ARE WOMEN FAIRLY PAID?

Practical and Physiological Sides of the Question Considered.

A CONSTITUTIONAL INVALID.

Opinions of Lillie Devereux Blake and Van Buren Denslow—An Interesting Discussion.

From the October Forum.

In considering the question "Is woman discriminated against because of sex, irrespective of her efficiency as a laborer?" it is necessary for the sake of clearness to make a preliminary statement. * * *

In support of the proposition I will first cite a few general statements from men who have studied the industrial classes. Mr. Charles F. Peck, commissioner of labor for the state of New York, in his report on the condition of working women, declares that their wages, in all trades and avocations, average very much less than those received by men, and where men and women compete in any occupation, as in bookbinding and even in sewing-machine work, they are invariably paid unequally for an equal amount of labor. Mr. Charles Wyllis Eliot, in "Women's Work and Wages," states the average amount earned by women in this country to be four dollars a week, that earned by men fifteen dollars. The Rev. Dr. R. Heber Newton, in his sermon "Labor's View of the Situation," asserts that "women work on an average for half the wages given to men." So much for general conclusions; now for special illustrations.

In all the eastern states women schoolteachers are paid less than men in similar places, although it has been again and again admitted that women are better teachers of the young than men, not only because they have natural qualifications for the care of children, but because this profession is about the best and most honorable open to women, and therefore attracts persons of superior ability. Yet the salaries paid to women range in amount from one-half to two-thirds those paid to men instructing classes in the same grade. Thus the male principals of grammar schools in New York receive from $2,250 to $3,000 per annum, the female principals from $1,200 to $1,700; the male assistants in the same departments from $1,068 to $2,000, the female assistants from $573 to $1,116; and a similar inequality exists in all departments. In telegraphy we find a repetition of the same injustice. At the time of the great strike of the telegraph operators two or three years ago, it was asserted that female operators, without regard to efficiency, were paid forty-five cents for work for which male operators received ninety cents. In stenography and type-writing, a proficient woman receives fifteen dollars a week, while a man gets twenty dollars. Here again it is admitted that women are superior to men, their greater quickness of perception and motion giving them obvious advantages. In type-setting, women get twenty-five cents per thousand ems, while men receive thirty-five cents. In a recent article on the condition of women, which appeared in the Albany Press it was asserted that, "if paid according to the type they set, they would earn as much as men; they are much quicker workers, their hands are more nimble and dextrous, and they apply themselves more closely to the work." Behind the counters of our shops, even where women and men are in similar subordinate positions, handling the same class of light goods, as ribbons, laces, etc., where the man's greater strength counts for nothing, and the woman's superior knowledge of the fabrics should count for something, the saleswoman is given only six dollars a week while the salesman gets ten dollars.

It would seem useless to cite further illustrations. Those here named prove the affirmative of the proposition, that women are discriminated against because they are women.

LILLIE DEVEREUX BLAKE.

Mrs. Blake's contention is, that if a woman gets less pay than a man for doing similar work, that one fact is sufficient to prove that "woman is discriminated against because of sex, irrespective of her efficiency as a laborer." On the contrary, this very abatement of pay for a specific quantity of work must be due either to the fact that her work is less profitable to her employer in the long run than the male labor, or else that working women themselves, for their own reasons, discriminate against so many occupations as to leave their wage smaller in those to which they resort. If employers are animated by any other motive than the desire to employ those workers who will do the best work for the least money, such other motive, as respects a choice between women and men, is always a desire to help women. It is as natural for a man to desire to help a woman, where he can, as for a woman to desire to be helped by some man, irrespective of the value of the service considered as a commodity. So far as human society is a success, woman's work will never go into the market as a commodity at all, to be paid for on competitive principles. Every social influence tends to render her career as a wage worker unprofitable. A social instinct stronger than any human judgment seeks to drive her, if need be, into the more natural, possible, and healthful career. This instinct finds expression in many ways:

1. Except from motives of philanthropy, employers of any sensitiveness are pained in the act of employing women for wages. Their presence is a reminder of misfortune and failure. Successful men instinctively keep at a distance all spectacles that mean failure and misfortune.

