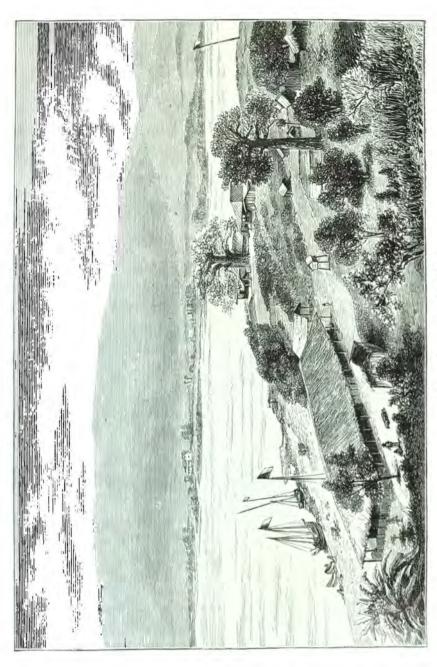
THE MISSIONARY HERALD, DECEMBER 1, 1882.



## THE MISSIONARY HERALD

OF THE

## Baptist Missionary Society.

### 1890.

## New Year's Day Prayer-Meeting.

N Wednesday morning, January 1st, 1890, we hope to meet at eleven o'clock in the Library of the Mission House, Furnival Street, Holborn, for special prayer in connection with mission work all over the world.

Many will doubtless recall with thankful joy hallowed memories of similar occasions in years gone by, and will join in earnest supplication that the approaching gathering may be rich in blessing and memorable in result.

It is with much pleasure we announce that our much esteemed friend, S. Pattison, Esq., F.G.S., will preside on this occasion.

# Sacramental Collection for Widows and Orphans' Fund,

ON THE FIRST SUNDAY, IN THE NEW YEAR.

THE appeal on behalf of this important Fund has been prepared, and will be issued early during the current month, so as to be in the hands of pastors in good time to permit of the needful announcements.

Very earnestly do we desire to call special attention to the needs of this Fund in view of the increasingly numerous claims of the widow and the fatherless. Amid the glad associations of the New Year we plead for a place for the widow and fatherless.

Our brethren on the field are greatly cheered by knowing that, in addition to the affectionate sympathy of personal friends, they are specially remembered at such a season throughout the churches.

They call for our tenderest sympathy; they claim our constant prayers; and as the messengers of the churches and the glory of Christ, they demand our cheerful and generous support.

# Christmas and New Year's Cards for Native Preachers and Evangelists' Fund.

THE Christmas Cards are now being sent out, and we desire to call the special notice of our young friends to this most interesting and important Fund.

The native preachers enable the missionaries to form new stations, to take long journeys into the country where they live, to visit fairs, markets, and heathen festivals, to which great multitudes come to pay honour to their false gods. To these people our native brethren declare the Gospel, and distribute amongst them tracts and copies of the Scriptures.

The Society sustains a very large number of preachers in India, Ceylon, China, Japan, the West Indies, West and Central Africa, and Europe, connected with more than four hundred stations.

The sum raised last year for this purpose amounted to £733, a slight increase upon the amount contributed the previous year. We are anxious to raise this Fund to ONE THOUSAND POUNDS. Let our young friends do what they can, and this sum will be secured without difficulty.

We shall be thankful to supply friends with cards who may desire to assist in this good work; applications should be sent to Alfred Henry Baynes, 19, Furnival Street, Holborn, London, E.C.

### Decease of Sir Samuel Morton Peto, Bart.

BY this time the fact of the great loss the Society has sustained in the death of Sir S. Morton Peto will be widely known. At the Committee meeting, held a few days after its occurrence, the officers were instructed to draw up a minute to be placed upon the records of the Society, which should suitably express their high estimate of his worth, their deep sorrow at his decease, and their sincere sympathy with Lady Peto and the mourning family. The minute reads as under:—

### "MINUTE ON THE DECEASE OF SIR SAMUEL MORTON PETO, BART.

"It is with profound sorrow that the Committee record the decease of Sir Samuel Morton Peto, Bart, which took place at Blackhurst, Kent, on the 13th of November last. The connection of Sir Morton Peto with this Society as one of its Treasurers, and the eminent services rendered to it for a period of nearly fifty years, make it the duty as it is the affectionate desire of the Committee to express somewhat fully their sense of the deep obligation under which the Society and its missionaries have been laid by their deceased friend.

"Mr. Peto became a member of the Committee in the year 1845; and during the annual services of that year he took part in the anniversary meeting at Exeter Hall. His speech was a brief review of the events of the year, making special reference to hindrances existing in India from the action of the repre-

sentatives of the Propagation Society, but emphasising with great warmth of feeling the commencement of the African Mission at Fernando Po, and the blessed results of the Society's labours in Jamaica, both with respect to the accomplishment of emancipation, and also to the fruits of evangelistic toil. The failing health of their long-tried friend, William Brodie Gurney, Esq., led the Committee, in the following year, to request Mr. Peto to become his colleague. On Mr. Gurney's decease, in 1854, Mr. Peto was elected the sole Treasurer.

"By Mr. Peto's munificence he made successful the visit of Dr. Angus and the late Rev. C. M. Birrell to Jamaica in the year 1846-7, enabling them also to remove the grievous pecuniary burdens which stood in the path of the true independence of the native Church, and to relieve the pressing necessities of many of the pastors. The Society was also indebted to their Treasurer in an eminent degree for a somewhat similar service in 1852, when the late Rev. Joshua Russell and Dr. Leechman visited India on its behalf; and later on, when, in the years 1854-1857, their Secretary, Mr. Underhill, fulfilled a somewhat similar duty in that vast dependency of the British Crown, and in the spiritual welfare of which country Sir Morton Peto to the last took the deepest interest. This generous kindness was repeated when, in the year 1859-60, the Rev. J. T. Brown and Dr. Underhill visited the mission churches in Jamaica and other islands, the scenes of the Society's labours; and again, when Dr. Underhill undertook a journey to Western Africa, in 1869-70

"Nor can it fail to be remembered how often Sir Morton Peto occupied the chair at the anniversary seasons of the Society, always welcomed and ever manifesting his deep interest in the welfare and progress of its native missions. He regarded these meetings as among the most sacred of religious services, and on the last of these occasions he spoke in terms of the greatest earnestness of the solemn responsibility which lies on all the disciples of Christ, and especially on commercial men, to regard themselves as Christians placed in trust with the Gospel, and so, in the spirit of Christian love and faithfulness, to exhibit an ever-increasing liberality.

"Circumstances which need no further reference here led to the resignation of the office of Treasurer in the year 1867, but not without, on the part of the Committee, a deeply-felt recognition of 'the wisdom, the courtesy, the diligence, and the unrivalled munificence' with which, for twenty-one years, Sir Morton Peto had presided over the Society's affairs. Since that period until his lamented decease, as an honorary member of the Committee, Sir Morton did not class to afford the Society the benefit of his counsel and support.

