Technical Club are held, when matters technical, educational, and entertaining are presented by the employees of each department in turn. These gatherings have proved most beneficial to the Company's workmen.

At the present time the employees of the



Type Composing Department.

Company number seventy-seven, many of whom are men of skill and experience. The work produced by the Company is universally acknowledged to be of first-class quality. Consequently, orders in commercial lines have been executed for many of the leading firms in Victoria, and our business has lately extended to other colonies. The Governor of Victoria,

reason to believe, much appreciated, messenger of truth, the BIBLE ECHO. During the past thirteen years the ECHO has paid regular visits to thousands of homes. We judge that it is a welcome visitor, from the fact that it has so many old friends. Although its development has been rapid, it has certainly been vigorous and healthy; and, knowing that such

progress results from personal interest and recommendation rather than from the efforts of the publishers, we rightly conclude that the BIBLE ECHO has been admitted into the family circles, having won a place in the hearts of the people.

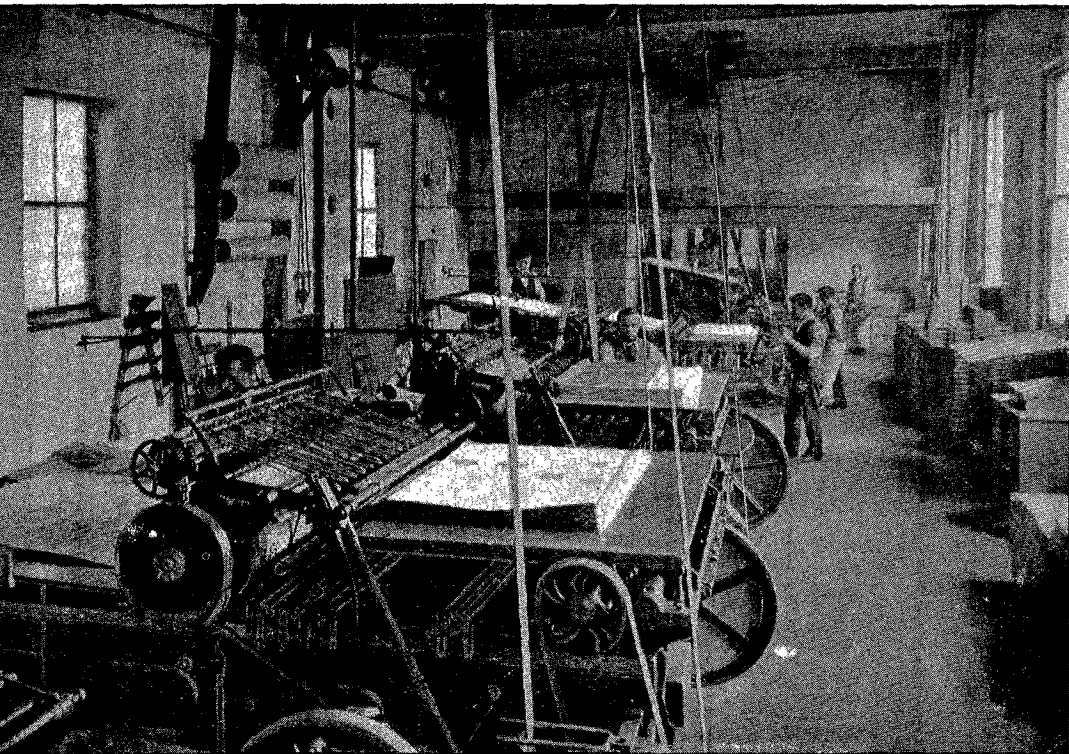
the larger building. A cylinder machine was donated by one friend, and a gas engine by another; a paper cutter and a stitching machine were added, and, with a force of three workmen, including manager and editor, the first issue of the

outside would occasionally drop in, and assist with the type-setting when work was pressing. In one little room, about the size of our present editorial department, the type was set, proofs read, papers folded, stitched, trimmed, and mailed. It was also the manager's room and the counting room, and served as the chapel when the workers met together for devotion.

Under these circumstances, with much earnest consideration and prayer, the first edition of the BIBLE ECHO was published, and for the first three months one person could carry on his arm all the papers to be posted. By that time, however, the list had increased to 400 subscribers, and more workmen were absolutely necessary.

Without particularising the varied experiences of the intervening years, we will invite you to pass with us through some of the departments of our present factory, while we watch the various developments connected with the weekly issue of the BIBLE ECHO.

We will first visit the neatly appointed and pleasant editorial room, where the matter is prepared. Here we find every convenience, including a well-stocked library, numerous piles of religious papers and other magazines. The matter is then passed on to the composing room, an illustration of which is presented to you. This department is located in the rear building, and occupies the whole of the second storey, having a floor space of two thousand feet. It is connected by telephone with all other departments.



Printing Machinery Department.

Hence we know that a short history of its development will be of interest to all our readers.

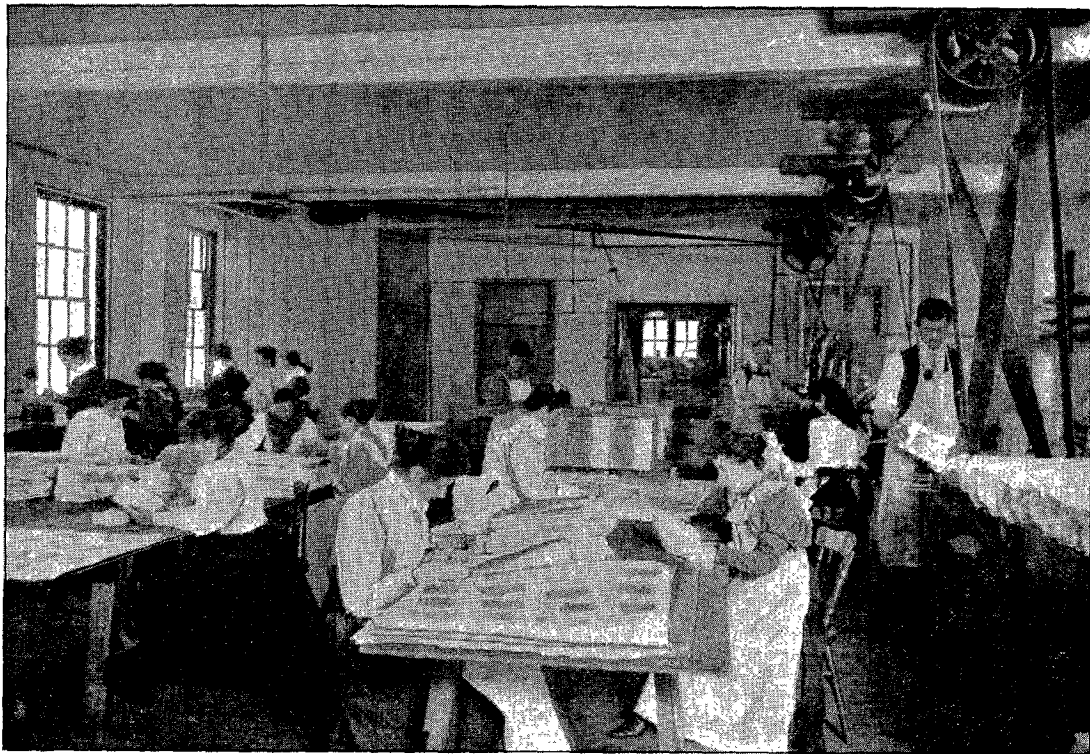
Fourteen years ago the contents of a little back bedroom in Richmond formed the nucleus of the now well-known Echo Publishing Office. The plant consisted of a small treadle machine and a few founts of type. It was thought that this would be sufficient for the requirements of the denomination for a considerable time. In this room Mr. H. Scott both lived and worked. From thence was issued all the local printing required by our workers in Australasia, such as handbills and tent-meeting programmes.

But necessity soon demanded more heroic measures, and in a few weeks' time the little Richmond printing office was entrusted with preliminary announcements regarding the publication of a new colonial paper, the BIBLE ECHO. The treadle machine soon proved too small for the work required, and forms of type were sent to other offices for printing, pending the erection of necessary machinery.

As stated in the foregoing article, premises were engaged at the corner of Rae and Scotchmer Streets, North Fitzroy (see illustration, page 2). This building was considered rather large, but it was decided that two families could occupy the major portion, leaving two rooms for the printing office. It had the additional advantage of having a brick stable at the rear, which, it was thought, would make a good machine room. So, in the latter portion of 1885, more type was procured, and a move was made to

BIBLE ECHO appeared in January, 1886. The publication of this paper required a month's hard work. An issue is now prepared in three days by about twenty-five workmen, and could, with the existing staff, be completed in one day if necessary.

Of course in those times departments



Bindery and Paper Folding Department.

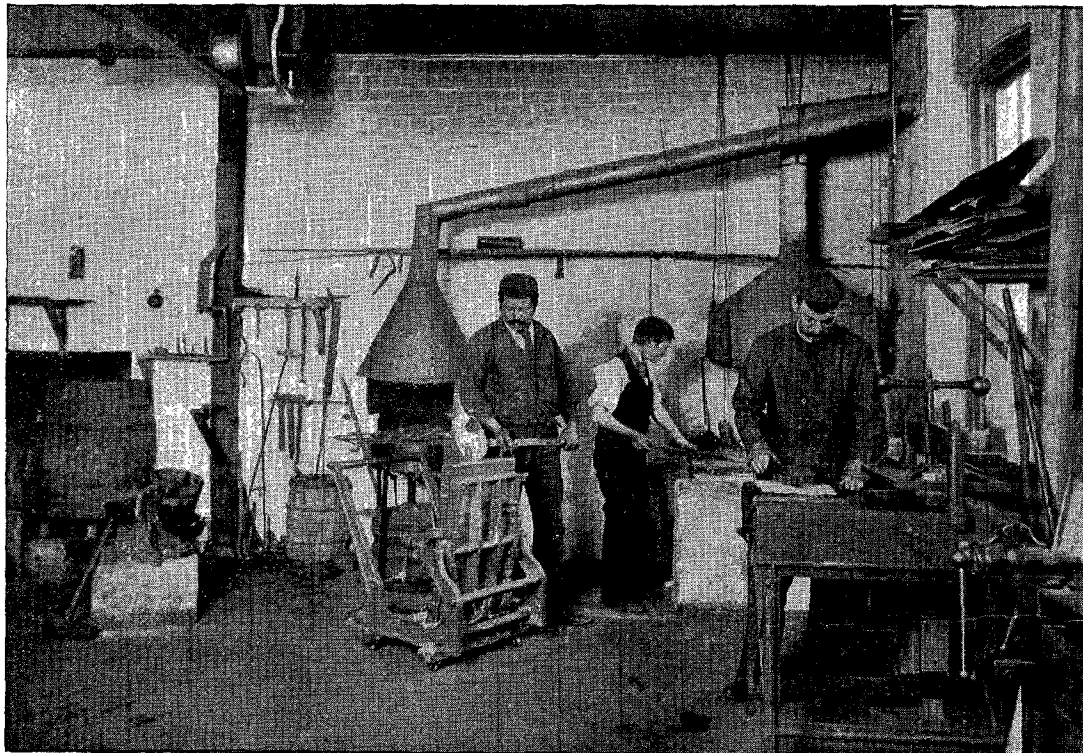
were unknown, and the editor, besides writing the articles, had to assist with the type-setting, read the proofs without a copy-holder, and occasionally help a little with the folding. The manager likewise would set type, make up the pages, lock the forms, print, and help to fold and mail the papers. Printer friends from

The work here is thoroughly organised, facilities are complete, and workmen plentiful. A perfect system of reading and correcting precludes the possibility of serious mistakes. The type is first set, and a proof is printed. It then passes into the hands of the reader and assistant, who carefully compare the proof

with the copy. It is corrected, again proved, and former mistakes checked and revised. If errors yet remain uncorrected, the proof is returned to the compositor for further correction. After all copy is set in type, the matter is made into pages,

stamping, gilding, and marbling operations are performed, each process being of great interest.