2. Women instinctively repel and despise a man who will employ them only at the competitive wage rate. It is unnatural and hateful to them to be employed at just what they can earn and no more. Their hearts yearn for favor, love, affection, and they prize every little proof of these, such as compliments, not on the work they do, but on qualities that help to identify them with the non workers, such as their grace, delicate hands, and tasteful dress. Women care more for flattery than for wages, and hate most cordially the man who withholds their proper meed. But flattery, which is the proper wage of woman, is the most costly one a man can pay, and ends, if he is single, in marriage or a quarrel; if he is already married, in divorce or scandals. In either case the employer may lose more on the work of one woman than any profit he would derive from the work of a hundred. In secretaryships and confidential occupations male labor is cheaper than female, as steam as a motive power is cheaper than gunpowder, because it involves less danger of explosion.

3. Female clerks draw lower salaries than male in all mercantile employments where the buyers are women, especially women of wealth, because such women prefer to buy from men, and men can sell them more goods. A discrimination in wages based on the fact that customers prefer male salesmen is one based on profit, not on sex.

4. So as to female compositors. Mr. Storey, of Chicago, caused a force of women to be prepared to take the place of his force of men. He expended a large sum in their instruction, and when they were ready, displaced his men in favor of these girl graduates. They did very well until the first ball dispersed them. They not only must go to the dance themselves, but must see that every friend near enough to act as substitute went also. They were right. Social conquest was far more important to them than getting out a daily paper.

5. As school teachers, women often teach as well as men, but their services are less valuable than those of men who teach no better, because they must be more frequently changed, owing to exhaustion by ill health, to marriage, or, if married, to the indelicacy connected with their continuous service as teachers after marriage. Hence they fail to acquire the efficiency that comes with long experience. When a board of education like that of Chicago excludes married women from teaching, that is a discrimination against them based not on sex but on the public fastidiousness which objects to pregnant and nursing women as teachers in public schools.

Women themselves discriminate against so many employments that, in the few they prefer, the supply is necessarily in excess of the demand that remains after considering the objections to their employment. Engineering, sailoring, mining, and fishing are too laborious and dangerous. Out-of-door farming, lumbering, building, blacksmithing are too arduous. The barber's trade, though light, is deemed indelicate; the butcher's or scavenger's is gross; the undertaker's is gloomy. The raising of flowers and birds, though both delicate and profitable, is unsocial. So far as women avoid trades that they might follow, from their own desire to preserve the delicacy of manner and habit associated with wealth and ease, and so far as they thereby increase the supply of women for machine-sewing, teaching, and clerking, their failure to obtain as high wages as men in the latter occupations is not due to a discrimination of their employers against them on account of sex, but to their own discrimination against most of the occupations by which men live, and by which women might live equally well if, as is claimed, their powers are equal. If their discrimination against these other trades is justified by the fact that their powers are not equal, then, lacking equal power, they naturally lack power to earn equal wages.

Woman is a constitutional invalid, to the extent that the healthiest woman is by nature unfit for work one-sixth of her time, and nine-tenths of the women who attempt an industrial career bear around with them the painful maladies incurred in the unequal struggle, or fall early victims to the exhaustion induced by its demands. Physiologically, woman's condition is essentially that which a man's would be if he sustained every four weeks a drain of one-fifth of his total vital power. He might need more wages in this condition, but he could not earn them.

In the present imperfect industrial condition of the world, a small proportion of the female sex are unfortunately compelled to live or die accordingly as they can or can not earn the means of living. They are like passengers who have leaped overboard in mid-ocean from a sinking ship. Everybody desires that the rope thrown to them shall be the longest possible. But the actual inadequacy of the rope that may be thrown to them can hardly be called a discrimination against them on account of their being overboard.

VAN BUREN DENSLOW.

A young man out of work began peddling lead pencils about Norristown, Pa. He went into a manufacturer's office, and, as the proprietor good naturedly listened, praised his pencils and drew figures on a bit of paper to show how good they were. His method of drawing and precision of touch led the manufacturer to question him. He proved to be a designer of ingenuity and skill, and before he went out had secured a place.

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HONEY FOR THE LADIES.

Brides wear gloves of white peau de suede.

Fichus are the present fancy upon dresses and cloaks.

Green, blue and "suede" are a favorite combination.

Blue velvet is a Parisian fancy for small demi-saison mantles.

Plush is the favorite material for mantles, visites and pelerines.