"The interest of Sir Morton Peto in the welfare and comfort of the missionaries was constant and tender. He welcomed them to his house, and by many generous deeds of unobtrusive kindness he manifested his esteem and affection. It was one of his last acts as a member of the Committee to propose and help to carry into effect the plan of each missionary having in this country one friend at least among the supporters of the Society, with whom the missionary might correspond concerning the various incidents of his service, and so gather encouragement from such Christian fellowship.

"The interest of Sir Morton Peto in missionary work was only one part of

his consecration of life to the glory of Christ. It branched out in many ways in the denominational work of the churches, and in many generous efforts for the well-being of the Church of Christ in connection with other bodies. But the Committee dare not fail to express, in their special relation to him, their warmest love and esteem, and to acknowledge him as a faithful fellow-labourer in the Kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ; as a man of the noblest type, of unstinted generosity of feeling, and of truest fidelity to Christian verities and labour. As a friend he never failed; as a Christian he walked humbly with God. In this expression of their gratitude and esteem, the Committee only desire, while making mention of his worth, 'to glorify God in him.'

"To Lady Peto and the family of their valued friend the Committee respectfully offer their most affectionate sympathy, and desire to commend them to the grace of Christ, into whose presence the husband and father has passed, and in fellowship with whom he will find his eternal rest and reward."

## Decease of Mr. James Nutter, of Cambridge.

A T the same meeting the Hon. Secretary referred to the further loss the Society had suffered in the death of Mr. James Nutter, of Cambridge, and was requested to record upon the minutes a fitting expression of their feelings. The following is the minute:—

"It is with feelings of sincere regret the Committee have received the tidings of the decease of Mr. James Nutter, of Cambridge, on the 22nd of October, 1889. For many years a generous friend and contributor to the Mission, he became a member of the Committee in the year 1879, and only last year was transferred to the list of its honorary members. Always urbane in manner and sincere in speech, he held an honoured place among its members. His interest in the Society was deep, and was evidenced by his frequent presence in its meetings, by his sound judgment and knowledge, and the hospitality with which he received to his confidence and house the missionaries with whom he came in contact. If any mission, more than others, attracted his sympathy, it was the Italian Mission, especially the work conducted by Mr. Wall, of Rome. The Committee will miss his genial spirit and cordial help which they have enjoyed during the ten years of his connection with them. He rests from his labours, and his works do follow him.

"They desire also to express their warm sympathy with all the members of his family, especially with the wife of their devoted colleague, the Rev. J. B. Myers. May the sustaining grace of the Lord Jesus be their stay and support!"

## Zenana Mission.

IT is with much sorrow we find place for the following communication from Mrs. Angus, intimating the sad losses the Zenana Mission has been called to sustain:—

MY DEAR MR. MYERS,-Will you kindly allow me a little space in the next

HERALD that I may claim the sympathy of our friends in the sad tidings which have lately reached us from India?

We are called upon to mourn the loss of two of our beloved young missionaries, Miss Patton, of Bhiwani, who died about the end of September from a sudden accident while at her own home at Mussoorie; and Miss Blackwell, of Agra, who died of rapid consumption, after a few weeks of fever and weakness, on the 18th of October.

"God speaketh once, yea twice," and like the prophet our hearts must ask, "What shall I say? He hath both spoken unto me, and Himself hath done it." The dear young friends whose loss we deplore were neither of them wearied with long toil and anxiety, for Miss Patton joined Miss Angus at Bhiwani in May. 1888, and Miss Blackwell left her English home little more than twelve months ago; but with both of them there had been shown earnest consecration and intense love, and great suitability for the work. Miss Blackwell had been unwell with continued fever and severe cough since June, but in September had seemed so much improved that we had hoped that cooler weather would bring complete recovery; but early in October severe symptoms set in, and the doctors found evidence of severe and rapid disease in the lungs; her strength failed, and very quietly and peacefully she passed away to the home above. In a very touching manner she repeated more than once, and sent the message to the sorrowing ones at home, "There was no mistake in my coming to India. I am glad I came." Very earnestly would we commend to the loving sympathy and earnest prayers of all our friends—the sorrowing and bereaved parents-in India and England of our two dear young workers, and more particularly the dear sister, Miss Florence Blackwell, who will need in a special manner God's sustaining comfort and love; for she will reach her new home in India to find a vacant place where she had hoped to meet her beloved sister, and enjoy her companionship and assistance.

We had been rejoicing in having been allowed to cheer the hearts of our earnest missionaries abroad by sending so many new helpers, when the staff is again thus sadly broken in upon and weakened. One thought may comfort us. It is God's will, and He knows best how to tring His own purposes to pass.

Yours sincerely,

The College, Regent's Park, November 14th. A. Angus, Hon. Secretary.

## The Finances of the Society.

WE do not wish unnecessarily to sound an alarm with respect to the state of our finances; yet, bearing in mind the ever-diminishing distance between us and the 31st of March next, both duty and prudence require that we should make a plain statement as to the incomings and outgoings from the commencement of the financial year up to the 31st of October. Taking for the purpose of comparison the corresponding date of the previous year, we are compelled to present the following figures:—

INCOME.

### EXPENDITURE.

Oct. 31st, 1	.888		£13,356	Oct. 31st, 1889		£39,905
,, 1	.889 .	•	8,541	,, 1888	••	38,713
Decre	ease .		£4,815	Increase		£1,192

These figures, read without any explanation, would indeed be most alarming. Lest, however, contributing churches and friends shall be unduly discouraged, it is only right to say that in the larger contributions of last year there was included a very generous gift of £3,297 17s. 3d. from a warm friend of the Mission, who preferred to give in his lifetime, and so save for the Society the legacy duty of 10 per cent. But with the deduction of this special donation, the difference in the receipts is less by £1,518, and the increase in expenditure more by £1,192, representing together a sum of £2,710. This, added to the £3,297 mentioned above, gives the startling total of £6,007. It must also be remembered that we closed our accounts last year with a debt of £2,862, standing now at £689. We must not, therefore, and we do not, shut our eyes to the fact that we have a very considerable lee-way to make up.

We are thankful to report that, as far as we can ascertain, there has been no falling off in the amounts received from the churches. The decrease is mainly traceable to the receipt of fewer large donations. It is hoped these special gifts will become more numerous during the remaining course of the financial year.

There may be readers of the HERALD who, after perusing the above statement, will desire to assist the Society in its present circumstances; some may be especially willing to do so if only particular ways can be pointed out in which their contributions would be useful. We venture very respectfully, but very earnestly, to indicate what is in our thought. It will be known that, since the current year began, several new missionary brethren have left us, six, indeed, going to the Congo, three to India, and one to Italy. Are there not friends of the Society whose hearts will be moved to defray the cost of the passage and outfit of these reinforcements? And shall we be pardoned if we make one further appeal on behalf of the debt of last year? As we have already stated, it now stands at £689. Will it not be in the heart of some of our friends, as it may be in their power, to remove this incubus? We would not multiply words of appeal, but trust to the kindly impulses of those who have felt for long, and still feel, a deep interest in Christian Missions, and who daily pray for the coming of the Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour.

# Letter from Mrs. W. Holman Bentley of the Congo.

BY the last Congo mail we have received a most interesting letter from Mrs. Bentley, which we have much pleasure in communicating to our readers:—

"Wathen Station,

"Congo River, S.W. Africa,

"August 21st, 1889.