The east end of this storey is occupied by the stereotype and electrotype foundry. Although engaged principally in commer-

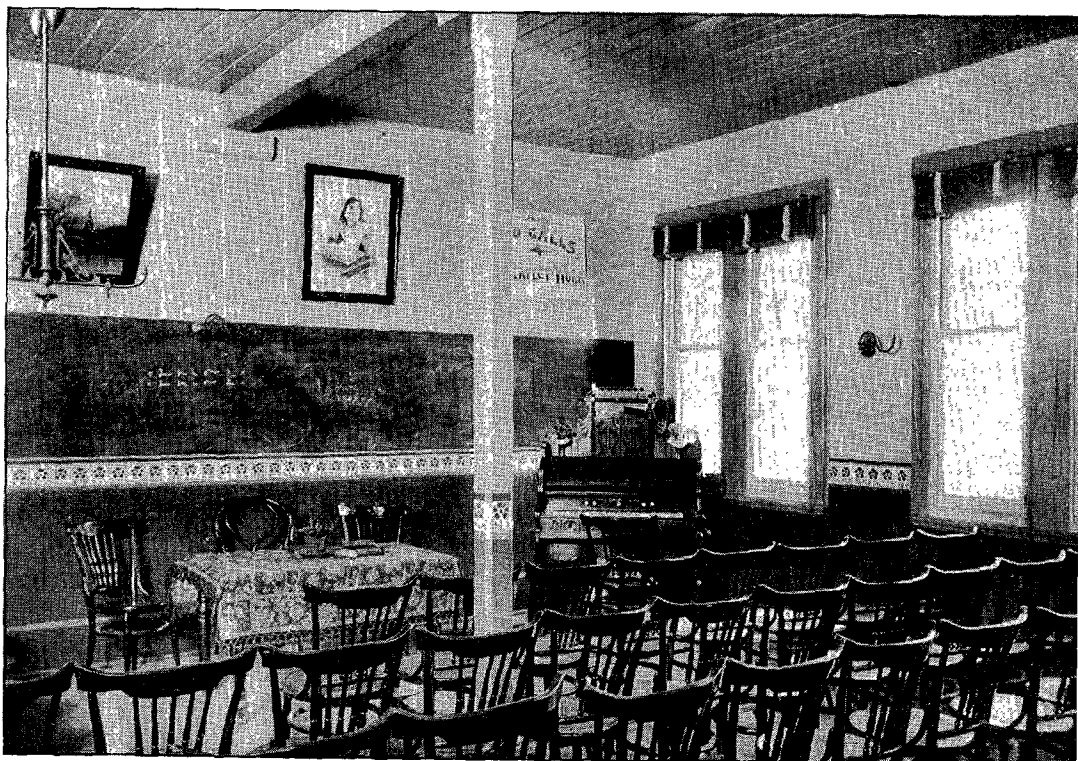


Stereotyping and Electrotyping Foundry.

and placed in proper order on an imposing surface, when it is once more proved, checked, and re-read by both reader and editor, and proofs are handed to the composing room if any errors are detected. The pages are next locked together with proper margins between, and then the form is lowered to the printing machine department, which occupies the whole of the ground floor of the rear building. This department is perhaps the most interesting of all. Two new American presses have just been added, and no expense has been spared to make possible the production of first-class work. By glancing at the engraving it will be seen that five cylinder and three platen machines are engaged. These are the best of their class, and are fitted with all the latest and most approved modern appliances. After the ECHO form is placed on the bed of one of the large machines, another proof is taken which is sent to the reader and editor to be finally checked and initialled. The type form is then made ready, and the edition is printed at the rate of about fifteen hundred per hour. The printed sheets are lifted from the machine to trollies, which are conveyed by the elevator from the machine room to the bindery. This department occupies a portion of the top floor of the same building. Here the papers are folded, stitched, trimmed, and mailed, in an incredibly short time, many hands making labour light. The bindery is a most interesting department, for the careful finishing touches to all of our books and periodicals are here given, and at certain times really beautiful displays of work are to be seen. Here also the gold

cial and book work, an illustration of this department will be of interest to our readers. By the aid of these processes type forms or engravings can be manifolded to an unlimited extent, thus largely increasing the facilities of the Company.

We trust that many of our readers will



The Factory Chapel.

find opportunity to visit the office of publication, and thus become better acquainted with the various methods employed. Again wishing you a Happy New Year, filled with the blessing of the Lord "that maketh rich and addeth no sorrow therewith."—We remain yours faithfully,

PUBLISHERS.

General Articles.

THE OLD BOOK LIVES !

MORE than three thousand years have passed since Moses began to write the Bible, and over eighteen hundred years have gone by since John of Patmos closed the record. During the twelve hundred years that separated these writers, thirty other men joined in the task of writing for that wonderful book. Few of the writers, if any, were acquainted with each other. They lived in different lands and at different times ; wrote in different languages, and under different conditions ; shared in different empires, and governed different kingdoms ; worked at different trades, and wrote with different pens on different kinds of material ; occupied different positions, from the throne to the fisherman's boat ; studied in different schools, under different teachers, and then wrote what they had seen and heard at different times.

It might be expected that a book produced under such varied circumstances and conditions would be somewhat mixed, and, though a curiosity in its way, would exert no vital bearing on the thought of this enlightened age. It is true that Moses began to write that book nearly thirty-five centuries ago, and yet to-day, after the production of untold editions, it has but reached the national boundaries that the unseen Author first intended that it should occupy

Whatever atheists may choose to sav

there is one thing they cannot deny—that old Book lives ! We do not find it living to-day from the fact that it has always been well cared for and thoughtfully handled ! No other book ever traced by human pen has withstood so many assaults, proscribings, and burnings, as the Bible. Sometimes the smoke of the

conflict has for a little time hidden it from sight, but the shattered remains left on the field have taken life and multiplied a thousandfold.

No other book has been translated into so many languages, or given to so many people as the Bible. During the last one hundred years no less than 275,000,000 copies of the Bible have been sent out to the world through the agency of the Bible Societies alone. This would give a Bible for every five inhabitants on the globe.

In addition to this, the Bible can now be read in 381 languages. Fifty-two versions have been printed during the past five years, and one hundred fresh translations were made last year. In thirty different instances languages have been reduced to writing for the first time in connection with the printing of this book.

In 1881, when the Revised Version of the New Testament first came out, the entire volume, from Matthew to Romans, was telegraphed from New York to Chicago—118,000 words, the longest message ever sent over the wires—so as to get it there twenty-four hours sooner than by steam, to print in the Sunday newspapers. When it was printed in England, vessel loads were sent out to other countries, and so great was the demand at home that the streets were blocked with waggons, either waiting for, or taking away, their loads of Bibles to sell. So great was the demand that men sometimes offered £100 to get a copy a few days in advance of its publication.

The most costly book in the world is said to be the missal sent by Pope Leo X. to Henry VIII. of England, at the time when the title "Defender of the Faith" was conferred on that much-married monarch. This volume was sold by auction some years ago, and was purchased by the German Government for £10,000. There is, however, a volume at the Vatican that stands at a much higher price than this. It is a Hebrew Bible, and when, in 1512, the Jewish people of Venice desired to purchase this book, they offered to pay its weight in gold. It was so heavy that the united strength of two men could hardly lift it. The estimate made of its weight in gold amounted to £20,000. Pope Julius was trying to borrow money at the time, yet refused this great sum, and the book still remains at the Vatican. But it claims the distinction of being the most valuable book in the world.

In the days of Wycliffe, 1383, it required ten months of labour to produce a copy of the Bible, and then it would cost about £40. But God has developed His plan, and Bibles are now produced at the rate of two per minute. New Testaments can now be purchased at the price of one penny per copy.

Yes, it is a book that lives! After the storm of centuries and the opposition of ages, its eye is not dim, nor its natural

force abated. In its production printing has reached the highest level. Much of the skill and genius of our century has been employed in perfecting machinery to produce its pages. John Gutenberg invented the plan of printing by movable type, and in 1450 the first book, said to have been a Bible, was printed. It was a Latin Bible, in two volumes, and but eighteen copies of it are known to exist. In 1873 one of these copies sold for £3,400. Since 1450 the printing-press—that tongue of nations and terror of tyrants—has done noble work in the multiplication of this silent messenger from heaven; while Bible and tract societies have proved mighty instrumentalities in sending to all lands and all peoples the written voice of God.

The life of God is in this volume, and man cannot destroy it. Whenever the effort has been made, a thousand has sprung up from its ashes to bless and cheer and enlighten the weary ones of earth. It has been the most despised, and yet the most venerated, of all books. Its history has been the most wonderful of all histories—covering more than three thousand years of opposition and persecutions. Its story the most interesting of all stories, beginning and ending with Paradise.

In the beginning of this book we read of the heaven and earth created; at the end, of the heaven and earth made new. At the beginning, we read of Satan entering to destroy; at the end, we read of Satan himself being destroyed. In the beginning, we read of angels standing with the flaming sword to guard the way of the tree of life; at the end, of angels standing by the gates of the city to welcome those who have the right to the tree of life. God has preserved this book that man might know of His will, and of the Conqueror who has passed from death unto life.

SALARIES OF THE WORLD'S RULERS.

MR. HAROLD MACFARLANE, in a London contemporary, notes what a number of countries pay annually to their rulers, and how those salaries compare with one another:—

"Marked in plain figures, the Czar enjoys an income of £1,800,000; the substance of the shadow annually amounts to £1,250,000; the Emperor of Austria draws a yearly cheque of £900,000; while he of Germany pockets £700,000. The King of Italy receives £580,000, and is said to invest his savings out of that country; the Shah of Persia wants £20,000 to bring his income up to £500,000; Her Majesty the Queen receives £385,000; the Kings of Belgium and Sweden, £132,000 and £115,000 respectively; the Queen of the Netherlands, £60,000; the King of Greece, £52,000; M. Faure, £49,000; Mr. M'Kinley, £10,000; and

the President of the Swiss Republic no less than £50 a month."

It is pointed out that the £12,000 for incidental, and the £12,000 for travelling, expenses that "la belle France" allows her President are counted in with his salary; but for those additions M. Faure's columns would be very little higher than President M'Kinley's.—*Selected.*

A NEW YEAR'S HYMN.

ETERNAL God, the purple morning breaketh,
And with its dawning comes another year.
We humbly pray Thee to Thy keeping take us,
Then we shall front the future without fear.

Shine on our minds, Thou Day-star in Thy splendour,
Fill Thou our hearts with joy and love and light,
From souls sin-darkened chase away the shadows
That now enshroud us in a dreary night.

Nerve us, Great Spirit, with Thy strength from heaven,
That we may daily keep an onward course;
And as our life springs ever to its fountain,
All men may see the beauty of its source.

O God of goodness and of grace unbounded,
Who in Thy love Thy Son to us did'st give,
Look down in mercy from Thy throne upon us,
And in Thy light teach us each year to live.

So shall we grow in strength, and love, and knowledge,
And firmly hold upon our upward way;
So shall our path be as the light of morning,
That shineth more and more to perfect day.

—Canon Bell.

LET HIM TRY.

SOME years ago, it is said, an insane man in a New England town (U.S.A.) once rose from his seat in the midst of a large assembly, and seizing with a great deal of energy one of the pillars that sustained the galleries of the church, declared aloud that he was going to pull it down. Had another Samson suddenly appeared on the scene and declared himself ready to bow between the pillars of another of Dagon's temples, there could hardly have been a greater consternation. If the people had but stopped to consider, their good sense, as well as their confidence in the architect of the edifice, would have assured them of the man's utter impotence to execute his threat. But amid outcries and faintings and general confusion they yielded to the most foolish fears. Nor did they recover their self-possession and quietly resume their seats until another man, significantly pointing to the large and strong pillar which had been threatened, calmly said, "Let him try; let him try."

This proposition restored order and confidence at once; the house did not fall, and the services went on. And so, to compare great things with small; when men instantly threaten to pull down the pillars that the skill of the Divine Architect has reared, and holds up, we are too easily moved with alarm, and too slow to consider the strength of the structure. When God pleases He can indeed make "the pillars of heaven to tremble, and to be astonished at His reproof." But so long as it is a feeble mortal who undertakes to shake them, our confidence in the Omnipotent Ruler would do well to quietly

"let him try." This seems to be the very object of that assurance of God to the trembling inhabitants of the earth in a time of great fear: "The earth and all the inhabitants thereof are dissolved;" that is, melted with fear, trembling with dark forebodings; but "I bear up the pillars of it."

The sceptic, the scoffer, the blasphemer, or the persecutor, boasts of his power, and threatens to overturn Christianity, explode religion, confute the Bible, and introduce a new order of things. We have heard of such threats before. Let him try. Let everything that can be shaken, shake, and everything that can be overthrown, tumble; something has hitherto survived such assaults; God's work will be left after the devil has done his worst. If a man thinks to bombard Gibraltar with boiled potatoes, "let him try!" One, who knew man in his weakness and his strength, has said, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but My words shall not pass away."—*The Christian*.