Peasant bodices, corslets and bretelles are worn over blouse bodices.

Kensington embroidery is simulated in many of the new autumn fabrics.

Juive sleeves of the dress material have close fitting sleeves of lace beneath.

Cheviot with fine checks is the correct material for the bride's traveling costume.

The fashion for trimming brown cloth dresses with black braid is still in favor.

Some bodices have several crests of contrasting colors opening one over the other.

Gray gloves with broad embroidery of black silk on the back are worn with black toilets.

Epaulets and "ropes" of beads, or delicate passementerie, are used upon woolen dresses.

Bodices and sleeves are in endless variety; but, in spite of this, jackets are more popular than ever.

Patti knows how to keep a castle. Even Queen Victoria in all her glory cannot run a finer than Craig-y-Nos.

Colored linings are in high vogue, striped and figured silks in bright colors being largely employed for this purpose.

Circular cloaks are revived in London. They are made of materials of neutral tints lined with some bright color.

Embroidery is in great favor and is seen upon mantles and redingotes as well as upon plastrons, vests, sleeves and belts.

Parisians are wearing tartan plaids for the entire dress or in combination with plain colors. The plaids, however are small.

A hat of gray straw has the rolling brim faced with gray velvet. Ostrich feathers and gray velvet loops are the tasteful trimming.

Cloth dresses are trimmed with narrow silk braid, forming vertical stripes upon tablier, bodice and sleeves, terminating in loops.

Princesse effects are noted in some of the bridal toilets, but these are confined to the front or back, as the taste of the wearer may dictate.

Fur is to occupy a leading place as an accessory to home and street costumes, and will be largely employed upon mantles and redingotes.

It cost a fashionable lady who was sojourning at Saratoga this summer $300 for doctors' bills for attendance on a pet dog which was taken sick.

Bodices of velvet have panels cut in one with them and form an exceedingly handsome combination with striped wool skirts and drapery.

Wide, low collars, exposing the throat, are to be worn, and it is predicted in certain quarters that high collars and full ruches are soon to be abandoned.

Mrs. Lydia Haynes, of Candia, N. H., who is about to celebrate her ninety-ninth birthday, attends to all her household duties and reads and knits without using spectacles.

A mantle of blue plush has the basques, sleeves and collar trimmed with passementerie wrought with gold, green and blue beads. It is lined with shrimp pink silk.

Miss Oelrichs, the young New York lady who recently shot a stag in Inverness-shire, Scotland, has won the hearts of the highlanders. They call her "the lady of the stag."

A bonnet of beige straw has the brim edged with beads of corresponding tint. A high coquille of beige lace is arranged directly in front. A cluster of deep pink asters completes the trimming.

A mantle of ottoman cloth is made short in the back and has square ends in front. It is bordered with woolen guipure lace. The sling sleeves, neck and the back are finished with rich jet ornaments.

Miss Heaven is the name of a young woman recently confirmed at Lundy Island by the visiting British bishop of Exeter. If there is anything in a name she ought to be a most agreeable and pleasing young person.

An estimable lady, who had been going through the cure at Mont Dore, was describing the system to a friend, and wishing to explain that she first visited the bath and afterwards took her glass of mineral water at the spring, she said: "My dear, the treatment here is very simple; you take your bath first and then you drink the water afterwards." Her friend was horrified.

A dust-colored camel's hair dress has a plain skirt with full drapery falling in straight folds. The bodice is pointed in front, cut high over the hips, and has postillion basques at the back. The collar, cuffs and square plastron, beneath which the bodice is fastened with wrought silver buttons, are of deep blue velvet, and the basques just show a tiny line of dark blue velvet lining.

Miss Mary Dewey, daughter of the late Charles C. Dewey, one of the most eminent members of the Rutland county (Vt.) bar, is on her way to eastern Turkey to engage in missionary work. The young lady will be two months in reaching her destination, and must ride 300 miles on horse back after leaving the steamer. This is a most beautiful illustration of self-sacrifice for the good of a faraway people.

They have joined the ladies after dinner, and the conversation had gradually turned to matters dramatic, and from thence to disturbance during a performance. "Do you know," said the hostess, "I think children at a theatre are a nuisance. I was at Wallack's the other night, and a woman had a baby in the parquette—" And then the sleepy one in the corner awoke and exclaimed: "Dear me, how awfully embarrassing; but I suppose there was a doctor there."

