

are turned to account in the various departments of life. Suppose the inventors of the metal type used by printers had not lived and all printing were done with the old wooden blocks, or suppose that all printing were abandoned and pen and ink were used instead of the printing press, think what results would follow. Instead of the great amount of general information now prevalent, the mass of mankind would be comparatively ignorant of the current events of the day. The farmer is benefitted by the Market Reports of yesterday, and knows the state of the grain business all over the world through the use of the telegraph, which is the work of the experimental scientist. Railroads bind one section of the country with another, which are the direct results of scientific investigations applied to useful transportation. Bridges span the rivers, steamers cross the waters, electric wires flash the news from country to country; cities are brought nearer together by railroad; in fact, everything we enjoy is affected by the researches and discoveries of the scientist. Indeed science is useful. L.

The Significance of Life.

We have already dwelt enough on our conviction that the progress of humanity, the improvement of the world, the mitigation of its anomalies, the extinction of its woes, the eradication of its vices,—in a word, the realization of the ideal of life, is the great design of God and the great work of man. But though the perfectionation of the race is the great, it is clear that it is not the sole purpose or significance of life. The perfectionation of the individual is indicated by marks just as obvious. We are sent here and endowed thus not only to do our utmost for the improvement and progress of the world, but to do our utmost also for the development, utilization, purification and strengthening of our own individual natures. The riddle of life cannot be even approximately read without this assumption. For, obedience to the laws of God written on the face of nature, the cultivation of those virtues and affections whose sacredness is written on our hearts, and on which the beauty and joy of life depend, lead to such progressive excellence. Moreover the advance and elevation of humanity is most surely promoted by whatever

wholesomely, harmoniously, and permanently develops the individual man. It is by the enlightened and disinterested service of his fellow being that he most surely strengthens and idealizes his own nature. He cannot carry forward one of the purposes of Providence without *ipso facto* contributing to the other. And finally, there is one dark page in the philosophy of life which no other creed can irradiate. We mean the fact, so perplexing yet so constant, of men whose youth, and maturity are spent in struggle and in failure, and who attain wisdom and virtue only at the close of their career; who begin to see clearly only when clear vision has grown useless; who become thoroughly qualified for the work of life and the service of humanity just as life is ebbing away and the arena of earthly activity is closed upon them. Man sometimes seems ordained to spend his allotted span in sharpening his tools and learning how to use them, and to be called out of his workshop the moment his industrial education is complete.—*Gregg.*

Mathematical Column.

Only one solution received for the first problem. None for the second. Will let them remain another week so as to give another chance.

The Approaching Missionary Collection.

The first Lord's day in March is the time set for a collection in all our churches in behalf of our Foreign Christian Missionary Society, while the first Lord's day in May is set apart for a similar collection in our Sunday-schools. In view of the increased demands on our treasury this year, this collection is of very great importance—especially as the receipts at the present time are much below the expenditures. We therefore respectfully submit the following suggestions:

1. Let all our editors who favor foreign missions begin at once to call attention to the time for the coming collection, and write up the subject of missions in connection with it, and keep it before their readers every week, until the time for the collection.

2. Let each church make out a programme for itself for the day of the collection—special prayers, special songs, special sermons, or ad-

dresses from various brethren, embodying information on foreign missions, and instruction on the duty of Christians to send the gospel into all the world, to every creature.

3. The circular recently sent out, containing information relative to our own foreign missions, should be read in all the churches.

4. It will be well, in previous meetings, to keep the announcement of the collection before the people, and to pray for our missions and missionaries, and also to talk up the question from house to house, and by the way—that all may be prepared to act intelligently and to bear a worthy part.

Dear brethren, we have been greatly prospered in this work, and have every reason to thank God and take courage. We have now some 20 missionaries dependent largely on us for their daily bread, and who, as they receive only what is needful for a living, must suffer if they are not promptly paid. There are constantly new openings, and new demands on us in various ways. In our heathen missions, the missionaries will require houses to live in and for schools, and the requisites for teaching, for practicing medicine, etc. As the work increases our liberality must increase, until we are fully up to God's righteous demands on us for missionaries and for money to support them. We hope, therefore, for a collection on the first Lord's day in March, so much in advance of anything in the past, both in the size of the collections and in the number of churches contributing, as shall give a new impetus to missionary work. Meanwhile, let all who have made subscriptions pay up, and let those who live where there is no church, or where the church fails to act in this matter, send in their own personal contributions to A. McLean, Box 570, Cincinnati, Ohio. By order of the Executive Committee. A. MCLEAN, ISAAC ERRETT, Cor. Sec'y. Pres't.

One way to Keep From Becoming a Widow.

Cooking has been elevated by the "lords of the committee of council on education" in London, to an honorable position in the "science and art department." It is included in the general subject of hygiene, which is placed in the list of sciences "toward instruction in which aid is afforded" from the education fund. In the knowledge proposed to be imparted is included that of food

material and beverages, and other easily understood matters affecting health. It is proper and right to pay attention to the brain, but what about the stomach, the great center of the human physical economy? Text books relating to edibles are as important as are text books of a number of branches which are taught in the schools. Cooking should be taught by some one and in some way in Atlanta. How many families in this city have their bread cooked at home; how much has dyspepsia increased among us? Poorly cooked food, O! it is bad to digest, makes a "poor brain; poor nerves, poor muscles and poor bones. A poor brain produces disconnected thoughts and ideas. A diseased stomach is responsible for illogical reasoning, absurd theories, visionary projects, and a cross, ill-grained disposition. To cook well places a wife at some inconvenience, but it will aid to keep her husband happy and well, although Ecclesiastes says: "All the labor of a woman is for a man's mouth, and yet his appetite is not filled." If Dr. Johnson was greedy over boiled mutton; if Dryden had his favorite dish of a chine of bacon; if Lamb was enamored of roast pig; if Walter Scott claimed inspiration from boiled hare; if Goldsmith indulged in sassafras tea; if Hayden drank strong coffee, and if Shakespeare attacked a venison pasty with a hearty relish, people of a commoner mould must be expected to love good dishes. The heathen propitiates his oracle with burnt sacrifices and sweet odor, and a light roll, the sweet aroma of a cup of coffee and a well-prepared roast chicken has propitiated many a husband, invigorated his blood, sending it tingling to the remotest part of his system, carrying with it animation, vigor and life. Now, ladies, learn to be good cooks, and your husbands will soon have the round chins with which the Cæsars are represented in ancient marble. If they are lean like hungry Cassius, they will soon take on the proportions of that sleek and oily gentleman. Friar Tuck, whose name was suggestive of venison pasties and dainty bits of warden pie, necessitating a considerable amplitude of waistcoat and a stomach like that which Shakspeare described as "capon lined."

But how to keep from becoming a widow? Let another answer the question. "The wife who habitually makes good bread and refrains from frying beefsteak, not to mention the subjects of pie crust and adulterated tea and coffee, seldom has occasion to marry again."—*Ex.*