AN AGE OF WONDERS.

"Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased."—*Daniel*.

Most of our readers are no doubt familiar with many of the wonderful inventions that have come crowding into the closing years of this century. This is pre-eminently an age of invention and travel. If all the steam-boats and railway trains could be stopped to-night, and a census taken of their living freight, there would be found enough to populate a nation; and if we could enumerate all the inventions of the past thirty years, the mind would become bewildered under the mere recital.

Machines are now made which will take a shaving off a hair, or slice up steel like an apple, and others that will drill holes invisible to the naked eye; registers that will measure the ten-thousandth part of an inch; screw-cutters that will turn out perfect screws so small that, on white paper, they appear like tiny dots.

Printing-presses are constructed that will unroll a bale of paper, print, cut, and fold it at the rate of 96,000 newspapers per hour. Railway trains are made to travel at the rate of 111 miles in 98 minutes. Steam-boats are built to plough the waves at the rate of 36 miles per hour. More than 3,000,000 miles of telegraph wires stretch over the earth and under the sea. If connected, this wire would wind 120 times round the earth, or reach twelve times to the moon. Messages are sent along these wires at the rate of 600 words per minute. The latest development in the way of conveying messages is by means of an instrument called the telegraph. Instead of transmitting the message as by ordinary telegraph, it is written out in either long or short-hand, and it is then instantly photographed, in its entirety, by wire to the place of its destination.

The paper that forms our books and makes learning so cheap and abundant, is made from rags, straw, forest trees, and many other substances. The speed with which a tree may be converted into paper can be seen by a demonstration recently made at a paper manufactory in Delaware, U.S.A. A tree growing near the mill was felled at 7.45 in the morning. It was then carried to the factory, split up, ground into pulp, and finished paper was sent out from the machine at 9.44—just one minute less than two hours from the time the tree was cut down.

Four-fifths of the steam engines now employed in the world have been constructed within the last twenty-five years, and the power generated by these machines represents the work of 1,000,000,000 of men. The employment of steam has trebled man's working power, thus enabling him to economise strength, and allowing him time for intellectual development.

The astronomer goes to his telescope, and, sweeping the heavens, describes 100,000,000 blazing suns. Each of these is but the centre of a solar system like our own. The nearest of these stellar worlds is 19,000,000,000 of miles away, while light from stars of the 13th magnitude will only reach our earth after a journey of 2,700 years. While the telescope plunges into the unmeasured heights beyond, and reveals the magnitude of God's work above, the microscope bends down to take cognisance of the teeming forms of life, so minute that four thousand of them can be placed upon the point of a needle!

The rusty sickle with which our forefathers used to gather

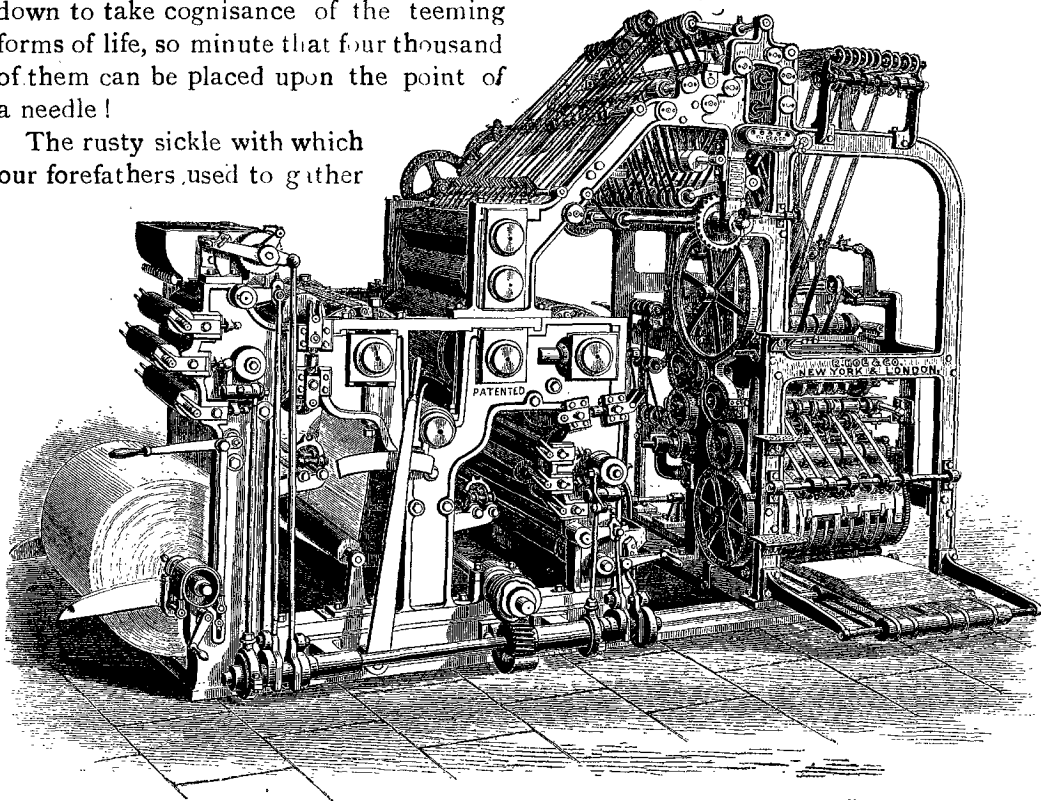
forces of nature, and man has made the lightning his messenger, while the power of the cataract is employed to illuminate cities, drive tram cars, and warm human habitations.

But has the thoughtful reader ever inquired why has all this development and intensity been woven into the past few years? Has there been a divine hand



Press of One Hundred Years Ago.

behind it all, and a divine purpose worked in the revelation? It is even so! God designed to send His gospel of the kingdom to all nations, and under this plan the printing-press is invented, and Bibles multiplied by the million. Then the steam-boat and the railway trains are prepared to carry the books to all parts of the earth. Signs of the times develop, and the telegraph is employed to acquaint other nations



Modern Printing-Press.

their harvest has given place to machines—apparently intelligent in their movements—that can cut, gather, bind, and thrash out the golden grain.

During the past few years over 2,000,000 bicycles have been made in Europe and America. Every month 145,000,000 passengers are carried to and fro in the ceaseless hurry of the railway cars.

Truly, this is an age of wonders! Intensity has taken hold upon all the

with these heralds of the coming King.

But what does it all mean? Intensity has taken hold upon heaven above and earth below, so that the message of that coming King may be given to all. This is the time of the end! We stand amid the blaze of a century's triumphs, but we also stand face to face with the solemn warnings of an approaching end. Who will turn aside to walk with God in preparation for His Son from heaven?

TWELVE THOUSAND MILLION NEWS-PAPERS A YEAR.

HORACE GREELEY, in the *New York Tribune*, once said: "In the education of the intellect, mankind has made great strides since the birth of this century. Whether we regard the number taught or the knowledge imparted, the progress made has been marvellous."

Gutenberg did more for the world in this direction than any other single man, when, in 1430, he invented type and the printing-press. Probably none would marvel more than Gutenberg, were it possible for him to see the perfection and utility of the printing machine to-day.

Before the invention of the printing-press, the first thing in the way of a newspaper—if such it may be called—was the *Acta Diurna* of Rome, posted publicly in the city from the time of Julius Cæsar to the fall of the empire in 476.

In 1447 small, printed sheets were issued in Germany and Venice, in which last city the events of public interest, written and termed *Notizie Scritte*, were shown for the price of a "Gazetta," a small coin from which the name Gazette is derived.

The first newspaper was printed in Venice in 1556, in England in 1662, and in the United States in Boston in 1690. France boasts of having the largest circulation of any single paper in the world; it is the *Petit Journal*, printed in Paris, and has the immense circulation of 950,000. The *London Telegraph* comes next, with a circulation of 650,000. The world's newspapers reach the immense total of 47,000. Out of this number 17,760 are printed in the United States and Canada.

The following extract from a London paper on this subject is interesting:—

"The annual aggregate circulation of the papers of the world is calculated to be 12,000,000,000 copies. To grasp any idea of this number, we may state that they would cover no fewer than 10,450 square miles of surface; they are printed on 781,250 tons of paper; and, further, that if the number, 12,000,000,000, represented instead of copies, seconds, it would take over 333 years for them to elapse. In lieu of this arrangement, we might pile them vertically to gradually reach the magnificent altitude of 490, or, in round numbers, 500 miles, thus topping our highest mountains, and even the highest Alps. Calculating that the average man spends five minutes reading his paper in the day (this is a very low estimate), we find that the people of the world altogether annually occupy time equivalent to 100,000 years reading the papers."

Before the second advent, Jehovah has designed that the everlasting gospel shall be preached to "every nation, kindred, tongue, and people." To the last generation, especially, a warning message must be sent. With the means of communication and transit employed a century ago, this could not be accomplished in the time required. But God's word must be fulfilled. It shall not return unto Him void, but shall accomplish that whereunto it is sent. Isa. 55: 11.

In Daniel 12: 4 we read that in the time of the end "many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased." That time has come, and the increased knowledge

and facilities for travel will glorify God in providing ways and means whereby His gospel shall be carried to every nation and people. At this present time there are in China, Japan, Persia, Hindostan, Turkey, Africa, Madagascar, Greenland, and the islands of the sea, no less than 31,000 Christian workers. These have all been gathered and sent out during the latter part of this century. William Carey, the first missionary, went out to India in 1794, just a little over one hundred years ago.

It is now but a little more than ninety years since the first religious newspaper—*The Herald of Gospel Liberty*—was published by Elias Smith, at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, on Sept. 1, 1808. Since that time thousands and millions of tons of religious literature have been sent out to the world. In the United States alone 1,187 distinct religious journals are issued.

Christ said, "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world, for a witness unto all nations, and then shall the end come." May the Lord hasten that glad day.

T. H. CRADDOCK.

STILL, STILL WITH THEE.

STILL, still with Thee, when purple morning breaketh,
When the bird waketh, and the shadows flee;
Fairer than the morning, lovelier than the daylight,
Dawns the sweet consciousness, I am with Thee!

Alone with Thee, amid the mystic shadows,
The solemn hush of nature newly born,—
Alone with Thee, in breathless adoration,
In the calm dew and freshness of the morn.

When sinks the soul, subdued by toil, to slumber,
Its closing eye looks up to Thee in prayer;
Sweet the repose beneath Thy wings o'er shading,
But sweeter still to wake and find Thee there.

So shall it be at last, in that bright morning
When the soul waketh, and life's shadows flee;
O, in that hour, fairer than daylight dawning,
Shall rise the glorious thought, I am with Thee!

—Harriet Beecher Stowe.

TRIAL AND ITS OBJECT.

WHAT is temptation?—It is the means by which those who claim to be the children of God are tested and tried. We read that God tempted Abraham, that He tempted the children of Israel. This means that He permitted circumstances to occur to test their faith, and lead them to look to Him for help. God permits temptation to come to His people to-day that they may realise that He is their Helper. If they draw nigh to Him when they are tempted, He strengthens them to meet the temptation. But if they yield to the enemy, neglecting to place themselves close to their Almighty Helper, they are overcome. They thus separate themselves from God, and give evidence that they do not desire to walk in God's way.

Thus the Lord determines character. Thus He decides whether we are obedient or disobedient. He does not do this for His own enlightenment; for He reads all things as an open book. He does it that

the secret motives of men's hearts may be manifest, that the erring one may see his danger, and that others may become intelligent in regard to the ways and works of God as contrasted with the ways and works of the enemy.

Temptations will pour in upon us; for by them we are to be tried during our probation. This is the proving of God, the revelation of our own hearts. There is no sin in having temptation; but sin comes in when we yield to that temptation.

When Jesus was led into the wilderness to be tempted, He was led by the Spirit of God. By going into the wilderness He did not invite temptation. But Satan knew that the Saviour had gone there, and he thought it the best time to approach Him.

Christ went to the wilderness to be alone, to contemplate His mission and work. He had taken the steps which every sinner must take in repentance, conversion, and baptism. He Himself had no sins of which to repent, and therefore He had no sins to wash away. But He was our example in all things, and therefore must do that which He would have us do. Christ fasted and prayed, bracing Himself for the blood-stained path which He must travel. He was the Son of the Eternal God, but as man's surety, He must meet and resist every temptation with which man is assailed.

