

Announcement.

AUMSVILLE, OR.,
Feb. 6, 1884.

Editor Herald:

Please announce in the HERALD that our new church house at Aumsville will be dedicated on the first Sunday in May. We expect to have with us good preaching brethren and continue the meeting for a week, or more if desirable. A cordial invitation extended to all. By order of the church.

Your brother,

H. C. PORTER.

Report.

BETHEL, OR., Feb. 11, 1884.

Editor Herald:

I have been preaching here for a week. Though the weather is quite cold the attendance is good, with an encouraging interest. Two have made the confession. Why are our congregations so far on the background all over the valley? Surely there is need of work!

NEAL CHEETHAM.

Current Religious News.

(Gleanings from our Exchanges).

The first Jewish settlers in New York city were twenty-seven exiles banished from Bahia in Brazil, on the general expulsion of the Jews from that kingdom, who came here in 1654 as the nearest place of refuge. After fifty years they comprised but 100 persons, and for 170 years had but one synagogue. To-day there are thirty-one synagogues in that city, and the Jewish population is estimated at 80,000.

Among the Methodist missionaries laboring in Norway, Mich., is Mrs. Neilsen, who was for twenty-five years a successful actress. She was converted under the preaching of a Methodist minister, abandoned her profession, and has since been preaching with great acceptance to crowded houses. Her fine elocutionary powers, added to our intense conviction of the truths of the Gospel, give peculiar attractiveness to her discourses.

During his stay in Spain the Crown Prince was presented with a memorial, begging him to use his influence with the Spanish Government to obtain compensation for the copies of the Gospels which were publicly burned last summer at Barcelona by the municipal authorities there. The compensation would in itself be a slight matter,

but if it should be granted, as we trust it may be, the grant will be the most eloquent condemnation possible of an act of which, it is only just to say, the whole Spanish press is ashamed. Bible-burning, after all, is not looked upon quite so leniently in the nineteenth century as it was in the sixteenth, even in Spain.

The Salvation Army has at last invaded Germany and is holding meetings in various parts of the Empire. Thus far they have met with no opposition, neither have they received much encouragement. Dr. Stoecker used his influence to dissuade them from coming to Germany, but obviously without success.

Rev. Samuel W. Dike, who has done such good service in the preparatory work of securing the community against the evil of divorce-made-easy laws, has prepared a memorial for popular signature, addressed to the Senate of the United States, praying that such a law may be passed as will provide for a thorough inquiry into all matters pertaining to marriage and divorce, and also secure the collection of statistics of divorce from the records and authorities of the several States, as a basis for future legislation. This is a most timely movement. That petition should be as long as Puck's griddle, and should shine with the names of the friends of the Family and the cause of public and private morals. We hope that petition will get to the Senate in time for it to pass that body and the lower House. It is quite as important work as president making.

Events are marching forward with unparalleled rapidity. In the providence of God, and in the opening up of the immense area of our country, we are now brought to a grand epoch in the work of gathering the children for Jesus, and thus securing the vast regions of the West for Christ. While the needs of the work in the older sections of our country are outrunning all Christians agencies combined, another vast section, hitherto undeveloped and almost unknown, has been brought into new prominence by the completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad—the third great line spanning the continent. Here is a trumpet call to go up and possess the land for Christ. The next ten years will mold the character of

that region for many generations, and shape the destinies of millions for eternity. The American Sunday School Union, fully appreciating the importance of the situation, proposes to make another grand movement forward in the work of winning this immense land for Christ and His little ones, by undertaking to establish and maintain a Sunday-school in every needy community in the vast territory between the eastern base of the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific Ocean.

FIGHTING SKEPTICISM.—An energetic movement is being inaugurated in England—one which the present unsettled social and religious state of the country imperatively calls for, to stem the growing tide of skepticism by demonstrating the scientific and historical accuracy of the Bible. The patrons of the mission are the Bishops of London, Winchester, Bath and Wells, Litchfield and Worcester, and the committee is composed of a number of noblemen and gentlemen, among whom are the Earls of Shaftesbury and Chichester, the Deans of Canterbury, Ripon, Litchfield and Norwich, and other eminent divines. The House of Commons is represented by Sir Arthur Otway, Bart., Sir Thomas Chambers, Sir Hardings Giffard, Sir William McArthur and Mr. Torrens. The scientific world by Mr. H. W. Bristow, F. R. S., Senior Director of the Geological Survey, and Mr. Edwin Dunkin, F. R. S., Chief Assistant of the Royal Observatory. The committee has appointed Dr. S. Kinns, author of "Moses and Geology," whose earnestness and scientific attainments are widely known, to conduct the mission by visiting the chief towns of England, Wales and Scotland, and delivering in each drawing-room and public lectures upon the scientific and historical accuracy of the Bible, illustrated with models, diagrams and geological specimens. If the lectures, however, are to have any widespread practical influence, some effort should be made to bring them within reach of the masses.—*Christian at Work.*

It is good that we sometimes have trouble and crosses, for they make a man enter into himself, and consider that he ought not to put his trust in any earthly thing.—*Thomas A. Kempis.*

He who foresees calamities suffers them twice over.

Byron's Lameness.

Sir Walter Scott was disfigured by a club-foot, but he bore his lameness bravely and cheerily. Lord Byron was also lame. The contraction of the tendon Achilles of each foot prevented him from putting his heels to the ground, and thus compelled him to walk on the balls and toes of his feet. Leigh Hunt sneered at him, as one who went hopping about like a bird.

Byron's lameness afflicted his mind as well as his body. It made him a moping boy and a morose man. Early in his childhood, his mother made him bitterly realize the fact that he was physically deformed. She was a passionate woman, who would one moment lavish kisses on her child, and at the next drive him from her with blows.

On one occasion, when hysterical with ill-temper, after heaping abusive epithets upon him, she mocked him as "a lame brat." The Child looked at her, with a fearful light flashing from his eyes, and then, with quivering lips, said, "I was born so, mother."

That scene was in his mind when he wrote the first words of "The Deformed Transformed."

"Bertha—Out, hunchback!

Arnold—I was born so, mother."

Years after, an incident occurred which exhibited the poet's sensitiveness to his deformity.

"This way, my lord!" cried a link-boy, as Byron was stepping with Rogers, to his carriage from the doorway of a house.

"He seems to know you," said Rogers.

"Know me!" was the bitter reply "every one knows me—I am deformed."—*Companion.*

A little fellow not ten years of age was employed by a lady to sweep snow from the door step; her kind heart pitied the boy's pinched appearance, and her compassion was strongly excited. This lad had a hard life of it, for he supported himself by the labor of his little hands, and braved all weathers. But did he not feel discouraged and afraid to be alone in this world? The sweeper, outcast though he was, knew nothing of the misgivings suggested by the lady's questions. He had faith, and acted accordingly. "Don't you think," he cried, "That God will take care of a feller if he puts his trust in him and does the best he can?"—*Ill. Ch. Weekly.*