"MY DEAR MR. BAYNES,—My husband is writing to you on business matters, and has left it to me to send you some of the general news.

"We had a very pleasant and quick journey hither, there being no hot sun to make it wearisome, and no rain to hinder us either. Certainly June and July are very good months for a land journey here. Since my arrival at Banana I have had no fever at all, and since coming here about five weeks ago not any one of us has had a day's sickness.

"It was indeed pleasant to get back here again. There were several new faces amongst those that appeared to greet me on my arrival. The pleasure of meeting them all again really began at Lukunga, where the first well-known face I saw was Aku's. On hearing that we had arrived at the base of the hill, she prepared herself to meet us, and when we got nearer to her house she was running to meet me. It really did my heart good to see her so pleased and happy. She has a fine baby-boy, and best of all to me was the testimony which the ladies of our sister-mission gave concerning her daily life. She often goes to the women in the neighbouring towns to speak to them of the Saviour; her own life is consistent with her teachings, and the women respect and like her. Her married life, too, seems to them altogether better than their own native fashions.

"Nlemvo and Manwele are both away just at present, but of the nine other boys and girls that I knew, five are leading consistent Christian lives, while in two more I see a great change, though they have not professed Christianity yet, and there are still faults which I would like to see overcome.

"Altogether I cannot help being very

"HOPEFUL FOR THE FUTURE. and feel very thankful and happy at present. The work itself, too, grows upon one; and feeling more settled down now than during my previous stay in Africa, I am hoping to do more and better work. I have been out with my husband hitherto on Sundays visiting neighbouring towns, and, excepting at one town which we visited last Sunday, the receptions have been very good and stimulating. I have also ventured out four or five times by myself, taking my lunch with me and some knitting, and the Kongo 'More about Jesus,' and a photo of my little Henry. Then I sit down and knit. By and by some curious folks come round and we chat a little; or I take out the photo and the women come round and then I tell them that I have come to tell them more about Jeaus.

"Last time I went out I had quite a strange experience. I heard groans and cries in a house, and on inquiring about these, was told to go and see. When I got to the house a large crowd was assembled, the hut itself was filled, and several were sitting outside. They made me understand that it was a witch palaver. The poor woman then had another painful attack. After she quieted down, being very affected myself, I spoke very straightforwardly about God's displeasure with these foolish customs, &c.

"I afterwards heard that it was not anybody who had given the woman anything for being a supposed witch, but that a witch was supposed to have attacked her, causing her to burn herself. The fact seems to have been that the woman had an apoplectic fit. Later on, I spoke more about the Evil One and his ways of leading us to sin, and of God's love to us, and the way of redemption. I told them also that we were their friends, and if anybody was ill they might come to us, we would give them medicine if we could.

"THE MEDICINE DEPARTMENT is at present in charge of Mr. Oram, and his work seems to be well appreciated by the natives.

"My goings to the town have resulted in two little girls being added to my three—one a nice intelligent child of about nine I should say, the other a little, timid, wee mite, of perhaps five. I do hope to keep both, the one because she is capable, and the other because I know she will be better cared for here than by those of her master's household. one is rather homesick just now. If we can but manage to pass the next fortnight comfortably, I trust she will feel more at ease. It is all so strapge and novel to her now. I take them both with me to the school in the afternoons.

"Mr. Oram takes the more advanced children—i.e., those that can read, and have begun to learn geography and do arithmetic. My furthest advanced can only read two-syllabled words as

yet. I generally like the school work, but am very puzzled often at the queer reading. They very frequently give a totally different word to what they have spelt; for instance, a boy spells carefully c a t, repeats these letters to himself generally once or twice, looks thoughtfully up to the ceiling or down on the floor, and says 'machine' or something else as far from the point as that. 'M a = flour,' is an instance which I had yesterday or the day before.

"I invited the women of the nearest town to come to me to be taught in the mornings. Only five came the first day, which shows how little interest there was, and these five did not come again. A day or two afterwards, I saw two of them sitting where they always sit who come to sell food, so I asked them to go with me to have another lesson. 'No,' for we did not buy the food they had brought to sell. I told them that the boy in charge said we had sufficient in the store, and therefore could not buy more. But if we would not oblige them in buying their food-stuffs, they would not oblige us by coming to learn. So nothing has come of this attempt of mine.

"I am hoping for better success with some of our work-people. During the day they have not time to learn, so I offered to four of the most decent and intelligent of them to teach them in the evenings. Two shrugged their shoulders, but two have come and have begun their alphabet. I hope they will continue to come until they can read. They come to me in my bedroom, which is the only place I have until our new house is ready. I could go over to the brick house, but that is not advisable for several reasons.

"On Fridays the elder boys come to

me for a lesson in physiology. Other evenings they have classes in history and geography, the Old Testament, and the New, taken by Mr. Oram and my husband.

"Altogether, we each of us have our hands pretty full, and we earnestly pray that health and energy may be continued to us, for even now there is much that has to be left undone through lack of time. I trust our mission friends, especially those who have shown us personal kindnesses, will not forget us in their prayers. It was a great pleasure to me to become acquainted with so many who were specially interested in our work on the Congo.

### "FIRST TELEGRAPH IN CONGO.

"We have now got our telegraphic wires in full working order, and one of our boys is beginning to read the Morse Code fairly well.

"We had a visit from the Governor-General about two weeks ago, en route for the Upper River. We had just put up the wires. He seemed pleased with it. It is the first telegraph line on the Congo, I hear.

"Most of our boys are at present daily engaged in sorting up a lot of type for the press, which had got mixed. They are most of them too young or too uneducated to do very much in a day, but it is good practice for them, they have to keep awake at it, and it will teach them to take in things at a glance.

"All this besides the household duties will show you that we all have a fairly busy life, and I truly believe we are getting on well, though not very fast in many things, yet our progress is steady.

"The clock is now striking ten, which is my usual hour for stopping work. I believe I have given you most of the general news, though I have not mentioned Mr. Cameron's frequent itinerating visits to towns. I will therefore close now. With kindest regards,

"Believe me,
"Dear Mr. Baynes,
"Yours sincerely,
"H. M. BENTLEY.

"A. H. Baynes, Esq."

By kind permission of Messrs. A. Gurney and W. Lepard Smith, we are able to give further particulars of the telegraphic apparatus referred to in preceding letter, as well as other interesting details:—

" Wathen Station,

"Congo River, S.W. Africa, "August 9th, 1889.

"DEAR SIRS,—The mails have arrived to-day, and from my father's letter I learn of your great kindness in presenting us at this station with a complete telegraphic apparatus. It has been set up, and is in full work. The two colleagues who are with me here are both able to use it, having been used to such work when in England.

I am making good progress myself, and some of the senior boys are taking lessons.

"When my wife made known to you our need, she doubtless told you that we did not seek it for our own convenience, although it is very useful in communicating between the houses.

"THE CONGO RAILWAY.

"The Congo Railway scheme has taken such a definite and practicable

shape that we may now make preparations and plans for it. Telegraphists will be needed, and some of our boys may find good openings in the railway.