When Christ had fasted for forty days, the enemy came tempting Him to make bread of the stones. Christ knew that He would be assailed upon appetite, for it was upon this point that Adam and Eve had failed. But with the terrible weight of the sins of the world upon Him, He stood the fearful test upon appetite, upon the love of the world, and upon that love of display that leads to presumption. He endured these temptations, and overcame in man's behalf, working out for him a righteous character, because He knew that man could not do this for himself.

The world's Redeemer, the second Adam, by His suffering and death, worked out a redemption for the human race. He was tempted in all points like as we are. He knew that the enemy would come to every human being, to take advantage of hereditary weaknesses, and to ensnare, by his false insinuations, all whose hope and trust is not in Christ. By passing over the ground which man must travel, by showing that, through the divine power granted him, man can overcome every form of temptation, Christ prepared the way for us to gain the victory.

If Satan can persuade people to follow a course that is contrary to the principles underlying and running through every enactment of God's law, he has a chance to work upon their minds. One venturesome step in deceptive practices, under the direction of Satan, leads to a second

wrong step. Those who follow this course depart from God. The poisonous malaria of worldly principles is so disguised by the enemy that the actors become willing to work in lines which are contrary to the will of God. They make use of the world's artifices in order to gain an advantage over their neighbours. This creates a train of thought which separates the soul from the Spirit of God. The mind becomes more and more infatuated, and the power to overcome temptation is lost. The tendencies thus cultivated are transmitted to the offspring, as Adam's disobedience was transmitted to the human family.

Christ came to our world as man's surety, preparing the way for him to gain the victory by giving moral power. It is not Christ's will that man shall be placed at any disadvantage. He would not have those who are striving to overcome intimidated and discouraged by the crafty assaults of the serpent. "Be of good cheer," He says, "I have overcome the world."

With such a General to lead us on to victory, we may indeed have joy and courage. He came as our champion. He takes cognizance of the battle that all who are at enmity with Satan must fight. He lays before His followers a plan of the battle, pointing out its peculiarities and severity, warning them not to join His army without first counting the cost. He tells them that the vast confederacy of evil is arrayed against them, and shows them that they are fighting for an invisible world, and that His army is not composed merely of human agencies. His soldiers are co-workers with heavenly intelligences, and One higher than angels is in the ranks; for the Holy Spirit, Christ's representative, is there.

Then Christ summons every decided follower, every true soldier, to fight for Him, assuring them that there is deliverance for all who will obey the divine orders. If Christ's soldiers look faithfully to their Captain, success will attend their warfare against the enemy. No matter how they may be beset, in the end they will be triumphant. Their infirmities may be many, their sins great, their ignorance seemingly insurmountable, but if they realise their weakness, and look to Christ for aid, He will be their efficiency. He is ever ready to enlighten their darkness and overcome their sinfulness. If they avail themselves of His power, their characters will be transformed; they will be surrounded with an atmosphere of light and holiness. Through His merits and imparted power they will be "more than conquerors." Supernatural help will be given them, enabling them in their weakness to do the deeds of Omnipotence.

Those who fight for Christ are fighting in the sight of the heavenly universe, and they should be soldiers, not cowards. Those who truly desire to serve God will not follow their own wisdom, or the wish

of the arch-deceiver, who is playing the game of life for their souls. By faith they are to look calmly upon every foe, exclaiming, "We fight the good fight of faith, under the command of an omnipotent power. Because He lives we shall live also. Through Jesus, who is the Author and Finisher of our faith, we may withstand all the fiery darts of the enemy."

Abraham certified his obedience to God when, with Isaac by his side, he journeyed on his way, in response to the command, "Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of." Job was permitted to suffer; he was severely tempted; but he would not speak one word against God. During Christ's life on earth the scribes and Pharisees, instigated by Satan, tempted Him in every possible way. But He never allowed these temptations to lead Him from the path of obedience. When God speaks, let us obey, no matter how the enemy may tempt us; for the path of obedience is the only path of safety.

MRS. E. G. WHITE.

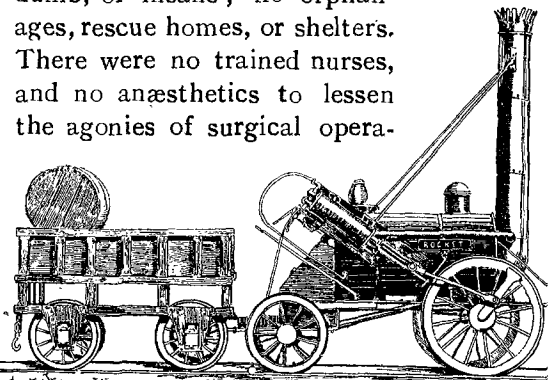
PROGRESS OF THE CENTURY.

LIFE in 1898 stands in startling contrast with life in 1798. All the existing conditions—state, social, political, religious, educational, commercial as well as international—are vastly different to-day to what they were one hundred years ago.

The ocean power of Napoleon had just then been broken in the battle of the Nile, and the taking of the Pope prisoner by General Berthier had abolished the

scolding women; whipping posts and stocks were to be seen everywhere, and the pillory was frequently occupied. The insane were treated as criminals, and regularly exhibited to the public to be teased and pelted by such as chose to pay a fee of twopence for the "amusement."

At the beginning of this century there were no institutions for the blind, deaf, dumb, or insane; no orphanages, rescue homes, or shelters. There were no trained nurses, and no anæsthetics to lessen the agonies of surgical opera-

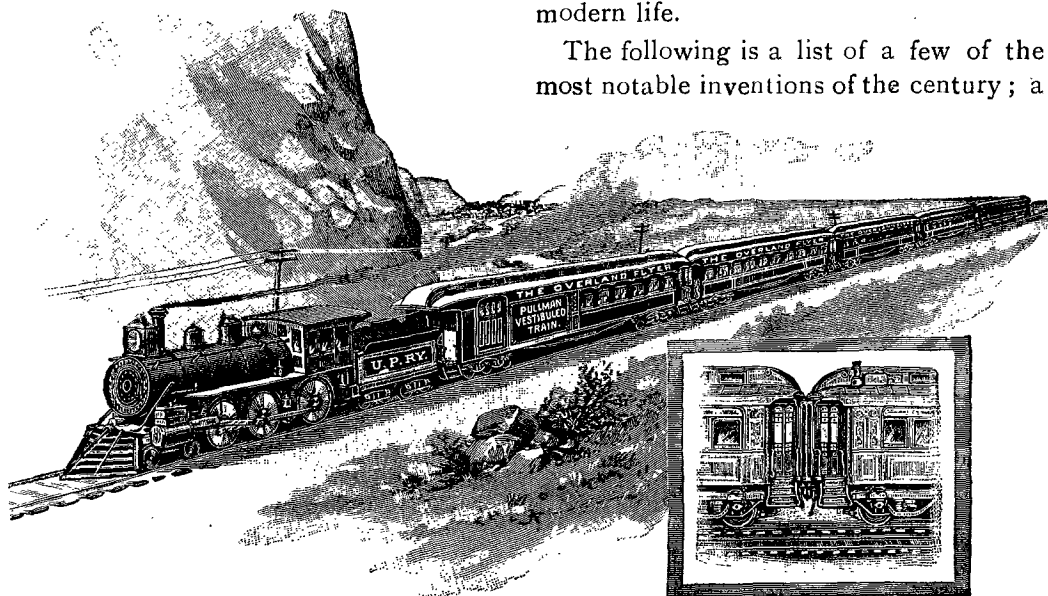


"The Rocket" Locomotive of 1829.

tions. Sanitary science was unheard of; germs had not been discovered; fifty per cent. of the population of the cities were pitted by small-pox.

Scientific farming was unknown. Wooden ploughs drawn by yoked oxen broke the soil, and winnowing, reaping, and threshing machinery had not been invented. A hundred years ago, hours of labour were often double those of the present day; wages were low, and holidays rare; labour-saving machinery was as yet barely dreamt of. There were no matches, no kerosene lamps, no electric lights; gas was used as an illuminant only in mines. There were no sewing machines, bicycles, trams, trains, telephones, steamships, post offices, or any of the thousand and one necessities of modern life.

The following is a list of a few of the most notable inventions of the century; a



Express Train of 1898.

temporal power of the Papacy, inflicting the deadly wound foretold by the Seer of Patmos.

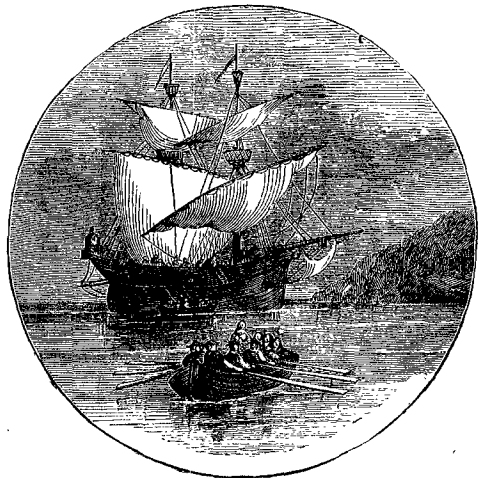
The slave trade was yet flourishing in the West Indies. Roman Catholics and Jews were not permitted to vote or hold office, and voting by ballot was unknown. There was no police force; criminals were hanged, drawn, or quartered in public squares; there was a public brand for

complete category could not be printed in many ECHOES.

1800, the Voltaic electric current; 1801, Symington's steam-boat patent; 1802, Wedgewood and Davy's photographic process; 1818, macadamisation of roads introduced; 1826, kerosene lamps first used; 1829, matches invented; 1830, omnibuses first used; 1831, chloroform discovered by Soubeiran; 1832, Morse's

electric telegraph invented; 1834, coal first used as fuel; 1838, first transatlantic steamer trip; 1846, sewing machine invented by Elias Howe; 1847, chloroform first used as an anæsthetic; 1866, first cable laid between Europe and America; 1877, phonograph and telephone invented; 1881, bicycle invented.

To the reader of history, unenlightened by the word of God, so marked and



The "Mayflower."

sudden an increase of knowledge is unaccountable. But to the student of Daniel, of Nahum, of the Revelation, and other prophetic portions of the Holy Scriptures, it is a striking confirmation of the truths of the Bible, and a sign that the world has reached the period designated therein as the "time of the end." This is where we now stand. The Judge is even at the door. The greatest question of the age is, "Are we ready for His coming?"

SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS DEVELOPMENT.

In the social and religious spheres the contrasts between the opening and closing years of the century are no less remarkable than those just referred to.

A hundred years ago there were no strikes, no conflicts between labour and capital, no socialists, and little trade competition. Land booms, and fraudulent houses erected by speculating building societies, had no existence. Meat was seldom used by the working classes, and tea-drinking was considered "the bane of good housewifery, and the source of idleness." There were no temperance societies, charitable associations, nor any of the many devices now existing, to enable the masses to be reached by Christian workers.

Yet, there is much that might be said in favour of those days. Human wants were less numerous, life was less rapid, honest toil less despised; more respect was shown to the aged, truthfulness and honour were less lightly sold.