October divides the honors with June as a wedding month. None will dispute that the days in these two months are ordinarily nearer perfection than those of the other ten, and as the bride is blessed upon whom the sun shines these months are naturally chosen. Satin and faille combined with velvet, gauze or mousseline de sole, and trimmed with pearl galloon and orange blossoms, are the fashionable fabrics for wedding robes. Bodices have one or two points in front and have plastrons or plaited fronts. Panels are formed by pearl galloon or are of silver brocaded velvet or silk. The French fashion of wearing the veil to fall away from the face is to be generally adopted. The train is usually very long and without drapery.

CONNUBIALITIES.

Henry E. Abbey was married on Tuesday to Miss Florence Gerard, of Modjeska's company.

Claude West, the circus clown, was lately married to Carrie Harris, serio comic singer, at Johnstown, Pa.

Mrs. Harry Becket, widow of the comedian, has remarried. The groom is a wealthy Englishman with a military title.

Miss Monte Aldrich, daughter of Louis Aldrich, was married in Boston to Abbot Graves last Thursday in presence of 300 invited guests.

Miss Amy Victorine Putnam, daughter of the late George P. Putnam, the publisher, was married in London a few days ago to Robert Spottiswoode Pinney, of Kurrachee, India.

Katow Unosoke, a member of the Japanese village in Chicago, was married on Monday to Liru Ishuwara, of Yokohoma, who was formerly employed in a Japanese store in Chicago, but who now dispenses tea at the village. The marriage is said to be the first ever celebrated in America between two Japanese.

It is reported that Governor Henry Lloyd is to wed on Monday, October 10, one of Cambridge's pretty daughters. The young lady is Miss Bessie Staplefoot. She is a blonde, and is very popular. A relative of the young lady is authority for the report. The event has long been looked for by people in Cambridge.

In Potter county, Penn., a dudish youth was married a few days ago to a stout, healthy country girl. The dude was perfumed, wore frills in his shirt, had his hair curled and he presented such a feminine appearance that the clergyman said: "I don't want to make any mistake about this business, so which of you is the bride, anyhow?"

It has been declared by those best acquainted with the facts that the three or more years of chronic warfare into which the Malagasy have been plunged with France, but are now happily freed from, have done no perceptible injury to their religious agencies. It threw the people more entirely on their own resources, and, as in bygone times, their faith has shone bright in time of trouble. There is now, unfortunately, some reason to fear that France resents the efforts of Madagascar to pay the fine imposed upon her, and thus to free herself from French political dependence.

President Adams, of Cornell, advocates the erection on or near the campus of dormitories for the accommodation of the students. He also appeals to the students to make the atmosphere about Cornell more scholarly, more like that about the English universities, where the influence of the students upon each other is as great as the influence of the professors.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC.

The compositions left by Liszt number 644.

Mme. Patti will begin her season in New York, November 7.

John T. Raymond's new play is called the "Woman Hater."

Charles Bennett will be Adelaide Moore's leading man this season.

Mr. Charles H. Hoyt's new farce will be called a "Texas Steer."

The hymn of music of Brooklyn is said to be of the serio-comic order.

The school of the musical society of Innsbruck has 458 pupils this year.

Katherine Rogers has been engaged for Wallack's company this season.

There are musical folks in Kansas; Ottawa has a choral society of 250 members.

Annie Pixley has met with marked success in her new play, "The Deacon's Daughter."

Clara Poole, the Boston contralto, is engaged for the Italian opera season at Genoa.

Bijou Heron (Mrs. Henry Miller) is likely to invest in an additional cradle at an early day.

Kate Claxton, unable to find a new play to suit her, has made use of Boucicault's "Arrah-na-Pogue."

Oleomargarine is the name of a new farcical piece. The production is designed well to run in the dog days.

Steve Brodie, the Brooklyn bridge daredevil, has been engaged for W. C. Cowper's leap in "Blackmail."

Fred C. Bryant, of Lester and Allen's minstrels, lately became insane during a performance at Williamsport, Pa.

After Miss Thursby visits Bohemia for a brief rest, she will return to Paris. She has quite a fancy for the Bohemians.

Mrs. Langtry will play a California engagement next spring, and may probably leave San Francisco for Australia.