"As soon as the apparatus arrived, we set to work to put up the wires. A few days later the Governor of the State arrived here on his way to the Upper River.

"The State officials, who have no interest in our evangelistic work, are rather inclined during these early years to regard us as rather a useless lot of people; but when the Governor saw the telegraph, he thought it a capital idea, and was much pleased. So already the apparatus has done us a good turn. The boys have had the working explained to them, and are much interested.

"A very wide world is opening before them, and some begin to realise that they are very far behind.

"We had a great puzzle at first as to how we could get the wires tight; then, too, we found that the insulators were not strong enough to act as terminals for the wire; so after breaking one we took a couple of old filters and terminated the wires on those, having fastened them to the They will answer well until we can get out the proper 'shackles.' They look a little strange, but we are proud of the way in which we have surmounted the difficulty. from the singular terminals the whole thing is as business-like in appearance as anything of the kind in Europe.

#### " FIRST CONGO TELEGRAPH.

"It is the first telegraph on the Congo. There are telephones at Mboma and Banana, but no telegraph. The State telephones were useless after ten days' use, for some reason.

"The Bromley press is soon to be in

working order. You will remember that the gifts of Bromley friends were thus expended.

"I have just come into possession of a great 'pie' of several hundredweights of type, being the Cameroons founts.

"All our school boys are busy sorting out the thirty different kinds which we find present. We find at least thirty different nicks, but shall no doubt find that several will work together. Out of the lot we shall be able to get some very good founts. I have ordered all other necessary 'furniture,' and accented vowels, &c., and we look forward to a nice little printing office. I intend to start a small magazine as soon as possible, in Kongo of course. I have been ordering a heading from the founders, 'SE KUKIA' (the dawn is breaking). This little scheme also much interested the Governor.

"Mr. Weeks has promised me a couple of reams of paper from the Underhill stock, but when I get to work I shall soon want more. I shall send a few of the first copies to Bromley, and to you especially.

"I am indeed happy to have my wife back again. We had a capital journey up country, no sun to trouble us, most delightfully cool weather, really cold sometimes.

"The house which I have been building is not yet ready. There are yet three months' work I fear, things move so slowly here. However, we have a very decent carpenter, and if he takes a little longer over doing the work well it does not do to worry about it. It is built on iron pillars, walls and roof of galvanised iron, the latter lined with match boarding (half-inch). We are anxious to have a part habitable before the rains have fairly set in, and there is scarcely a

month before they commence. I suppose that it will be some time yet before I go to England. I hope so, indeed. We are both in excellent health; my wife has had no fever since her arrival.

"We have been out together to towns about two hours distant every Sunday since returning here. One Sunday the town visited was a bit nearer; then we started on Saturday afternoon and returned on Sunday.

### " MRS. BENTLEY.

"The women everywhere are delighted with my wife; "our woman, our friend," is the cry raised.

" Last Sunday when it was time to go on to another town (we visited four) I went to see if my wife was ready. She had a group round her, and the women told me to go off and talk to the men a bit longer, and leave my wife a bit longer with them. 'Nkeuto abiza'-- 'a very nice woman.' Shehas been out several times alone. taking a good lunch with her. Last Friday morning I saw her comfortably arranged in the hammock, and two men trotted off with her to the town. two hours off: she returned in the evening with a long story to tell. She is enjoying the work and finding plenty of it. Missions without ladies are very lopsided arrangements. It is a good thing indeed that health is so good here. I have been out a great deal this year. There is so much to do that my outings have been nearly all on Sunday.

"I believe that these activities, and especially the outings, tend a great deal towards keeping in health. Plenty to do is the best state of things out here. There is no sign of great movement among the people as yet, but we can generally get much more interested and intelligent audiences than we used to, and certain it is that some understand, very fairly, the message of salvation, if they have not yet taken advantage of it.

"Mr. Percy Comber is expected to reach here in a few days, he has been taking charge at San Salvador for month, to allow Mr. Lewis to take his wife to the coast and see her off home. We hope to arrange for wider itineration as soon as he comes. Life is all too short, we must make the most of it.

"Nlemvo is away just now, having various family matters to settle. He is an important man now, and if he were not a Christian, would figure as chief of his clan, as well as his town; but I learn from his last letter that there is still a strong heathen feeling against him. His little one is growing fast, and he is very proud of her. Aku's little boy, too, is a bonny little man. I suppose that you still remember them as children. I must not commence another sheet, for I have so much to get ready for the mail. with our united kind regards to you both, and renewed thanks, kind remembrance to Mrs. Smith, and Mr. Lovell, and my kind friend the 'breeches maker,' I quite forget his name,

"Yours very gratefully,
"W. HOLMAN BENTLEY.

"Messrs. A. Gurney and

" Lepard Smith."

### Cheering News from China.

THE Rev. C. Spurgeon Medhurst, now in this country to recruit his health, wrote as under, before leaving Tsing Chou Fu:—

"DEAR MR. BAYNES,-During the last two months I have been largely engaged in visiting some of our stations, exhorting the Christians, and administering the Communion. Μv experiences have, of course, been varied; but, on the whole, I can confidently say that the lights have been stronger than the shadows, and nearly everywhere I have found encouragement. In very many of the stations the power of Christ is slowly but surely making itself felt in the district. Like ivy, the green leaves of the prolonged consistent lives of the church members are becoming more and more manifest, transforming the unsightly walls of the fortress of superstition and idolatry into a thing of living beauty. It is our hope and constant prayer—a prayer and a hope in which I am sure every reader of this letter will participate—that these Christians shall continue to multiply until every stone and brick which has been used to build up the great fort of false religions in China shall not only have disappeared beneath these green ivy leaves of holy Christlike living, but until the grim castle itself shall have been transformed from a stronghold of darkness into a temple of the living God.

#### "HAPPY OLD AGE.

"It was my lot to pay one of my earliest visits to Hsü Wang Chuang, a hill station some thirty or forty li from here. This is not one of our promising stations, but it will doubtless be preserved from death while old Mrs. Wu lives. The old lady is a striking witness of the reality of our faith. Every wrinkle in her toothless face beams with delight

and joy-so different from the careworn, evil-looking countenances of many of the heathen. Mrs. Wu, who is now over seventy, did not learn to read until she was past sixty, when she became a disciple of Christ. Although aged, and of course possessing painfully small teet, she had, on the morning of my arrival, canvassed those church members whom she knew becoming lax in their attendance at public worship. Her conversation and her life equally testify to the sincerity of her profession. I felt considerably cheered by my converse with this aged, happy pilgrim, who unconsciously testified to the hollowness of heathen morality, however good, when she dropped the remark: 'Ah, the relations which Christianity gives us, how much more trustworthy they are than one's natural relations! Her own family are, I believe, all church members. I was glad to find a Mrs. Wu in what I knew to be a Laodicean church.

### "A CHRISTIAN SERVICE.

"Very different was the station a few miles away, to which I went on the afternoon of the same day. The room was filled with earnest Christians, who listened with close attention to my explanation of the rite of the Lord's Supper, and to my comparison of the old custom of 'fencing the tables' in Scotland, with the lax discipline existing at Corinth on the occasion of Paul's first Epistle to that Church.