Under the labours of the Wesleys and Whitefield, the religious fervour of the people had been mightily stirred, and the line between the believer and the worldling was well defined. Mighty revivals were in progress, and intense zeal marked the work of preachers. But while the Spirit of God was moving upon some who

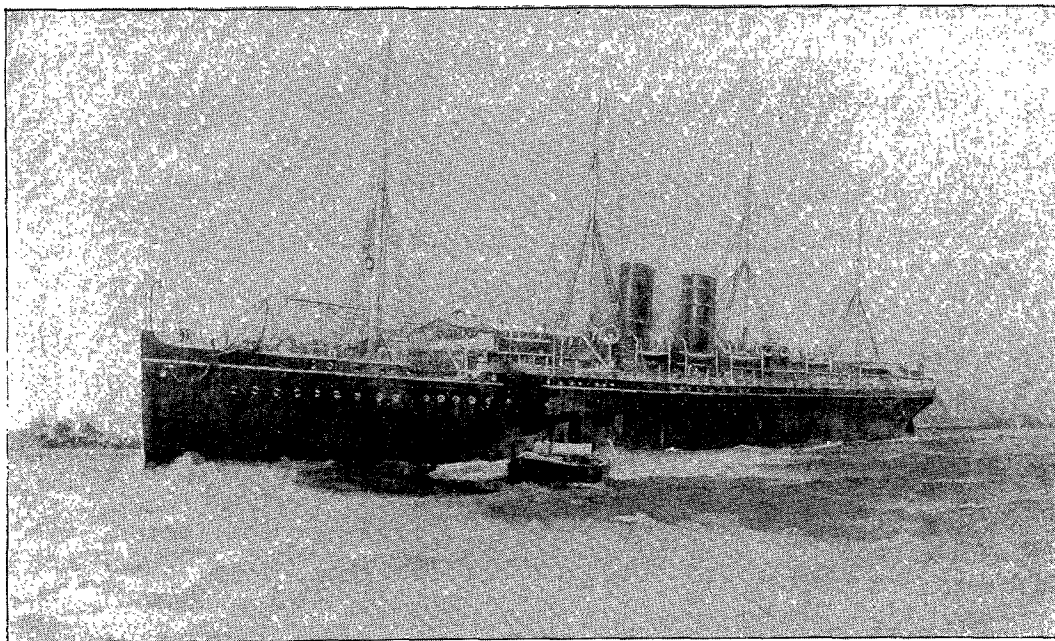
were willing to obey the gracious call, satanic agencies were also at work preparing the deadly delusions that were soon to arise. In 1820 Joseph Smith, of Palmyra, New York, U.S.A., pretended to receive a commission from Heaven to become the apostle of a new faith. The dogmas of this new religion he published a few years later in the book of Mormon. Before long, polygamy was added to this creed, and in 1844 Joseph Smith was assassinated by an infuriated mob of anti-polygamists. Several parties seceded at this time from the main body, one of which, calling themselves the Reorganised Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, followed Smith's son and repudiated polygamy. The great point, however, of the Mormon belief, upon which the whole superstructure rests, is the dogma of the conscious state of the dead. At their head-quarters, Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A., they have erected a superb temple, said to have cost £1,000,000, where marriages, and baptisms for the dead are performed in order to release souls from limbo, and it is the height of Mormon ambition, in this world, to thus assist in the salvation of their dead friends. At present Mormonism claims to have 400,000 adherents.

In 1848 mysterious rappings were heard by a family named Fox in Hydesville, U.S.A. These rappings were stated to be caused by spirits who, in this manner, wished to communicate with men. From this occurrence modern Spiritualism has developed into a world-wide belief, count-

great attempt to revive Roman Catholic doctrines and practices within the Church of England. This ritualistic movement has been numerically successful. Like Mormonism and Spiritualism, and most other latter day errors, Ritualism is built upon belief in natural immortality. The great features of its teachings are the adoration of dead saints and prayers for the departed.

The year 1876 saw the birth of another, and, perhaps, the most extraordinary delusion of modern days. Madame Blavatsky, a Russian lady who had long been a Spiritualist, spent five years in the Himalaya Mountain region, where she affirmed that a brotherhood of Occultists resided, who possessed infinite knowledge and the true faith. She was sent out to the world from them to reinstate the principles of paganism, and revive the sun worship of ancient days, under the name of Esoteric Buddhism or Theosophy, a term meaning the wisdom of God. The first Theosophic Society was founded in New York, whence it has spread over the world. After the death of Madame Blavatsky, Mrs Besant, the once famous infidel lectress, became the high priestess of Theosophy. This is a modified form of Spiritualism, adding to its belief in the conscious state of the dead the Mormon and Pagan idea of pre-existence, and the Hindoo doctrine of re-incarnation.

The same year that saw the founding of Theosophy witnessed the starting of a kindred delusion known as Christian Science. This is another modified form



"Caledonia" (P. & O. S.S. Co.)

ing among its adherents such names as those of Professors Crooks and Wallace, W. T. Stead, editor of the *Review of Reviews*, several crowned heads, and millions of all classes of the people, most of whom repudiate the atonement, reject the Bible, and deny the force of the moral law.

In 1861, Dr. Pusey and others, including the late Cardinal Newman, issued a series of "Tracts for the Times" at Oxford. This was the beginning of a

of Spiritualism. The founder of this cult was Mrs. Mary B. G. Eddy, of Massachusetts, U. S. A. Its chief dogma is that material existence is a delusion, illness only a mistaken idea, and that the panacea for all ills is to believe that there are none. Strange to say this folly has an immense following, especially in America.

Beside these, a host of minor sects have arisen during the century, holding equally strange doctrines. Within the Christian church also a multitude of sects

and organisations have appeared, such as the W. C. T. U. founded in 1874 by twenty American ladies; the Salvation Army, founded in 1865 by William Booth; the Y. M. C. A., in 1844 by Sir W. Williams, and the Disciples, in 1812 by Alexander Campbell.

Undoubtedly, however, the most notable religious movement of this century has been that which, beginning with the preaching of William Miller in America, and Joseph Wolff in Europe, between 1833 and 1844, spread in a few years all over the world, proclaiming the approach of the second advent. It is known as the Advent Movement. William Miller was an American farmer (afterwards a Baptist minister), who had become convinced that the cleansing of the sanctuary, predicted in Daniel 8 and 9, the time for the fulfilment of which was generally admitted as beyond doubt to be the year 1844, was to be simultaneous with the second coming of the Saviour to the earth for His people. Never since the days of Pentecost had there been such a demonstration of the power of the Spirit of God as attended the advent preaching. When, however, the date of the expected advent passed, and it was seen that

Miller's prediction as to the appearing of Christ at that time was an error, the disappointment of his followers was intense. The whole doctrine was generally discredited. Some individuals, nevertheless, certain that the Lord's hand had been in the movement, while rejecting the time setting error, were convinced that otherwise Miller's teachings were sound, and sought from their Bibles more light. Truth after truth was unfolded as they searched. They soon began the observance of the Bible Sabbath and to teach other views now held by Seventh-day Adventists. The commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, as set forth in the Bible, constitute the creed of this people.

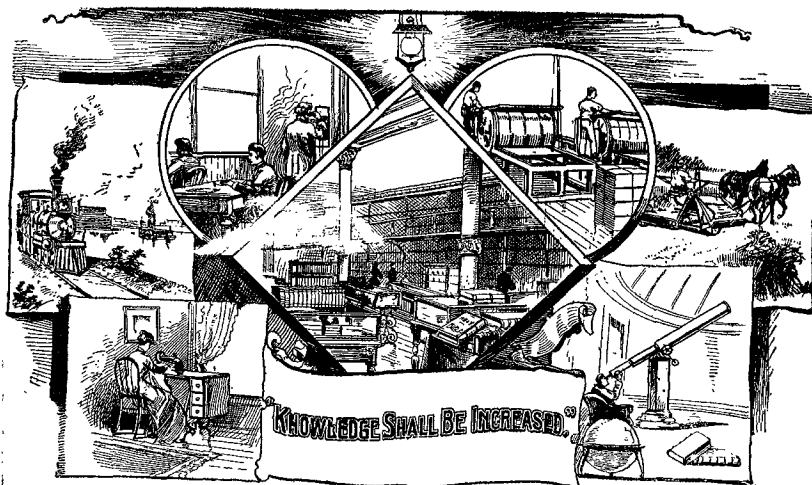
The century toward whose close we are rapidly approaching has been indeed an age of progress, an age in which intensity is characteristic of everything good or evil. But amidst its change, its hurry, its mighty transformations, the word of God has remained unchanged, the Christian's hope is still the sheet-anchor of the soul, the voice of Jesus still pleads with men to be saved, and the promises of God still point beyond this vale of tears to a better and brighter land where happiness shall be eternal, and faith be lost in sight. BEN ASHER.

A TRIP ON THE "SOKOL."

THE FASTEST VESSEL IN THE WORLD.

It is scarcely too much to say that naval experts of all countries have lately been regarding with interest the performance of the little vessel which in a few days will leave the Thames for St. Petersburg. On the morning that a small party of naval men and journalists accepted the invitation of Messrs. Yarrow for a trip on "the fastest vessel in the world," the wind was mild and gusty, and all were prepared for a rough time.

The Russian torpedo destroyer, *Sokol*, was fuming and snorting in mid stream, anxious to be off, and a curious craft she looked. At first sight the *Sokol* appeared to be no larger than an up river launch, and even when alongside, her dimensions struck one as being small, possibly owing to the fact that attention was mainly directed to the four heavy funnels, which



Some Modern Inventions.

appeared to be the predominating feature of the vessel. But the *Sokol* was not built for a yacht or a pleasure boat, but for a "flyer," and a flyer she undoubtedly is. Before we were all able to seat ourselves comfortably on the forms which had been lashed to various parts of the ship's deck, Gravesend had disappeared from view, and we were rushing past steamer and barges toward the mouth of the Thames. The screw went whirling round, making a perfect sea in its wake. A sensation of pins and needles in one's feet became evident as the little ship vibrated from stem to stern. Big steamers and small crafts, that a moment or two before appeared almost as specks on the horizon, were passed and left behind. Those in exposed parts of the vessel were almost blinded with spray, and only the throbbing of the engines and the rushing of the water were to be heard as we went over the measured mile. On, on, on, the little craft went, rushing like a mad thing through the seething water, black with the reflection of the heavy clouds overhead, until after a while the vibration ceased, and the whirl of the machinery became less marked.

The more nervous of us began again to breathe freely, and, leaving our positions of safety, cautiously crept along the

slippery steel deck to the conning tower, where stood one of the engineers, watch in hand. He smiled with a superior air when asked if the ship had been going at full speed. "No," he said, "I am afraid you would all be wet through if we let her go. Why, we have only been doing 26½ knots under half-inch pressure, and if we wished we could run her at 32 knots." —*St. James's Budget*.

AS THE STARS FOREVER.

"And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness, as the stars forever and ever." Dan. 12: 3.

THE margin of this text reads "teachers" in place of "wise." And they that be teachers shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; that is, of course, those who teach the truth, and lead others to a knowledge of it, just previous to the time of Christ's second coming. And, as the world estimates profit and loss, it costs something to be teachers of the truth in these days. It costs reputation, ease, comfort, and often property; it may involve labours, crosses, sacrifices, loss of friendship, ridicule, and, not unfrequently, persecution. And the question is often asked, How can you afford it? How can you afford to keep the Sabbath, and perhaps lose a situation, reduce your income, or, it may be, even hazard your means of support? Oh, blind, deluded, sordid question! Oh, what shortsightedness, to make obedience to what God requires a matter of pecuniary consideration! How unlike is this to the noble martyrs, who loved not their lives unto the death! No; the affording is all on the other side. When God commands, we cannot afford to disobey. And if we are asked, How can you afford to keep the Sabbath, and do other duties involved in rendering obedience to the truth? we have only to ask in reply, How can you afford *not* to do it? And in the coming day, when those who have sought to save their lives shall lose them, and those who have been willing to hazard all for the sake of truth and its divine Lord shall receive the glorious reward promised in the text, and be raised up to shine as the firmament, and as the imperishable stars forever and ever, it will then be seen who has been wise, and who, on the contrary, has made the choice of blindness and folly. The wicked and worldly now look upon Christians as fools and madmen, and congratulate themselves upon their superior shrewdness in shunning what they call their folly, and avoiding their losses. We need make no response; for those who now render this decision will soon themselves reverse it, and that with terrible, though unavailing, earnestness.

Meanwhile, it is the Christian's privilege to revel in the consolations of this

marvellous promise. A conception of its magnitude can be gathered only from the stellar worlds themselves. What are these stars, in the likeness of which the teachers of righteousness are to shine forever and ever? How much of brightness, and majesty, and length of days, is involved in this comparison?

The sun of our own solar system is one of these stars. If we compare it with this globe upon which we live, we find it an orb of no small magnitude and magnificence. Our earth is 8,000 miles in diameter; but the sun's diameter is 885,680 miles. In size it is one and a half million times larger than our globe; and in the matter of its substance, it would balance three hundred and fifty-two thousand worlds like ours. What immensity is this!

Yet this is far from being the largest or the brightest of the orbs which drive their shining chariots in myriads through the heavens. Far away in the depths of space, so far that they appear like mere points of light, blaze other orbs of vaster size and greater glory. The nearest fixed star, Alpha Centauri, in the southern hemisphere, is found, by the accuracy and efficiency of modern instruments, to be nineteen thousand millions of miles away; but the pole-star system is fifteen times as remote, or two hundred and eighty-five thousand millions of miles; and it shines with a lustre equal to that of eighty-six of our suns. Others are still larger, as, for instance, Vega, which emits the light of three hundred and forty-four of our suns; Capella, four hundred and thirty; Arcturus, five hundred and sixteen; and so on, till at last we reach the great star Alcyone, in the constellation of the Pleiades, which floods the celestial spaces with a brilliancy twelve thousand times that of the ponderous orb which lights and controls our solar system! Why, then, does it not appear more luminous to us?—Ah! its distance is twenty-five million diameters of the earth's orbit; and the latter is one hundred and ninety millions of miles! Figures are weak to express such distances. It will be sufficient to say that its glowing light must traverse space as light only travels,—192,000 miles a second,—for a period of more than seven hundred years, before it reaches this distant world of ours!