It is stated that Mr. Henry E. Abbey offered Mrs. James Brown Potter $50,000 to star thirty weeks under his management.

Sauret, by invitation, is to play at two Colonne concerts in Paris. It will be his first appearance in that city in thirteen years.

Clara Morris lost a diamond broach, valued at $2,000, while playing at Erie, Pa., last Thursday. Detectives are looking for it.

Next season Henry Irving will produce Faust in this country, which is said to be the greatest of all his remarkable productions.

Ethel Lynton, the comic opera prima donna, who was reported to have lately died in Philadelphia of heart disease is alive and well.

The idea has gone abroad that this is to be Edwin Booth's last season on the stage. Such is not the fact. Mr. Booth will play a year longer.

The announcement is again made that Mr. Keene will act this season, the beginning of his tour being fixed for the latter part of November.

Charles Wyndham has just recovered from a severe illness, which, by the way, may prevent his being seen on the London boards this season.

Le Clair and Russell's "A Practical Joke" combination, under Peter Rice's live management, is doing a very large business in the southwest.

Wm. Winter has in hand a life of Adelaide Neilson, a memoir of John McCullough and a biographical account of all the members of the Wallack family.

Fanny Davenport will play Beatrice in "Much Ado About Nothing" for the first time on October 11 at the Union Square theater, New York.

Mlle. Rhea has been offered the creation of the title role in a new play written for her by a prominent English author. It is proposed to produce it in London.

Helene Dauvray was called before the curtain five times at the end of the first act of "One of Our Girls," at the Park theater, Boston, on last Monday night.

It now turns out that Margaret Mather is not a descendant of Cotton Mather, but an Irish girl, who formerly resided in Detroit. Her name is Margaret Finlayson.

The latest humorous musical news from Turkey is that the sultan has forbidden the representation of Rigoletto and the Huguenots, because, as he asserts, they are immoral.

Mrs. Dion Boucicault (Agnes Robertson) lately arrived in New York city to collate testimony for her divorce suit in London against Dion Boucicault, who claims that they were never married.

John Rogers, husband of Minnie Palmer, was lately arrested and fined $500 for having instigated some hoodlums to fire into the train in which that actress was traveling. Rogers' object was to get some free advertising out of the incident.

The celebrated premiere danseuse and instructress, Mme. Kathi Lanner, was lately presented in London with a magnificent Maltese cross, surmounted by golden laurel, as the birthday gift of her pupils. The affair was marked with great enthusiasm.

Mr. Palmer has again taken up a dramatic idea that he practically favored last season—the idea, namely, of giving extra performances at the Madison Square theater for the purpose of testing the merit of new plays by American authors. It is designed that these performances shall be given in the afternoon. The first of them will occur in November, when a new play by W. D. Howells will be tried.

IMPIETIES.

First Minister—Just think of it, they gave me but $20 for my sermon. Second Minister—Why, I wouldn't have preached that sermon of yours for $100.

Neenah, Wis., does not take the back seat. It is probably the only city in the United States where they ring the church bell for people to attend the skating rink.

"Jane, did I not tell you, if you were again tempted to eat the currants, you must say, 'Get thee behind me, Satan?'" "Yes, mum, an' I did, an' he got behind me and pushed me right into the currant bushes."

An old deckhand on a New York excursion steamer chanced to enter a French cemetery and saw a number of wreaths of immortelles on a grave. "What does that fellow want with a life preserver now?" he asked.

The story comes from Boston of a dude who, having been asked to say grace at a formal spread at which he took a leading part, bowed his head slightly, languidly lowered his eyelids, and murmured: "Oh, Lord, thanks—awfully!"

Minister—I suppose you have seen me in church, haven't you? Little Dot—No; mamma never takes me to church. Minister—Well, it would be rather tiresome for you yet. But I guess you will love to go when you get older. Little Dot—Yes, indeed, I am beginning to like to look at bonnets now.

"Who made you?" asked the Sunday school teacher, addressing a little boy from the slums of Boston. "I dunno," answered the boy, as he scratched the shin of his right leg with his left heel. "Well, God made you," said the teacher. "That's so!" replied the boy. Then he added: "I guess I kinder heard o' that before, but I'm like my old man, —I never was good at rememberin' names."