"I spent the night at this station, and so had several hours' converse with the members. This social intercourse often proves more beneficial than the more formal service. This evening our talk turned on the difficulties the

heathen Chinese have to overcome in accepting Christianity, and the remarks of my native brethren clearly showed me -what indeed I already knew-that it is not love of idolatry, but love of sin which keeps people in China from accepting the Saviour. One old man, although he had not become a Christian until late in life, told me that he had not knocked his head on the ground to an idol since he became of age: and he is typical of many men in China. The men of the country have no great faith in their idols, and it is remarkable that those whose trade it is to make the images never worship them.

### "INQUISITIVE MINDS.

"Christianity opens the minds of the people and makes them think. Sometimes, like bright children, they ask us puzzling questions. During this tour among the churches I have been asked such questions as these :- What is the origin of earthquakes? What is the 'will-o'-the-wisp'? How is paraffin oil obtained? Why does the wind sometimes blow in a circle? &c., &c. One who aspires to influence among the people must be prepared to give more or less satisfactory answers to these inquiries. It is needless to add that the native explanations of all natural phenomena are very absurd and crude. When they hear for the first time that the world turns round, they open their eyes wide, and then with a sense of extreme shrewdness sometimes remark: "If the world turned round we should not only tumble off, but the north would change places with the south."

### "A HEARTY WELCOME.

"After a day or two's experience of the formal politeness of the heathen, it is a treat indeed to receive a welcome from some native Christian. Many a time after a hard day's travel has it infused me with fresh vigour. The memory of such a reception is with me while I write. It was already dark when I arrived at a strange village. inquired my way to the house of the only Christian in the place. As soon as he heard of my unexpected arrival the old gentleman came out into the street and invited me and my barrowmen indoors. When we apologised for the trouble our sudden advent was causing, he warmly replied: 'Trouble! Why, when the pastor comes to my house he is coming to his home.1 Presently, when he got a better view of me, he cried: 'Why, pastor, you are much thinner than you were in the spring' (I was just recovering from a severe dysentery). So the evening passed in familiar intercourse-such fellowship as makes one forget they are strangers in an alien and semi-hostile country.

"I might give many more illustrations of our church work, but this must suffice for this letter. During 1888, fifty-eight have been baptized in connection with our work in Shantung —Very faithfully yours,

"C. Spurgeon Medhurst.

"A. H. Baynes, Esq."

## The Famous Temple and Monastery at Gya.

WE are indebted to our missionary, Mr. Mitchell, for the illustrations and descriptions of the Buddhist temple and monastery in Gya contained in this number of the Herald:—

"I berewith send two photographs of the great Buddhist temple and the monestery at Bodh Gaya.

"It is supposed that this monastery was first established in the early part of the last century. It is situated on the left bank of the River Lilajan, in the midst of a garden extending over an area of twenty acres, and surrounded by a high masonry wall. is four-storied in some parts, but three-storied all round a small quad-On entering this square I rangle. was surprised to see a large number of very expensive bullocks, horses, two camels, and one elephant. The place has more the appearance of a king's palace than the abode of a monk.

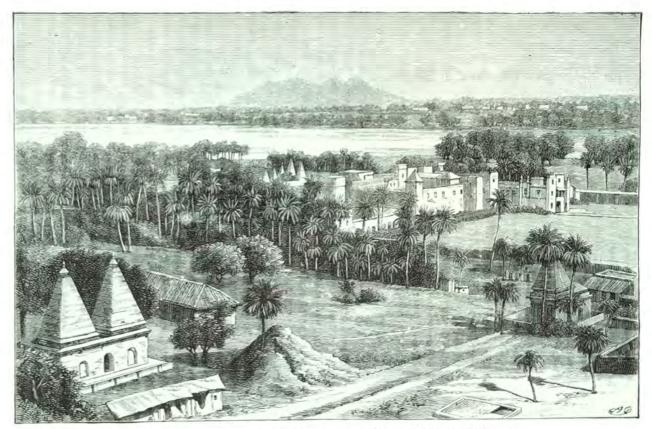
"The village of Bodh Gava belongs to the Mahaut. He has also other lands, and a steady income from the offerings made by the Hindus to the sacred pipal tree in the enclosure of the great temple. His annual income is reckoned at upwards of Rs. 80,000. The number of Sanyasis who live on this income varies from fifty to a hundred daily. These men are always very friendly and polite to visitors. One of them saved me from a large bullock who charged, and would probably have put a stop to my investigations of the place had he not stepped between me and the animal.

"I went to Bodh Gaya on the 19.h September, the day of the great rush of pilgrims to that place, and preached at the principal entrance to the temple. I felt astonished to see the pilgrims paying homage to Buddha

and his mother; the latter is now called Maya Devi. I asked the attendant Brahman why Hindus worshipped the great infidel teacher, and why he, a Brahman, assisted them in their worship. He replied: 'I cannot understand how they come here, but my reason for performing the sacred duties of the place, is that it brings me a comfortable income.'

"The pipal tree on the west of the great temple, where the renowned teacher, Buddha, is said to have sat and meditated, is held sacred by the Hindus. In the sixth chapter of the Gaya Mahatmya there is a passage which enjoins that before offering the funeral cake on Vishupud the pilgrim should go to Bodh Gaya and salute the Bodh Briksh, the tree of wisdom, after this manner:—

"'I salute thee, Asvattharej, the holy fig, the Bodhidrs, the image of the triad, Brahma, Vishnu, and Mahesh. I salute thee; be pleased to save me and my paternal relations in this Bodh Gaya. I salute thee, O pipal tree, the most noble among trees; thou art the eleventh among the Rudras, Prebhav among the Vasus, Narayan among the Devas. I salute Hari, of the lotus eyes, who assumed the form of the Asvattha tree, and is the holder of the conch shell, the discus, and the club. O Narayan, be pleased to grant that those belonging to my paternal or maternal family, who are undergoing great suffering, upon seeing you to-day may go to heaven. O most noble among trees, be pleased to remove my sin and re-



THE TEMPLE AND MONASTERY AT GYA.—(From Photograph No. 1.)

ceive so much praise in the world, because it is on account of your kindness that I perform this Gaya Sraddh (funeral rite).'

"In front of the monastery are four Hindu temples, one of which is dedicated to Jagannath, one to Ram, and the rest to Shiv. (See photo. No. 1.)

"On the east of the great temple is a temple dedicated to Tara Devi, and a "The dead bodies of the monks, unlike those of other Hindus, are buried, and the cemetery contains the graves of about two hundred persons. The body is buried in a sitting posture; and in the case of mere novices a small circular mound of solid brickwork, from three to four feet high, is all that is deemed necessary for a covering for the grave. For men of greater consequence a temple is



THE TEMPLE AND MONASTERY AT GYA.—(From Photograph No. 2.)

little further to the south is a Samadhi (cemetery), which is also attached to the monastery. (See photo. No. 2.)