Some of these monarchs of the skies rule singly, like our own sun. Some are double; that is, what appears to us like one star is found to consist of two stars—two suns with their retinue of planets, revolving around each other; others are triple; some are quadruple and one, at least, is sextuple.

Besides this, they show all the colours of the rainbow. Some systems are white, some blue, some red, some yellow, some green; and this means different-coloured days for the planets of those systems.

Castor gives his planets green days. The double pole-star gives his yellow. In some, the different suns belonging to the same system are variously coloured. Says Dr. Burr, in his *Ecce Cælum*, p. 136: "And, as if to make that Southern Cross the fairest object in all the heavens, we find in it a group of more than a hundred variously-coloured red, green, blue, and bluish-green suns, so closely thronged together as to appear in a powerful telescope like a superb bouquet, or piece of fancy jewellery."

And what of the age of these glorious bodies? A few years pass away, and all things earthly gather the mould of age and the odour of decay. How much in this world has perished entirely! But the stars shine on as fresh as in the beginning. Centuries and cycles have gone by, kingdoms have arisen and slowly passed away; we go back beyond the dim and shadowy horizon of history, go back even to the earliest moment introduced by revelation, when order was evoked from chaos, and the morning stars sang together, and the sons of God shouted for joy—even then the stars were on their stately marches, and how long before this we know not; for astronomers tell us of nebulae lying on the farthest outposts of telescopic vision, whose light in its never-ceasing flight would consume five million of years in reaching this planet. So ancient are these stellar orbs. Yet their brightness is not dimmed, nor their force abated. The dew of youth still seems fresh upon them. No broken outline shows the foothold of decay; no faltering motion reveals the decrepitude of age. Of all things visible, these stand next to the Ancient of days; and their undiminished glory is a prophecy of eternity.

And thus shall they who turn many to righteousness shine in a glory that shall bring joy even to the heart of the Redeemer; and thus shall their years roll on forever and forever. **URIAH SMITH.**

STONES CRYING OUT.

CHRIST told the Pharisees that if His disciples were to hold their peace the stones would cry out in witness to the prophecy uttered more than five hundred years before. This presents the simple fact that if the watchmen, to whom God has given voice, fail in proclaiming His message, and the fulfilment of His word, stone-witnesses will be raised up to speak to the willing heart of that which God has determined.

How often, and how truly, this has been worked out in the past. Egypt was the oppressor of kingdoms, but the prophet uttered a message of spoil and ruin that would make her the basest of all the kingdoms. *Eze. 29: 14, 15.*

Years went by, but the sands of the desert found their way into the kingly palaces and marble hall of Memphis, and finally hid its glory for ever. **Ruin spread**

its pall of sackcloth over the land of the Pharaohs, until all nations have gone to gaze at the remnants of her departed glory. The curious foot of the traveller now tramples on an empire's dust.

Egypt was the land of obelisks. These were towering shafts of stone, some reaching the height of 106 feet, and on their polished sides were engraved hieroglyphic legends of Egypt's greatness. But where are these silent witnesses now?—Twenty-five of them have been taken to Europe. The largest now stands before the basilica of St. John at Rome. Another rises from the Thames embankment in London, and another stands in the Central Park of New York, America. Others are to be found in Paris, Constantinople, and various parts of Europe.

But what are these stones doing there? They belonged to the land of the Pharaohs, and chronicled the glory of that kingdom! They now stand as silent witnesses before the nations—stones crying out in mighty eloquence—that the doom pronounced by prophetic lips on that great kingdom has come to pass. The word has been fulfilled, and these stone-witnesses have been sent to the different nations to tell their mighty multitudes that the glory has departed, and that the word of our God stands more firmly than even the rock pyramids of Egypt.

After a sleep of nearly 3000 years under the rubbish of one of the ruined cities of the East, the Moabite stone has also been called up to speak before the nations. This tablet bears an inscription of over 1,000 letters, and dates back to 890, B.C.—the oldest inscription known in which letters are employed. It speaks of Solomon, Omri, Ahab, Samaria, Jehovah, the God of Israel, and Chemosh, god of the Moabites. Without doing violence to the record, the history from this stone might be added to the Second Book of Kings, where it would explain the cause of Moab's rebellion against Israel after the death of Ahab. *2 Kings: 1, 1.*

But what of the value of this Moabite stone? It is one of the stones crying out in vindication of the truth of God. Many geologists and athiests have set aside Old Testament history as an unreliable romance. But, lo! a witness rises, and, shaking itself from the dust, speaks, to the nations and kingdoms, of men that existed 3,000 years ago, just as the Bible states they did.

During some Assyrian explorations a library has lately been found belonging to one of the early kings of Ur, in Chaldea. This library was composed of burnt bricks, of which more than 20,000 have been recovered, all catalogued and numbered—some on history, poetry, astronomy, and arithmetic; and others on religion and politics. Among them is the creation tablets, giving a history of the world from creation down to one thousand years after the flood. They tell of God, of

Eden, of the Sabbath as being the seventh day, of the deluge, and many other facts recorded in the sacred history.

These stones are crying out, and with their aged testimony they silence the unbelieving cavilers who would endeavour to gainsay what God has spoken.

Many other witnesses have been found, telling of Noah, Jonah, Babylon, the confusion of tongues, and other features of Bible history that have long been doubted and misunderstood. Other witnesses will yet be called from their slumbers, to bear irresistible testimony with their stone-voices to the living word of a living God.

THE lilies of the field had charms for Him
Whose human eyes looked out upon the world.
His power divine created, and therein
Set His own thoughts of tenderness and grace,
That we might read, and know Him, as in books,
Music, or pictures, uttered thoughts we read,
And know the thinker. But what thoughts are His,
Who made these living gems, these forms of grace,
These daily miracles of growth and life;
Life out of Death;—Beauty from buried dust;
Change infinite, and sweetness without end!

M. S. Wright.

THE HOPE OF ALL AGES.

THE prophets all tuned their harps to the key of the second advent.

Enoch, the first man to whom the Lord entrusted the spirit of prophecy, describes Christ as coming with "ten thousand of His saints," or, in other words, "with His myriads of holy angels." Jude 1: 14.

Job, the old patriarch of Uz, longed for a pen of iron that he might inscribe this hope in the rock forever, "I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth." Job 19: 25.

David, the shepherd king of Israel, sung of the time when God would come to gather His people, "Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence. . . . Gather My saints together unto Me, those that have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice." Ps. 50: 3-5.

Isaiah, the Old Testament evangelist, writes of a people who will be waiting for their Deliverer, and, looking up, they will say, "Lo, this is our God; we have waited for Him, and He will save us: this is the Lord; we have waited for Him, we will be glad and rejoice in His salvation." Isa. 25: 9.

Jeremiah, the weeping prophet, pictures in weird language the awful result of that coming. The earth is to lose its beauty, and the heavens their light; the fruitful place is to be turned into a wilderness, and all the cities are to be broken down "at the presence of the Lord." Jer. 4: 23-27.

Ezekiel, the man of many visions, prophesied of the removal from Israel of the diadem and the crown, "I will overturn, overturn, overturn it; and it shall be no more, until He come whose right it is, and I will give it Him." Eze. 21: 27.

Daniel, the man greatly beloved, tells of the time when Christ shall take

the sceptre, "There was given Him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, . . . and His kingdom that which shall not be destroyed." Dan. 7: 14.

Time would fail to tell of all the prophets have spoken concerning this greatest of all events. It is even as Peter said after the wonders of Pentecost, "Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel, and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days"—days of the Son of man. The hope and inspiration linked with His

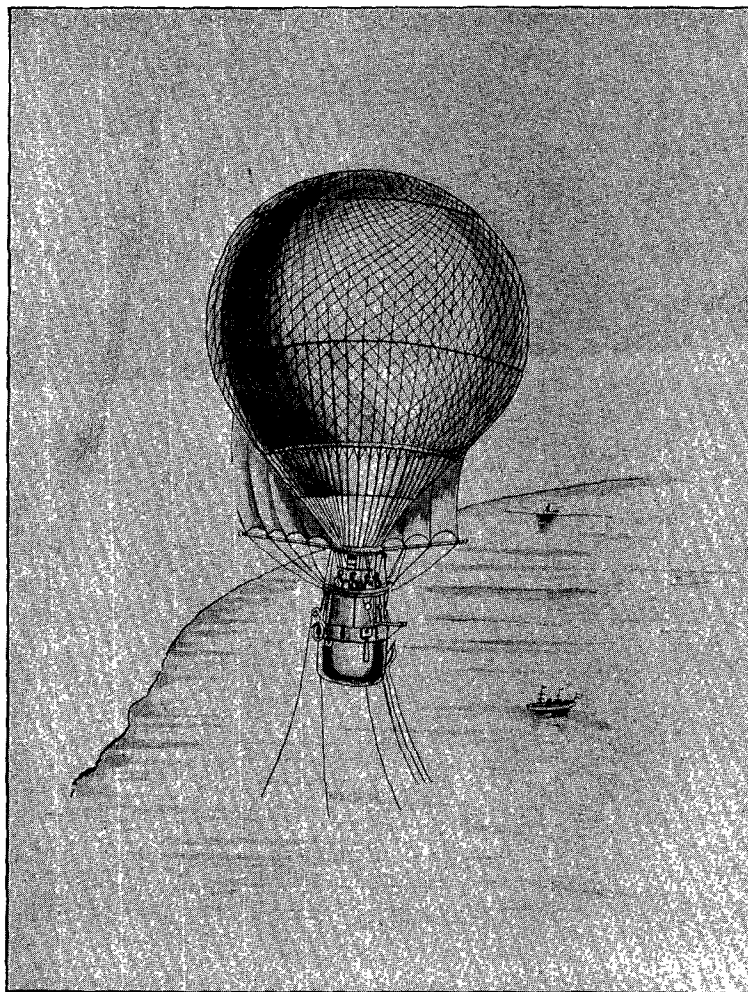
straight up at a perpendicular rate of 1,000 feet in a minute for 10,000 feet, when an air current bore it in a south-easterly direction. When the balloon was 18,000 feet high it took a south-westerly direction. When we were over the Isle of Dogs we saw a magnificent panorama. The English Channel lay at our feet. Ships were little black dots. The coast of France was distinctly visible, and the vast expanse of the North Sea touched the horizon.

"At 25,000 feet we had a decided feeling of dizziness. Breathing became difficult. I was about to remark to Professor Berson that I felt a peculiar sensation,

when he called:—
"Spencer, oxygen, oxygen!"

"That was the signal arranged for the inhaling of compressed oxygen, which had been taken along in a tube. I seized the respirator and inhaled the oxygen, and so did Professor Berson. The result was marvellous. We felt new life, and could attend to the sandbags and the manipulation of the balloon as well as if on the ground. Professor Berson was very pale, and he told me that I was too.

"We continued to soar upward, but there was no appreciable difference in the rarity of the atmosphere. When at a higher



A Modern Air-Ship.

appearing forms the key-note of all the prophetic writings.

Paul wrote of it as creation's prayer and the Christian's hope. James points to it as the time when all wrongs shall be set right. Peter refers to it as the revelation of His Majesty. Let us link our hopes and our prayers with those of the prophets, and, as the years go by, thus wait for His Son from heaven.

MORE THAN FIVE MILES UP IN A BALLOON.

Two aeronauts, Professor Berson, of Berlin, and Mr. Spencer, an Englishman, recently made a remarkable balloon ascent from London. The balloon, filled with hydrogen, reached a height of 27,500 feet—more than five miles. Complete scientific apparatus was taken, and some valuable observations were made. In describing the ascent, Mr. Spencer said:—

"When the balloon was let go it shot

altitude, I was curious to ascertain the effect of the atmosphere, and removed the respirator.

"In about a quarter of a minute I felt the same feeling of giddiness creeping over me. Then Professor Berson called again: 'Spencer, oxygen!' I inhaled the oxygen, and had the same sensation as before.

"At 27,500 feet the thermometer showed 29 degrees below zero. We felt limp and weak. We shivered and trembled, although wrapped in lots of flannel. The sky was an intense blue. The sun was so dazzling that we dared not look at it.