A young physician had just settled in a country town. One of his visitors was a gentleman very neatly dressed. "Doctor," he said, "would it be agreeable to you to make the same arrangement with me that your predecessor did? I gave him so much for every patient he sent me." "Oh, you are the druggist, then?" "No; I am the undertaker."

EDUCATIONAL.

The Harvard chapel bell calls no longer to compulsory prayers.

The experiment of giving the colored youth of the south an industrial education has shown results of the most gratifying nature.

The university of Michigan opened with an attendance of 1,356—fully up to last year at the same date. These men bring in $40,000 in fees.

Mrs. Elizabeth Thompson has given Professor Maria Mitchell $1,000 toward the fund for the endowment of the observatory of Vassar college.

Thirty different institutions in the south, eleven of them colored universities, have been aided financially the past year by the John F. Slater fund.

Since the war more than $20,000,000 has been given by individuals or churches in the north for education in the south. No form of patriotism could have been more worthy or more effective.

Dr. Mendenhall, of the scientific department of the signal service bureau, who spent three years in organizing the polytechnic department of the old university of Japan and Tokio, has accepted the presidency of the Rose polytechnic institute at Terre Haute, Indiana.

The president of the province of West Prussia has issued an order imposing a fine upon parents and guardians of school children for each day of the latter's unjustifiable absence from school. Employers of children of the school age during the hours of study are subject to heavier penalties.

For some time a feeling of dissatisfaction has existed on the part of some of the cadets and others at the Maryland Military and Naval academy at Oxford against the associate superintendent, Prof. J. M. C. Johnson. It culminated last Saturday night, when a number of masked cadets entered the professor's room, and while some of them held him prostrate on the floor, others with shears removed from his face a luxuriant growth of red whiskers. It is rumored that the professor left for parts unknown early on Sunday morning. Colonel Burgess, the principal, being absent, it is not known what result will follow.

RELIGIOUS.

More "missions" are to be held next winter by the Episcopalians.

Bishop Taylor is perfecting plans for making the Methodist mission in Liberia self-supporting.

The gospel is preached in the United States by members of the Lutheran church in thirteen different languages.

Rev. Thomas J. Carr, D. D., Roman Catholic bishop of Galway, Ireland, has been appointed archbishop of Melbourne.

Eighty-five of the young men who attended the Mt. Hermon school of Mr. Moody have determined to become missionaries.

The Christian community in India is increasing at the rate of 8½ per cent a year, and therefore doubles every twelve years.

A monastery for the Carmelite fathers is building at Melbourne, Victoria. This is the first foundation of the order in Australia.

The sum raised for missions by all the European and American missions is $113,375,000. Of this the United Kingdom raises $6,000,000.

An inquiry addressed to the postmaster of a town in Kansas, brought back the startling reply: "There is not a church nor a church member in our town."

A Presbyterian church, built from petrified wood found in Allen's creek, is one of the curiosities of Mumford, Monroe county, N. Y. Leaf and moss fossils are to be plainly seen in the petrifactions.

From statistics just published it appears that the Baptists in the United States have 29,953 churches with a membership of 2,573,238, an increase of churches during the year of 345 and of members 64,485.

The Roman Catholic residents of Interbog, near Wittenberg, are collecting funds for the renovation of St. Hedwig's chapel, in which "the pious Dominican monk, Tetzel, preached and refuted the thesis of his faithless brother Luther."

The receipts of the American board for the year now closed are: from donations, $384,248, as against $357,013 the preceding year; from legacies, $107,190, as against $121,478, being a total of $491,438 this year, $478,491 last year.

The first negro to be ordained in the Roman Catholic church in this country is Augustus Tolken, who was born a slave in Missouri in 1854. He has spent six years in Rome studying, and is to have charge of a colored congregation in Quincy, Ill.

The Methodist million for missions has all been pledged except $50,000, and Chaplain McCabe, from his sick bed asks if fifty thousand Sunday school teachers will not each raise another dollar for the fund, to make it complete before November 1.

Rev. Immanuel M. Kosonwitz, professor of Hebrew in the German Presbyterian seminary of Bloomfield, N. J., has renounced Protestantism and professed the Roman Catholic faith. He was a convert from Judaism, of Russian parentage, and educated at Basel.

According to the last number of The Missionary Review, it appears that during the last year 155,533 members were added to the churches on missionary ground, which is only 28,404 less than accessions to the churches in all Christendom, with their manifold advantages.

