

Religious....

ACCORDING to an estimate in the Public Ledger, Philadelphia Presbyterians last year contributed to benevolence of all kinds a sum in connection with church organization the handsome sum of \$690,000. When it is considered that this sum is four times as large as the total cost of maintenance of Presbyterians throughout America in 1860, and more than one-twelfth of the entire cost of such maintenance one hundred years later, the showing of Philadelphia is certainly entitled to credit.

In 1860, says the Ledger, it cost not to exceed \$250,000 a year to maintain all the Presbyterian churches in America. To run all of them last year took \$1,500,000. The contributions for missionary purposes in 1860 were about \$250. In 1890 the eight boards of the Presbyterian church North received \$3,627,536, and there was given to miscellaneous causes, \$773,229, making a total benevolence of this one Presbyterian body of \$4,103,565. And there are three other important Presbyterian bodies—namely, the South, the Cumberland, and the Cumberland. One hundred years ago Presbyterians gave to missions an average of little more than 12 cents each. Now they give an average of 37. Here is a growth that comes with the increase in national wealth. There are four times as many Presbyterian churches and three and one-half times as many Presbyterian ministers in 1890 as there were churches and ministers of all religious bodies in America in 1860. The two Presbyterians of Philadelphia contain more ministers than there were Presbyterians ministers in America 100 years ago, and Presbyterian churches in the Synod of Pennsylvania gave more last year to miscellaneous causes—more odds and ends of benevolence—than was spent in maintaining all Presbyterian churches in the United States in the year 1860.

There are almost 5,000,000 Presbyterians in all the world, not quite one-half of them in the United States. This figure does not include those who call themselves by some other name, but govern their churches by the Presbyterian system. In the United Kingdom there are almost 1,000,000 outside the United Kingdom. In Scotland, the stronghold of Calvinism, the income of the three principal bodies, or of the three last reporting, for two have lately united, was \$8,105,620. Six Scotch Presbyterians give an average of about \$8 each. Irish Presbyterians give an average of only \$3 each, and English Presbyterians, who are far better to do, an average of \$18.50. American Presbyterians give an average of \$112.41 per year.

But there are a vast number of expenses falling upon the member of a church that do not get tabulated in official reports. For example, Presbyterians buy, of their standard hymn books, 50,000 copies a year, and pay for them at least \$125,000. The hymn book trade of the whole country is worth \$50,000 a year, and that apart from the vast absorption of Gospel hymn books which every song evangelist seems to think it his duty to publish. And, besides, somebody in America pays \$20,000 a year for them. Presbyterians paying out of their share, it is safe to say, Then there are the Sunday school children. There are 1,000,000 of them in Presbyterian schools. It costs, so the experts say, 26 cents a pupil a year to keep Sunday school children in lesson help. That is \$230,000 a year. It costs \$25,000 a year to keep the young people societies of Philadelphia alone going, and this quite apart from the cost of annual conventions. The Christian Endeavor goes to Cincinnati next July for a twentieth anniversary celebration. There will be 1600 delegates go from Pennsylvania. Their combined expenses will not fall short of \$40,000. Some Christian Endeavor conventions have cost as much as \$4,000,000. These church figures ought to have at least 10 per cent. added to them for non-reporting. On in ten churches never send in reports. Presbyterian membership growth during the century increased four times as fast as population growth of the country, and evangelical expansion a good deal more than kept pace with the financial growth of the country, itself the wonder of the world.

The winter session of the Archdeaconry of Scranton and of the Western Man's Auxiliary will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday next. The preliminary service will begin Monday night. The ladies of St. Luke's parish will serve a luncheon on Tuesday. The following is the order of services:

MONDAY, JAN. 21.

P. M.—
7:45—Evening Prayer.
Addressed Subject, "The Relationship of the Individual Man."

The Father, Rev. D. W. Cox, D. D., Archdeacon.
The Son, Rev. F. P. Harrington, Rector, Trinity church, West Plismon.
The Holy Ghost, Rev. R. S. Radcliffe, General Missionary.
Hymns, 65, 188, 257, 519.

A. M.—TUESDAY, JAN. 22.
7:00—Holy communion.
9:00—Business meeting in Parish house.
10:00—Morning prayer.
10:30—Holy communion. Service by the Rev. C. W. Boot, Christ church, Suquehanna, Hymns, 310, 288, 284.

P. M.—
7:30—Business meeting in Parish house.
8:00—Archdeacon's report.
8:45—Exodus, Psalms, xxii.
The Rev. G. Ross, R. Bishop, Grace church, 606—Creed, Confession, etc.

GENERAL MISSIONARY MEETING, 7:45 P. M.
Archdeaconry and Woman's Auxiliary.
Speaker: Bishop Talbot, the Rev. A. D. Grimes, the Rev. R. B. Bateman, Hymns, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361.

M. TUESDAY, JAN. 22.
2:00—Business meeting in the Parish House Auditorium.
1. Service and address The Bishop
2. Report of annual meeting.
Ms. D. W. Cox, Alden.
3. Address.
Rev. A. D. Grimes, Missionary in Japan.
4. Address.
Miss Julia C. Emery, general secretary, Woman's Auxiliary.
5. Reports from local branches.

A. V. Bower will give the first of a series of three addresses on "The Life and Times of Jesus" at the Miller Department of the Young Men's Christian Association on Sunday at 2:45 p. m. The addresses will be illustrated with beautiful stereopticon views

shown on a large screen with Mr. Bower's powerful lantern. This unique method of presenting the gospel is intensely interesting appealing as it does both to the ear and the eye. The music will also be specially interesting and will consist largely of hymns thrown on the screen. All railroad men and their families are urgently invited to enjoy these meetings and thus improve an opportunity for a treat that is seldom placed within reach.

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Provident Methodist Episcopal church—Brotherhood of St. Paul meets at 10:30, subject, "Judge Not"; Sunday school at 2 p. m.; Epworth league at 4:45; topic, "Abiding Influence." Miss G. A. Cure, leader.

St. Luke's, 10th and Locust streets—Rev. J. R. Austin, pastor. Sunday school at 10:30 a. m.; Love Feast at 7:30 a. m., Rev. Joseph Madison, of this city, will preach, after which he will administer the sacrament of the Lord's Supper; at 3 p. m., Sunday school; E. W. Stone, superintendent; 4:30 p. m., Rev. W. H. Williams, the director of the Anti-Saloon League, will speak upon "Social Purify," to men only, no boys under fifteen admitted. Evensong league at 6:45. Miss K. McLean, leader; at 7:30 p. m., Williams will speak upon "The Young Man and His Company." An opportunity will be given to unite on probation. A cordial invitation is extended to "Come with us and we will do the best good."

Taylor Presbyterian church—Professor W. E. Millam will preach at 10:30 a. m. No evening service.

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