"The three small tomb temples, close to the main entrance of the great temple, are dedicated to the Panch Pandavi and Shiv. Here I found the pilgrims in great numbers, repeating after the Brahmans certain mantras, and presenting water and flowers to Buddha.

held essential; and in it, immediately over the corpse, a lingam is invariably consecrated. For mahauts the temple is large and elaborately ornamented.

"According to the calculation of the railway company, there were 5,000 less pilgrims this year as compared to the same time last year.

"The Gayawals told me that they have only realised about half of their annual income. These poor fellows, who lived like princes on the fat of the land, now feel that their power and influence over the minds and purses of the Hindus are fast waning away before the rapid progress of civilisation and the preaching of the Gaspel. They acknowledge that their religion is doomed and Christianity will take its place. Two or three of the Gayawals bought some copies of the Scriptures and gave them to their customers. Whether they took money for them or not I do not know, but

it is certainly a good sign when such men distribute the Word of the living God among their own people.

"A good number of Testaments, Gospels, and tracts were sold, and some distributed gratuitously to the pilgrims. May these silent messengers not only reveal the worthlessness of all Hindu superstitions and observances, but also bring the readers to Jesus Christ, the only Saviour from sin and its punishment!"

# Mrs. Wall's Work among the Poor in Rome.

WE feel sure our readers will be much interested in reading Mrs. Wall's last report of her work among the Roman poor:—

"In taking a review of the work during the past year, notwithstanding the changes through which we have had to pass, and the terrible crisis which caused such distress among the workmen, yet at no period have we had such motives for praise. The Lord has indeed crowned us with lovingkindness and tender mercies.

"Our premises in Trastevere, which to us were associated with so many happy recollections, have been entirely demolished. The municipality, to make the Tiber embankment, required the site, which obliged us to remove. The room we now occupy is much too small for the crowds of poor people who come, many being obliged to stand the whole time. We are thankful to say Mr. Wall has purchased other premises in a very good position, which, when altered and adapted to our need, will be in every way advantageous to the work.

"THE NEW MEDICAL MISSION, which was commenced in the Pratti di

Castello, was last spring removed to the Piazza Vittorio Emanuele, another new quarter of the city, inhabited principally by workmen and their families. Soon after we had made this change, the Italian doctor who had been with us for several years resigned his connection with us. were very much exercised, not knowing how to supply his place; however the Lord does not suffer His people to be brought into difficulties without showing them a way of escape. Having lost our premises in Trastevere, and not being able to continue our Medical Mission there, for want of a suitable room, Dr. Gason was free, and he very kindly came to our help in this time of difficulty. For more than a month he took the Medical Mission in Consolazione and at Piazza Vittorio Emanuele, giving up four mornings in each week to this work. We feel we cannot sufficiently thank him for his valuable assistance and thoughtful kindness. We put the matter into the Master's hands, and He guided us to a doctor who is in every way, we believe, suitable and efficient. Dr. Baruffi, now engaged by us, shows great sympathy for the poor in their sufferings, and, at the same time, we are glad to find he impresses on them the necessity of cleanliness. The patients have great confidence in him, and say he is 'molto bravo.'

"During the past year the attendances at our medical missions have been between six and seven thousand. The average attendance during the month is now six hundred. In addition to these many hundreds have been present at the services, and heard the glad news of salvation through Christ.

### " LOSSES BY DEATH.

"This past year we have had to mourn over the loss of some of our most devoted fellow-labourers, those whose lives were consecrated to the service of our Lord and Master.

"Dear Mrs. Morgan was most indefatigable in her labours among the women, specially those who form the mothers' meeting in Trastevere. Her memory will ever live in their hearts as having been their friend and counseller in times of sorrow and difficulty. Many of her class are now sincere and earnest Christians, and unite with us on Sunday mornings in commemorating the dying love of our Lord and Saviour. Now that she can no longer serve her Master in the person of His poor, she is raised to still higher service where His servants shall serve Him day and night in His temple. Another of our dear helpers is laid aside through a very severe incurable disease; but she is not idle; it is still her greatest pleasure to be able to minister by her prayers and gifts to the women she has cared for so tenderly. She is just waiting, ready at the Master's call to obey the summons: 'Come up higher.'

"Our loss is great, but our trust is not shaken in Him who knows our need, and will not fail to supply it. May our prayers be very earnest that He who is the Lord of the harvest will send forth more labourers into this part of His vineyard. We have need of volunteers who, having means, are willing to devote themselves, body, soul, and spirit, to the service of the Master, visiting the sick, teaching in the Sunday-schools, night-schools, helping in the medical mission work, and many other spheres of usefulness.

#### "Encouraging Facts.

"The following facts will, we think, interest our readers, and show how the Lord is working in the hearts of these poor people by means of His own Word.

"It is now about two years since we saw a clerical student, dressed as a priest, and his sister, come to the Medical Mission in Trastevere to consult Dr. Gason. The pale emaciated countenance of this young man seemed to excite the compassion of the other patients, for, although generally came late, no one objected or thought it strange when they saw him with his sister go in at once to This went on for see the doctor. some weeks. He never came and listened with the others to the reading of God's Word, neither did I feel it right to put any pressure, fearing lest it might be the means of impeding his coming; the only thing I did was to teach the others in his presence the verses of Scripture. At last I saw the young girl come alone, and on inquiring for her brother, she said, 'He is too ill to come now.' I then asked if she thought he would like me to come and see him. Her face lighted up at once, and she said, 'Oh, yes, I am sure he will be very pleased.' On the Saturday following my sister went with me to the house, where they rented one little room. I shall not soon forget his look of joy as we entered. I repeated to him some of the verses he had many times heard at the Medical Mission, and then the beautiful hymn, 'Sicuro in man di Cristo,' which he said he had heard at the Sala Cristiana in Piazza in Lucina before he was ill, and liked so much.

### "A PRIEST IN ROME.

"I found he was studying, but his ealth failing he had been obliged to relinquish his studies and return to his home in the mountains, where the air was too keen for him, and I fear, from what I learned afterwards, that he had not the nourishment he needed. He longed very much to return to Rome, having the firm conviction that if he could only be here, and under the kind care and treatment of Dr. Gason. he would soon be quite well. His sister, a very sweet girl, came with him; she was devotedly attached to her brother; they had been brought up together and did everything in common. One day she showed me with great pride some of the fancy work he had done, saying, 'He always did just what I did; many times when I had not time to finish my work he would take and do it for me. We have never been separated; if I went out he always went with me. I never went anywhere without him,' and then bursting into tears the poor girl cried out, 'Oh, how can I live without him?' We gave him a copy of the New Testament, which we saw he always kept under his pillow; his sister read portions of it to him whenever he was able to bear it. We never heard him speak of the Madonna or the saints, it was always, 'If the Lord will, I shall get better. I know He

will do all for the best,' I was present one day when a priest came to see him, and was surprised to hear him tell the young man he was sure he would get well; he spoke of everything but the one thing needful. After he was gone the young priest took my hand and said, 'He never prays with me, will you pray? In the night when my cough won't let me sleep I find my comfort in prayer.' Just before he died his mother came, and then I found to what straits these two young people had been reduced, and the very little they had had to live on. They were so patient and uncomplaining that I never imagined they needed the very necessaries of life, yet it was so, and now the mother told me unless the rent were paid at once they would all be turned out of their little room. His gratitude for all that was done for him was very great. We always found him calm, trusting in Jesus as his Saviour. His sister who was with him when he died said his end was perfect peace.