The statistics of the Protestant churches of Japan have just been published. The following is a summary of the principal items: Number of local churches, 151; gain during the year, 18; number of baptized persons, 11,602; number of baptisms in 1885, 1,902; contributions, $25,406; increase over 1884, $6,415.

The first synagogue in this country to be devoted to the use of Hungarians was dedicated last week in New York. The building is on Norfolk street, near Houston. It will hold 1,500 people. It was purchased from another Hebrew congregation for $55,000. The organ has been removed, and the edifice will be strictly in keeping with orthodox Jewish places of worship hereafter.

The first of the autumnal Unitarian conferences in the west this year will be that of the Illinois state conference, which is to be held in All Souls' church, Chicago, October 13 and 14. The programme will be enriched by the dedication of the new church and the recognition of the semi-centennial of Unitarianism in the state. In addition to the usual invitation of the conference, All Souls' church extends a hearty invitation to all friends.

A lady has placed the sum of $200,000 in the hands of Rev. H. S. Hoffman and C. M. Morton, for the purpose of establishing in West Philadelphia a divinity school for the Reformed Episcopal church. With the seminary a church is to be established, and the parish and seminary are to be so connected that the pastors shall be professors, and the young students are to assist in parochial work. It is said that $100,000 will be spent upon the buildings, which are to be erected in a lot already purchased at Chestnut and Forty-third streets.

AMERICAN OPERA.

New Voices and New Productions Which the Provinces Are to Get the First Of.

New York Sun: The second season of the American Opera company will begin at the academy of music, Philadelphia, on November 15, and will probably close early in June in San Francisco. On November 22 a season of one week, Thanksgiving week, will be commenced at the Music hall, Cincinnati, of which the entire profits will be handed over to the Cincinnati College of Music. Following Cincinnati there will be one week at the Exposition Music hall, St. Louis, and two weeks at the Columbia theater, Chicago. The company will not be heard in New York until February 28, when the season of five weeks of American opera opens at the Metropolitan opera house; but for one week, beginning December 27, the company will appear at the academy of music, Brooklyn.

Mme. Cornelia Zanten, a European artist of the first rank, has been engaged for leading contralto and mezzo-soprano, and Miss Bertha Pierson has also been engaged. Mme. Fursch-Madi, the well known dramatic prima donna and directress of the National Conservatory of Music, will be heard in certain special roles. Among other additions to the company are Miss Carlotta Pinner, a young American soprano, and Miss Laura Moore, a young dramatic soprano, who left America some years ago to study at the Paris conservatory. She recently gained the first prize there. There are three new American tenors. Charles O. Bassett, Henry Bates and Charles M. Wood. Other attractions are John E. Brand, an American baritone, who has appeared with success in several opera companies, and D. M. Babcock, the basso. Miss Emma Juch will remain the lyric prima donna of the company, and the re-engagement of Pauline L'Allemand will be recognized as another pleasurable feature.

The works that will be added to the repertoire and are now being prepared for most elaborate production are "Faust," "Aida," "The Huguenots," "Tannhauser," "Oberon," "Nero," Halevy's "Leclair," Masse's "Galathee," the grand ballet "Copnelia" by Delibes, "The Corsair" grand ballet, by Delibes and Adam, and the "Bal Costume," by Rubinstein, which will be given in its entirety for the first time in this country.

The Thomas orchestra has been strengthened for this season. Mr. Thomas will again be the musical director and conductor, and Prof. Bouny, the vocal director of the national conservatory, will have the same post in the American opera company.

The chorus numbers 100 voices, and is very much stronger than last season's. The ballet has been increased and will number ninety-six dancers. The premieres are: Mlles. Giuri, De Gillert, Carozzi and M. Cammarano. The first quadrille consists of Mlles. Riccio, Vio, Astegiana and Maveroffer.

There will be also four in the second quadrille, fifty-two coryphees, twenty advanced pupils of the American opera ballet school, and twelve male pantomimists. The ballet will be the largest ever seen in this country. Thirty-six new coryphees have been especially selected from the various opera houses of France.

The new scenery is being painted by the best available American artists, and the estimated cost of the scenery, costumes and stage paraphernalia for the works which are being prepared for this season exceeds $150,000.