

sermon. This is in compliance with a request from Mrs Kirkland, N.Z. Superintendent of Evangelistic Work, and we hope will arouse those ministers who are behind the times on the Temperance question to stir themselves and feel they must be in touch with the people with this most-needed reform of the day.

CHRISTCHURCH.—The anniversary of our enfranchisement was celebrated by an "At Home" in the Art Gallery. A large number of invitations were sent out and accepted, fully 300 ladies being present. The large room was tastefully arranged and decorated, and light refreshments daintily served. The President, Mrs Ballantyne, received, while Mrs Munnings roused her audience to a sense of the responsibility resting upon them as enfranchised women, and Mrs Newton gratefully referred to Mrs Sheppard's labours on behalf of New Zealand women. Rev P. R. Monro and Mr T. E. Taylor enlightened the assembly on Temperance matters generally, and the wastefulness of the drink traffic, and the injustice of the three-fifths majority in particular. The special cause for rejoicing about the meeting was the presence in large numbers of ladies who are not to be found at any ordinary temperance gathering.

Drink, the only terrible enemy whom England has to fear.—The late Duke of Albany.

The law ought to make it easy for men to do right and difficult to do wrong, and a time may not be far distant when a man will no more think of tolerating a dramshop than of poisoning the well from which his neighbour draws water to drink.—Mr Gladstone.

One of the commonest things in society is that people are injured by drink without being drunkards. It goes on so quietly that it is difficult to observe, even though it leads to degeneration of the tissues, and spoils the health and intellect. Short of drunkenness, I should say from experience that alcohol is the most destructive agent we have in this country.—Sir William Gull.

Five thousand two hundred patents have been issued to women in the United States."

A medical college for women has been opened in St. Petersburg.

This year, in England and Wales, no fewer than 893 women have been appointed as Poor Law Guardians.

Dr Emma Johnston is the recently-appointed Health Commissioner of Peoria, Illinois.

The Durham University, since it received its new charter, permits women to become Bachelors of all kinds, except Divinity. Miss Ella Bryant is its first woman graduate Bachelor of Science.

Wellington Convention Reports.

BLLENHEIM.

Your Executive has much pleasure in submitting report and balance-sheet of the Union for year ending September 30, 1895, and congratulates the members on the satisfactory position of Union. The members at the present time number 40, in addition to which there are 14 honorary members enrolled. During the year 24 meetings have been held, which were well attended, and, during the same period, arrangements were made with Dr. Cleghorn for the purchase of the property the Union rented, which was submitted on exceptionally easy terms. This has since been received and altered and enlarged to suit the requirements of the Union, and it is in every respect most suitable. The expenditure on building and furniture for enlarged premises has tasked the financial powers of the Union; but is now largely disposed of, with the result that premises, furniture, and fittings might be said to be pretty well clear.

The purchase-money of property remains the same, at a very low rate of interest, but, to complete this arrangement in legal form, it was necessary to have trustees, and the following gentlemen kindly consented to assume the office, viz.:—Messrs. Eckford, Gifford, Girling, and Hay, to whom the Union tenders its sincere thanks. The new rooms were opened to the public by an opening social, which was well attended, and at which your President delivered an interesting inaugural address on Union Work. Saturday evening socials were held till end of the year, and there was generally a nice attendance, and the Union desires to thank those who contributed to the various programmes. In connection with this, your Executive would state that the most pressing requirement of the Union is a piano, the getting of which has been delayed, but is now in a fair way to be secured.

The balance-sheet accompanying this report shows the business done, and this result is largely arrived at by the members contributing in various ways to the success of the movement. During the year one Vice-president, Mrs Dobson, has resigned, and the office is still vacant.

R. GRACE, President.

E. ROSE, Secretary.

There are at least six tailors in Paris who do nothing else but make bicycle costumes for women.

The first instalment of the "Woman's Bible" was printed in the *Times Herald* of Chicago last July, under the superintendence of Mrs L. B. Chandler.