#### "THE TWO SISTERS.

"Soon after his death the sister's health began to fail. She attended the Medical Mission, and Dr. Gason who had been so kind and unremitting in his attentions to her brother did all he could for her, but gradually the disease increased, and she felt she could not recover. She seemed to pine for her brother, and to long for the time when she should be with him. She was very fond of reading the New Testament and the hymns, and always so pleased and attentive when we talked to her of the love of the Lord Jesus. She was then staying with a married sister in Rome, but as she could not give her the attention she required it was thought better for her to go home to the mountains, where she gradually grew worse, until the precious Saviour called her to Himself.

"The married sister has this last week died of the same disease, consumption. This dear young woman attended occasionally my mothers' meeting, and always appeared deeply interested when listening to the Word of God. Her husband was not one who would be likely to sympathise with a delicate wife. She felt his unkind manner, and this, added to a violent cold, developed what was in her system. She came to the Medical Mission at the Consolazione last summer, and was visited during our absence by the Bible-woman.

"When her husband discovered she was never likely to be well again he forsook her; her mother also, who was in a situation in Rome, entirely abandoned her, so this poor sick woman was alone. An uncle, seing her in this sad and forlorn condition, had compassion on her and took her to live with him, and in return for his kindness she did what she could in taking care of his house, as he was not married. It is there we have so frequently visited her this winter, and had so many very interesting conversations together over the Word of God. For some time her anxiety to recover was very great. She did all the neighbours told her; would rise very early in the morning to go to a fountain some distance off to drink the water, which they said would cure her. Many times I have seen her quite worn out with the fatigue, but buoyant with the hope that she would soon be better. At this time it was difficult to dwell on the subject of religion with her, but as she felt her strength declining she listened more anxiously, and her gratitude and delight at our visits were She had the New Testavery great. ment and a little packet of books

which, she told me, her sister had read so much during her illness, and these now became her constant companions. We taught her many verses of Scripture, looking forward to the time when she might be in the hospital, and not permitted to have her New Testament. Repeating this verse, 'The blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth us from all sin,' one day to her, led us to talk on the error of believing that we have to suffer after death for our sins. She said, very earnestly and anxiously, 'Then do you not believe in purgatory?' And when we explained how the precious blood of Christ cleanses us continually. she seemed delighted, and said, 'Then I shall not be afraid to die; I will trust in Jesus only to save me.' The terrible thought of purgatory, of being obliged to suffer after death for an indefinite time, had been a heavy burden to her; now that she trusted in the blood of Jesus to cleanse her from all sin the burden no longer existed, and she was from that time bright and happy, calmly trusting in Him as her Saviour. Her favourite verse: 'Just as I am Thy love unknown, Has broken every barrier down; Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God I come,' was a great comfort and help to her; we never visited her but she repeated it several times. Although so sadly treated by husband and mother, yet she never spoke against them, and did not even complain of their conduct. We often remarked she was quite a pattern of forgiveness. She was very much afraid of being obliged to go to the Roman Catholic hospital for consumption, as her uncle had told her he could not maintain her much longer. However, the Lord lovingly provided, and she was permitted to remain at her uncle's till within a

week of her death. Before she went to the hospital she told me she was so glad her uncle had said nothing to her about seeing the priests, adding: 'I am quite willing to go when the Lord comes for me. I know that the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses me from all sin. I need no one else.' We visited her at the hospital and found her quite resigned, and very cheerful, no murmur or complaint of any kind: her one desire was to be with Christ. which is far better. She repeated the verses of Scripture with great delight, and begged us to return; but to our surprise, before we could again see her, the dear Saviour had taken her home to the Father's house to be for ever with the Lord.

"Her death was almost sudden, and we saw in this the lovingkindness of our Heavenly Father, and the answer to many prayers, as the priests could not molest or torment her in her last moments, threatening her if she would not confess, which they would otherwise have done.

### "SAVERIO AND PAOLINI.

"On arriving at the meeting for our poor men only a few weeks since. I heard one of our old friends say, 'It is all over now; poor Saverio is dead.' Old Paolini, who gets his daily scanty pittance by selling matches, had been to the hospital the afternoon before to see his old friend and compatriot Saverio. He found him sinking, and was determined to stay About five with him to the end. o'clock he seemed to revive, and repeated twice over this verse which he had so often sung with us, 'Oh beati su nel cielo.' Just as he finished the last words his happy spirit left its poor worn-out tenement, and fled to the home of the blessed.

"I was curious to know how our old friend Paolini had got the privilege of visiting the hospital at an hour and on a day when visitors would be excluded. Asking him about it he said, 'Many years ago, when I was a young man, I took the bread there daily, so I am known to some of the nurses. Saverio I have known from a boy, and since he came to Rome to work we have been friends. When I was taken ill in the autumn and sent to the hospital, he was there, so we had many opportunities of meeting, and repeating the verses we had learnt from God's Word. With the rest and food I soon got well, and came out, but Saverio got no better, and I had to leave him there, promising to come and see him very often. I have been three or four times every week since. and when able have taken him some little thing. He never confessed to the priests, although very often pressed to do so; his great desire was that I should be with him when he died, and the Lord heard his prayer. I went vesterday to the hospital to see him, not at all thinking he was so near his end. He was very happy to have me with him, and passed away on my arm without even a sigh.'

"The Bible-woman who visits the hospital saw Saverio many times, and found him trusting only in Jesus, and delighted to repeat his verses and hymns to her.

#### "FILOMENA T.

is the wife of a barber living in Trastevere. She was led to come to my mothers' meeting for work. Her husband might do very well, but he drinks, so the money he earns is all spent at the Osteria. She has three daughters and a little boy. At first I felt rather reluctant to employ her, having so many other

women whose outward appearance showed more need; however, there was such a sincerity in her manner that I vielded. From the first she was most attentive at the reading of God's Word. After a time she asked for a New Testament, and came every Sunday to the school. It was a great pleasure to see the working of the Holy Spirit in her soul. To her everything was new, she had never been in an evangelical meeting before, neither did she know anything of God's Word. However, she began to study it, and without having had her attention directed to the subject, asked to be baptized and join the church. She has since been admitted and is witnessing for Jesus.

"Since then her path has been a most trying one, her husband has many times beaten her, and her girls have done all they could to oppose and annoy her. Many times at our mothers' meeting we have pleaded with the Lord, at her request, for the conversion of her family; but oftentimes she has said, instead of getting better they seemed to be more hardened; however, she has never given up prayer, and trying by a meek and patient spirit, under great provocation, to tell of what the grace of God can do. On Monday she came to me with a beaming face, her eyes full of tears, to tell me that one of her girls had herself proposed to come to the Sunday-school with her next Sunday.