"We made the descent at terrific speed in the upper altitudes. When the ballast bags were thrown out to steady the balloon, the sand scattered in the air and played around the fittings of our car. It was only when we were within 10,000 feet of the earth, and in a warmer atmosphere, that the balloon began to descend steadily. We alighted gently in a field of stubble."—*The Voice*.

From the Field.

SPEED ON, OH YEARS!

SPEED ON, oh years, speed on!
Take wings and fly away!
Haste on, oh haste! My soul desires
The dawn of endless day.

Beyond the shores of Time,
Where death marks all that's fair,
I see the gleam of deathless bowers
In Paradise appear.

Faith looks beyond this life,
Beyond earth's dusty graves,
Beyond the judgment and the night,
Beyond the stormy waves.

It sees a radiant sky,
Illumed by advent light!
And hears the resurrection call,
Echoed by angels bright.

Wide swing the pearly gates,
Hark! countless myriads raise
A peal of glorious, holy joy,
A shout of tuneful praise.

Earth, what are all thy joys!
Ambition, what thy prize!
My heart, my hopes are in that home
Beyond the vaulted skies.

Speed on, oh years, speed on!
Old year and new, away!
Come, oh my Saviour, come, and bring
The bright eternal day

—BEN ASHER.

SUMMED UP.

It is estimated that the human family living on the earth to-day consists of about 1,450,000,000 individuals. These are distributed all over the world, but so unevenly as to be worthy of remark.

Asia contains 800,000,000 people, or two-thirds of the human race; but it is not the most densely populated, having only forty-six to the square mile. That, however, is pretty dense when compared with America with its 100,000,000, and only six and a half to the square mile.

Still, Europe carries off the palm for crowding. Three hundred and thirty millions on her 3,892,234 square miles gives an average of eighty-four to the square mile. The continent of Africa harbours 210,000,000, an average of seventeen to the square mile; while Australasia brings up the rear with an average of only one human being to the square mile.

Of the world's peoples, about 500,000,000 are well clothed and live in houses furnished with the appointments of civilisation; 700,000,000 are half clothed and live in huts, tents, and caves—that is to say, are half civilised—and the remaining 250,000,000 wear next to no clothing, and have nothing that can be called a home.

It only remains to add that the relative proportion of white, black, and mixed races are five, three, and seven, and there is the world in a nut-shell.—*Cassell's Journal*.

THE CHINESE WOMAN.

SUICIDE among the young married women of China is so excessively frequent that it is scarcely a matter of remark. When the young wife is discovered, and rescued from her suicidal attempts, she often meets the pitiful reproach from her mother, "Why didn't you die when you had a chance?" Perhaps the daughter-in-law lives on till the day when she, too, may become a mother-in-law, her sons having grown up and brought

home their wives; and thenceforth, in the increasing household of children and grandchildren, her will is supreme. But have the sorrows and hardships allotted her by the unkindness and cruelty of her husband's mother softened and fitted her to mitigate the mental and physical sufferings of her daughters-in-law?—How unvarying the law, that the human heart does to others as it has been done by.

Now, as best you can, picture to yourself our Chinese sister as she really is, or as circumstances make her. During the long months before her birth, it is hoped she is not "a girl." When it is known a little daughter is in the house, no loving hearts receive her. The father is disappointed, or enraged, and the mother bemoans the birth of one whose lot must be so sorrowful. I may say, a daughter is never welcome in China. Infanticide is, therefore, so prevalent that in the poor homes only one or two girl babies are saved, the others being drowned, left for starvation by the wayside, or thrown into the baby towers prepared for little foundlings. Wealthy families treat similarly the little girl who unfortunately comes to their home, and simply because they do not want her. Many times, rather than have the father take the child's life (for it is he who commits the deed), the mother pleads that the child be sold as a slave. Poor little children! Born without love; die without love. Many a Chinese woman can say at her death, "No one ever loved me."

A few years later, her own mother inflicts upon her the most terrible torture, loosening, wrenching, and twisting the ligaments of the baby feet, and crushing the bones into a stylish and beautiful stump; while she regards not the days and nights of shrieks and wails from the little one, which finally die away into a prolonged and breathless succession of groans.

From her infancy to her marriage, the little girl leads a shut-in life in the narrow confinement of her own home, though really there are no homes in China. The architecture of our houses does not enable us to conceive of the dinginess and cheerlessness of the Chinese house, nor the strict seclusion it affords. When sixteen, or older, the girl is carried in a closed sedan-chair to her husband. Fancy the timid child's fright at being thrust immediately among strangers. While entering, unmarried girls often find pleasure in throwing chaff upon her, which clings for many days to her oiled hair, so immaculately dressed; and having arrived at her destination, she is the object of examination and criticism to every onlooker, just as a new family horse might be to us. And from that day forth she is no longer her parents' daughter, but somebody else's daughter-in-law, and her husband's exclusive property, to be beaten to death or by some other means made away with, if they see fit. If she lives, and is not maddened to suicide, she may become the household drudge, and no one has the power to interfere.

As every phase of life in China is closed about with ceremonies, forms, and customs, so the day of the maiden's wedlock demands that she and her mother weep. But I am quite sure tears are seldom feigned on that occasion; no doubt they are usually the overflow of sad and trembling hearts.

Two or three months ago we were asking two young men, who dined with us, about the recent marriage of the sister of one of them. According to custom, she had come from the island of Maui, one hundred miles distant, to Honolulu, to the home of her mother-in-law, to become the wife of a man she had never seen, and whom she did not see until the veil was removed after marriage. When the young men had told us of the feastings and festivities enjoyed by the men during the first week, we inquired after the bride. "O, she lie on the bed and cry," was the reply; and the story of her lying there in tears, for a week, was told by her own brother without the least sign of pity or sympathy. The Chinese are characteristically insensible to the sufferings of others.

The ailments of women and children in China are considered unworthy of notice, and are allowed to run on, until the maladies become chronic. In cases of malignant and contagious diseases, nothing is done for the sick person, he being, in nine cases out of ten, shut up and locked within a room, with only a vessel of water by his side,—there to die. Occasionally his friends unbar the door enough to prod him with sticks, in order to ascertain whether he is alive,—all this, because so great is their fear and dread of the tormenting devils, whom they are reported to hear muttering from every article of furniture in the sick room. But especially in the service of midwifery is there much that is heartrending, many barbarities being practised under the pretence of assistance; and, relying as they do upon charms and superstitious customs for the relief of many diseases, it seems as if the message of Christ,—“Daughter . . . be whole of thy plague”—has more of meaning for them than for us.

MRS. HATTIE HOWELL.

DEVOTION.

A SCULPTOR lived in Paris. He was very poor, and a great genius. He dwelt in a miserable attic in a lonely street, where he had only one room for dining-room, sleeping-room, and studio. At the time referred to he was working at a statue. He was very anxious that it should be a success, and as he went on working he saw it growing in beauty day by day. At last he had moulded it in the clay, in which all statues have always to be moulded at first, when one night a heavy frost fell over Paris. The poor sculptor woke out of his sleep with the cold, and his first thought was of his statue. As he lay there the idea suddenly came to him that the moisture in the clay would freeze, and so undo all the months of anxious thought which had been devoted to his work. At once he rose, and taking the clothes from off his bed, he wrapped them round the statue. Next morning the sculptor lay dead from the effects of cold, from which he had so eagerly saved his work. But he will live forever in the unfinished statue. It stands to-day in the gallery Des Beaux Arts in Paris.—*Professor Drummond*.

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A NEW LEAF.

HE came to my desk with a quivering lip—
The lesson was done—
"Dear teacher, I want a new leaf," he said;
"I have spoiled this one."
In place of the leaf so stained and blotted,
I gave him a new one, all unspotted,
And into his sad eyes smiled—
"Do better now, my child."

I went to the throne with a quivering soul—
The old year was done—
"Dear Father, hast Thou a new leaf for me?
I have spoiled this one."
He took the old leaf, stained and blotted,
And gave me a new one, all unspotted,
And into my sad heart smiled—
"Do better now, my child."

—Western Christian Advocate.

ONE OF THE SLAIN.

A PICTURE FROM LIFE.

IT was in the afternoon of an autumn day in 1885, while the red beams of the setting sun still gilded the mountain peaks and shaded the valleys surrounding a little village in the north of New Zealand, that a traveller rode up to the village inn and dismounted. He was one of those dark sons whose fathers first claimed the island as their native home. But though he was dark-featured, and carried on his face the marks of tattoo, he was, withal, of manly bearing, and the bright flash of his yet darker eye revealed a keener intellect than that which usually links with the native race.

Leaving his horse by the stable yard, he entered the bar-room and was soon in converse with boon companions over the flowing bowl.

When first introduced by the white man to that part of the island, all intoxicating liquor was named by the natives *wai perau*—rotten water. That name it still bears, though, unfortunately, the natives have long since forgotten the dislike that first suggested such a significant title.

The sun-glories had disappeared, and the twilight was already fading under the deeper shades of night, when the hero of this short sketch stepped forth again to continue his homeward journey. But the flashing eye had lost its light, and that manly form no longer carried the proud bearing of a prince. He succeeded in reaching the saddle, but that unsteady hand and whirling brain were but poorly fitted to guide a high-spirited charger of the mountain clan.

The night-shades deepened, and as the bewildered rider reached an elevation in the road, his horse, in descending, first stumbled, and then started down the decline at a rapid pace. The alcohol had by this time completed its work. The stupefied brain reeled, and with it the rider also reeled, and then with a heavy fall left the saddle. In falling, one foot became entangled in the stirrup. This only caused the terrified steed greater fright, and it rushed on through the darkness in the madness of frenzy. In that awful position the prostrate rider was dragged along the road until, reaching a sharp turn, the horse swerved, when the tangled foot was loosened, and a bleeding piece of humanity fell on the roadside to die.

Cleared of his burden, the horse soon reached home, and was there found to have lost his master. Anxious hearts and hasting feet quickly retraced the path, and found the still unconscious rider by the roadside in a pool of blood. The iron hoof had crushed into his side, and the shadow of death already overspread his swarthy brow. Tenderly they bore him to the home which he had hoped to reach before the day departed. But all was changed there now. Silently, and with tear-dimmed eyes, they watched him while life ebbed away. Heart-beat followed heart-beat more slowly, as though each would prepare for the last. Then, for a moment, the dark eyes opened, consciousness returned, the parted lips murmured a hasty farewell, and then closed in silence for ever!

Before the glow of the next sunset had faded from the hilltops, a mournful procession left that darkened home, and followed a winding path that led to the forest shade. There they dug a grave and laid him away, with the dark forest pines as watch-sentinels, and the leafy palms waving their mournful requiem over the lost. By that mountain grave aged parents knelt to weep over their firstborn—the son of their strength. A loving wife bowed in sadness over a husband dead, and children mingled their tears over the grave of a father that was not.

With slow and solemn tread the dark sons of the forest formed their tribal ring around their dead prince, and as the last sunset finger touched the mountain peaks, fired their farewell salute, and all was still—all still save the sigh of the night-winds that moaned in sorrowful cadence over the grave of another slain by drink!

MRS. R. HARE.

PRAYER.

LORD, what a change within, one little hour
Spent in Thy presence will prevail to make,
What heavy burdens from our bosoms take—
What parched grounds refresh as with a shower!
We kneel, and all around us seems to lower;
We rise, and all, the distant and the near,
Stands forth in sunny outline, brave and clear.
We kneel, how weak; we rise, how full of power!
Why, therefore, should we do ourselves this wrong,
Or others, that we are not always strong—
That we are *ever* overborne with care—
That we should ever weak or heartless be,
Anxious or troubled—when with us is prayer,
And joy, and strength, and courage are with thee?

—R. C. Trench.

CULTIVATION OF VOCAL MUSIC.

WHATEVER tends to refine, to civilise, to exalt the intellectual faculties of man is not merely ornamental, but useful. This is the character of all the arts, whether painting, sculpture, poetry, or music.

Every power and every faculty with which man is endued was given to be improved and enjoyed. There is the same mutual adaptation between knowledge and the human mind as there is between light and the human eye, sound and the ear, seed and the earth. When the Almighty on the one hand so constituted the seed that when deposited in the earth it germinates and grows, and produces fruit, and when on the other hand He so constituted the human body that the fruit nourishes and sustains it, He in the

most emphatic manner commanded man to cultivate the earth and reap its fruits. In like manner, when He endued the human voice with sweetness, compass, flexibility, and made it capable of giving expression to every emotion of the heart—when He bestowed on the ear the power of the nicest discrimination, and rendered it one of the channels through which pleasure is conveyed to the mind; when He also established those laws which control and regulate the production, diffusion, and combination of sound, rendering each beneficent provision tributary to, and dependent upon, the other, and uniting all in beauteous harmony; who can doubt that these gifts were dispensed with a view to their enjoyment, or that, by cultivating the powers thus bestowed we are not only best consulting our own happiness, but rendering to their Giver the acceptable tribute of obedience!—*Great Thoughts.*

FOR A BRUISE.

IF Johnnie or Jane or Thomas or Mary Ann has fallen down or gotten bruised in some way, what will you do to "take out the soreness," and so prevent any serious inflammation occurring? One says "rub on Arnica," another would recommend camphor, another, "St. Jacob's Oil" or some other popular nostrum, or somebody's pain killer."

We say, Have none of these things. Away with all of them. Nature has given us, in heat and moisture combined, a "painkiller" superior to any of these ill-smelling and dirty mixtures. Take a flannel, fold it four double, wring out of hot water, and apply to the injured part as hot as can be borne without blistering the skin. If the bruise is a bad one, keep up the fomentations for several hours. If the part becomes red and swollen after a few hours, which will rarely be the case under this treatment, cloths wet in cold water should be applied, changing every ten minutes. Hot fomentations should be applied for fifteen or twenty minutes two or three times a day, or more frequently if there is much pain.

J. H. KELLOGG.

It is stated by Judge Noah Davis, who has for a number of years occupied a position as judge, that eighty per cent. of all the crimes that came before him would not have come had it not been for the liquor traffic. He also declares that of all the crimes involving personal violations, certainly three-fourths are chargeable to intoxicants, and that nine-tenths of the cases in the criminal courts are created by the saloon trade.



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News of the Century.

1798: The Pope was taken prisoner by Berthier February 10. 1799: General Washington died. 1802: Photography invented by T. Wedgewood. 1804: Napoleon crowned emperor of the French, Dec. 2. 1805: Battle of Trafalgar. 1812: Second war between England and America. 1814: Stephenson's first locomotive, six mile an hour. 1815: The battle of Waterloo, June 18. 1818: The first steamer, the *Rising Sun*, crossed the Atlantic. 1819: Queen Victoria born at Kensington Palace. 1826: Kerosene first used for lighting houses. 1829: Catholic Emancipation Act passed. 1833: Great star shower, Nov. 13. 1837: Victoria became Queen at the age of 18, June 20. City of Melbourne founded, Nov. 1837: First practicable telegraph (Wheatstone and Cooke's) tried, England. 1838: The *Sirius*, the first screw steamer to cross the Atlantic in 19 days, April. 1840, August 11: The Sultan submits to European rulers, and thus terminates his independent power. 1841: New Zealand becomes a separate colony. Anglo-Chinese war and cession of Hong Kong. Artificial ice first made. 1844: Advent movement. First Maori war. 1848: Attempted insurrection in Ireland. Spiritualism started in America. 1849: 13,000 persons died in London during the cholera plague. 1850: Victoria declared a separate colony. Spiritualism introduced into England. Roman Catholic Hierarchy established in England. 1851: Gold discovered in Australia at Bathurst, N.S.W. 1852: Jubilee of the B. and F. Bible Society. Livingstone crosses Africa. 1854: Crimean war. Orange Free State in South Africa becomes a republic. 1856: First British minister of education appointed. Aniline dyes discovered. The electric light first used to illustrate Tyndall's lecture in London. 1857: Indian mutiny. The "opium" Chinese war. 1858: Jews admitted to Parliament. Darwin's theory propounded. Atlantic cable laid. 1859: Queensland becomes a self-governing colony. 1860: Garibaldi in Italy. Peking captured by the English and French. First English ironclad line-of-battle ship launched. 1861: Civil war in America breaks out. 1865: Transportation of criminals to Australia ceases. Rinderpest plague in England. 1867: Sir Joseph Lister introduces antiseptic surgery. 1839: The first Afghan war. The name Victoria taken by the Australian colony. Father Matthews' temperance crusade in Ireland. 1869: Suez Canal opened. 1877: Telephone, phonograph, and electric light first used in London. 1880: Second Afghan war. Transvaal war. Incandescent electric light invented by Swan. 1881: President Garfield assassinated. Women admitted to the Tripos examinations at Cambridge. Beaconsfield died, April 19. 1882: Koch discovers the tuberculous bacillus. Electric trams run at Leytonstone in England, and an electric launch on the Thames. 1886: Gold discovered at Kimberley, South Africa. 1887: Jubilee of Queen Victoria's reign. 1888: Annexation of New Guinea territory by England. 1891: Electric railway in London. Pneumatic tyres invented. 1893: The Matabele war. 1894: Manchester ship canal opened. Jubilee of the Y. M. C. A. War between China and Japan. 1896: Jameson's raid. X rays discovered by Prof. Rontgen. 1897: War between Greece and Turkey. First Australian Federal Convention sessions. 1898: Terrible bush fires in Gippsland, Victoria. War between Spain and America, declared April 25, concluded by treaty of peace, December 10. Spurgeon's Tabernacle, London, burned May 21. Battle of Manila, June 30. Battle of Santiago, July 1, 2, 3. Miss Willard died February 18. Mr. Gladstone died May 19. Prince Bismarck died July 31. Destruction of the Mahdists at Omdurman, Soudan, by an Anglo-Egyptian army, Sept 9.

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During the coming year the BIBLE ECHO will contain much of interest in the way of pictures, poems, stories, Bible exposition, temperance items etc., etc. It should have a place in every home.

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Public Services are held each Sabbath (seventh day) in the following cities, to which all are cordially invited:—

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Ballarat—Society's Hall, Grenville St.	2.00p.m. 3.30p.m.
Brisbane—Oddfellows' Hall, Brunswick St.	
Valley (upstairs)	10.00a.m. 11.00a.m.
Geelong—Trinity Schoolroom, Lit. Myers St.	3.00p.m. 11.00a.m.
Hobart—S.D.A. Church, Warwick St.	2.30p.m. 11.00a.m.
Hawthorn—Park St. Chapel, Glenferrie	10.00a.m. 11.15a.m.
Melbourne—S.D.A. Church, Alfred Crescent, North Fitzroy	9.30a.m. 11.00a.m.
Parramatta—The Tabernacle, Charles St.	10.00a.m. 11.30a.m.
Perth—Temperance League Hall, Museum St.	10.15a.m. 11.20a.m.
Petersham—S. D. A. Church, Cannon St., near Parramatta Road	9.30a.m. 11.00a.m.
Rockhampton—Oddfellows' Hall, Denham St.	10.00a.m. 11.15a.m.
Sydney—Carlisle St., Ashfield	9.45a.m. 11.00a.m.
Williamstown—Freemasons Hall, Electra St.	9.30a.m. 11.00a.m.
Windsor—Foresters' Hall, Albert St.	9.30a.m. 11.00a.m.

Note.—In the foregoing list the design is to give the name and address of one Seventh-day Adventist church in each large city or seaport town only, for the benefit of travellers, and not a complete list of churches in the colonies.

THE BIBLE ECHO.

Melbourne, Victoria, January 2, 1899.

1. We send out no papers that have not been ordered; if persons receive the BIBLE ECHO without having ordered it, it is sent them by some friend, and they will not be called upon to pay.

2. When you send money to the Office to apply on your subscription to the BIBLE ECHO, notice the date on the wrapper of your paper, and see that it is correctly changed.

3. All matter appearing in the BIBLE ECHO without credit may generally be understood as coming from the Editor.

NEW YEAR resolves and new year premises do not amount to much. What we want is a new motive power within—"I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me."

AFTER a century of missionary enterprise there is one minister to each 800 persons in Christian lands, but there is only one missionary to every 400,000 in heathen lands.

WE extend good wishes and New Year greetings to all our readers, and hope that we shall in future have the pleasure of forming new friendships as well as renewing those of the year gone by.

ONE pound of iron is worth about 2d. When made into inch screws its value increases to 4s.; made into steel wire it rises to 12s. 6d.; sewing needles, to £2 16s.; fish hooks, £4 2s.; jewel screws for watches, £700; while if used in making hair springs for watches it would be value for £3,200.

ACCORDING to a statement made in the *Gospel in All Lands*, there are 330,000,000 Hindoo gods. Each one of these is said to possess its own special form and its own peculiar power. Rich people have idols in their houses. These are worshipped daily, and a priest is paid to come every morning to wake up, wash, dress, and offer food to these gods.

THE annual cost of the military establishments and forces of Europe is said to amount to the sum of £250,000,000. The present force of men available for the field is 5,250,000, but in case of necessity, or a general war, this number could be increased to 44,250,000. Compared with all other battles, the coming struggle promises, indeed, to be "the great battle of Armageddon."

THE illustrations found on the first four pages of this issue are selected from a full set of photo-engravings recently secured at considerable expense by the Echo Publishing Company, Limited. These engravings are descriptive of their office, work, and factory, and have been obtained for the purpose of illustrating an interesting souvenir, now being prepared as an advertisement by the Company, for distribution among the principal business houses in the large cities. This book may be of special interest to many of our readers, and a copy will be forwarded to the address of any one who will send a sixpenny stamp. If you desire this handsome souvenir, send your order at an early date.

"WHY haven't I a 600-acre farm as well as that man riding by in his carriage?" yelled a red-nosed anarchist as he glanced at the crowd. "Because he saved \$700 and bought his farm when it cost him one dollar an acre, and you poured your \$700 down your throat, responded a man on the back seat, and the orator asked no more conundrums.—*Chicago Tribune.*

AT the opening of the German Reichstag on December 7, the Czar's proposal received favourable notice in the opening speech made by the Emperor William, but, later on, a bill was introduced providing an increase in the German Army that would bring its "peace" standing up to 502,506 men. The preamble to this bill states that "European disarmament must not be expected," hence the proposed increase of military strength.

"MME. JANE HADING, the French actress, whose jewels were recently sold, was in the habit of decking her favourite dogs in gems which a court beauty might envy. One collar which adorned a pet lap dog was thickly encrusted with jewels, and had pendants of diamonds and pearls. The original cost of this necklace was £2,500, and at the sale it realised more than half this sum. Another collar, also richly jewelled, realised £200."

THE declared value of ornamental feathers imported into Victoria in 1897 was £10,682. Many of these feathers are made from whalebone and a combination of common feathers from the barnyard. Others are manufactured from bamboo, silk, and blown glass. It is to be hoped this latter form of manufactory will shortly supply all that the mad craze of fashion demands in this direction. Nature has hitherto been robbed of nearly all its beautiful birds to satisfy this unholy demand. Several species of birds are now known to be extinct, chiefly through the wholesale slaughter that has been carried on in obtaining their feathers.

ON Wednesday night, December 7, one of the churches in South Yarra, a suburb of Melbourne, was broken into by a burglar. Nothing in the shape of money was found, but in his search two bottles of wine were discovered. These, with the sacramental cup, were taken from the vestry. The man sat down near the pulpit, and after drinking one bottle and a half of the wine fell asleep, and slept on till he was awakened by a policeman in the morning. His next lodging was provided by the Government. On being brought before the court he was found to be an old offender, having accomplished the remarkable feat of crowding eight and a half years of imprisonment into the past six years of his life. During the next five years this covetous church-goer will have opportunity of visiting the chapel in Her Majesty's prison.

THE London County Council has decided, in the interests of Sunday observance, to refuse permits for the holding of Sunday concerts to which charges for admission are required. Free concerts are still to be permitted on Sunday. The logic of this is, you may desecrate the day that we call holy so long as you do not make money by it! Thus it is that the defence of every human counterfeit seeks help through a counterfeit law. The Sabbath requires no other law than the fourth commandment for its defence.

OUR readers will notice that this is a special number of the ECHO. It contains sixteen pages of deeply interesting matter, with appropriate illustrations. The pictures on the first four pages are from photos of our office and factory. The other illustrations are designed to show the progress made, during our century, in the means of locomotion and printing. Future numbers of Volume 14 will consist of eight pages. It will more than pay you to read the ECHO during the coming year.

THE European situation does not in any way gain in the assurance of peace. The German Emperor predicts a "disquieting time" in Europe, and states that the present "political constellations" are likely to change. He regards the British naval and military preparations as carrying a deeper signification than the mere settlement of the Fashoda question. Right in connection with this the Czar has notified the powers that the proposed peace conference has been postponed till May, 1899. The situation in Europe is at present unfavourable to his peace proposals.

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