## "ANOTHER OF MRS. WALL'S POOR MOTHERS.

"F. G. is another of our mothers who, during the last year, has joined the church. She heard the Gospel for the first time in our hall in the Prati di Castello, where she was then living. I frequently saw her there at the

Medical Mission. She would say: 'I don't need the doctor, but I come because I want to hear all I can about the Lord.' She was delighted when she received a copy of the Gospel of St. John, and read it through directly. Fearless of consequences she was very anxious to join; the church and follow in the steps of her Master, and, believing her to be a true and sincere Christian, she was baptized. Up to this time they had been in comfortable circumstances, her husband having regular work as an ebanista.

"About a week after her baptism her husband was suddenly turned off, the manager saying they could have nothing to do with 'protestanti.' This was a very great trial, as he was not a Christian, though he very frequently attended our meetings. They were obliged to leave their comfortable little room and take one with another family, in order to pay less rent; since then they have been in great straits and difficulties, as her husband has had no regular work. Many times she has told me he has not worked more than one or two days all the week. The result has been they have had to put nearly all they had in pawn, and many days they have had to live on what she has earned by going to a house to wash up the plates after dinner. Yet in the midst of all this misery, and badly treated by her husband on account of her religion, she has never murmured. Last Sunday morning she came with such a happy face, saying, 'Signora, it is now nearly a year since I joined the church. I want all the brethren and sisters to unite with me in thanking the Lord. I can truly say, "Io ero ridotto in misero stato, ma il Signore mi ha salvato."' The women in the class were quite touched when they heard the words of grateful praise from one whom they knew had borne and suffered so much. I find she is now employed in nursing a sick woman, and her husband she says, in answer to prayer, has had more work.

#### " WOMEN'S SUNDAY-SCHOOL CLASS.

"The last Sunday in the year, I was asking my Sunday-school class. which is composed of women, if they could remember any particular time during the past year in which they could trace, without a doubt, their Heavenly Father's hand. Several of them mentioned circumstances of great trial when they had been without food, and in answer to prayer help had come. The account of one, apparently the poorest, interested me very much. She said, 'Signora, I feel I must tell you how good the Lord has been to me. It is true that I have no one in this world who cares for me now my dear daughter is dead. I am quite alone, but the Lord is with The beginning of the autumn I was taken with fever, and obliged to go to the hospital. After a few days the priest came to ask me to confess. I said, "I have already confessed my sins to Jesus." "The blood of Jesus Christ His Son," &c. "I, even I, am He that blotteth out thy transgressions," &c. "I am the Good Shepherd," &c. "Him that cometh unto Me, I will in no wise cast out." "I was brought low and He saved me." The priest kept looking at me all the time, and when I had finished he called the nun, and said, "Hear what this woman says." I began again and repeated the verses. He then said "It will never do to have this woman in the hospital; call the doctor." When he came, the priest again said: "Hear what this old woman has to

say." At first I felt afraid, but I began and went right through them all. The doctor did not seem very angry with me, but the priest called him aside and they talked together. Then the doctor came back and said: "You cannot stay here any longer, you must go out." I begged him to let me stay until I was well, for I still had the fever. He insisted on my leaving, so I got up and came away. I felt very ill and did not know where to go. Just then I remembered it was Sunday and the hour for school, so I determined to go there. When I got inside the door I began to cry. Someone came and asked what was the matter. I could not tell them for weeping. She sent for a cup of coffee, which did me so much good. I felt so happy to think the Lord had guided me here. Now, many times when I come in I think of that morning and the goodness of the Lord to me. I am sure He was with me all the time.'

"This poor woman came to me after our last Christmas treat, and said: 'Signora, I feel I can say the Lord has saved me.' She is very poor, and for many months during the past year has not been able to earn anything. I feel it quite a privilege to be able to pay her rent, because she is a true disciple of Jesus. When able she takes care of a little child, for which she receives five sous a day and any pieces of bread which are left. The last month she has been much tried, because the dear child has been very ill, but, in answer to our united prayer, the little one is now much better. This poor woman is an example to many; though earning so very little she never forgets to bring me a sou every Sunday morning for our little negro on the Congo. I have known her give her last, and deny herself the piece of bread for her breakfast in order to give as usual.

### "SCAFETTI FRANCESCO

was a young man who had / for some time lived in sin and misery. Through an illness, brought on by his sin, he was led to come to cour Medical Mission in Trastevere, where he heard the simple message of salvation through Jesus Christ. Although not at all serious, and frequently even inclined to laugh at serious things, yet he took great pleasure in committing to memory the hymns and verses of Scripture. would often surprise us to hear him repeating them so correctly, and helping the others who did not know them so well. All at once we lost sight of him, and, on making inquiry, found he was imprisoned for four years. When the time had expired he returned again to the Medical Mission, his thin, pale face showing marks of suffering and disease. took an early opportunity of talking with him, and was delighted and thankful to find that the hymns and verses he had committed to memory had been thought over and repeated many hundreds of times during his imprisonment, and were, I believe, blessed to his conversion. He told me he had taught them also to many of the men who were in prison with him. He had not been long under the doctor's care when the disease took a more serious form and he went to the R. C. Hospital. There he was visited by my sister, who was delighted to find him so bright and happy. He told her they had been asking him to confess to the priest, but he could not do that, because the blood of Jesus Christ had cleansed him from all sin. The Bible-woman went to see him, and found him very ill, but quite calm and peaceful. He repeated to her with emphasis these words, 'I am poor and needy, yet the Lord thinketh upon me.' That same night he passed away.

"We are very thankful when we find those who have been at the meetings and heard the truth trying to influence others who have not had the same privileges, and teaching them the verses of Scripture and hymns which they have learnt. One instance of this kind has just come under my notice. My Bible-woman, Emilia Orlandi, visits the public hospitals regularly. She was much pained a few weeks ago by the conversation of some young men in one of the wards. Most of them were consumptive and not likely to live long, but when she spoke to them of Jesus and the importance of looking to Him for salvation, they at once replied they did not want Jesus, they could do very well without Him, and said they were not sure but that it was not all a lie. Finding she could not get them to listen, she left. To her surprise, on going to them again the next week, they received her very kindly, and one of them asked her to bring him a New Testament. The secret of this sudden and marked change in their behaviour was soon discovered. In another part of the ward was an old man who had been admitted during the week, who had been very regular in his attendance at the meetings for the poor in He repeated to these Trastevere. young men some of our hymns. They told him of the visit of the Biblewoman, and how they had laughed at what she said. He then acknowledged to them all the change he had experienced, how once he wes just what they were and had ridiculed these things, but now he loved them and felt so happy, and he began repeating to them some of the texts of Scripture which he had learnt at the meetings. The young men appeared much moved and touched by the simple earnest manner of this poor man, and said they would like to hear more and to read the New Testament for themselves. The next week the Bible-woman took them a copy. She's noticed that the young man who had, been the most violent in his opposition before was now the

one who received the New Testament with the greatest delight. He began to read it at once, and thanked her repeatedly for her kindness. On returning again the following Tuesday she found that this young man was dead. The others told her he had read the book continually and that he kept it always near him, and she saw by his mark that he had read more than half. Our poor old man who was with him said he died trusting in Jesus."



YEMUNA AND HER HUSBAND.

## Rama Dugdoo and Yemuna.

OUR missionary, the Rev. Hormazdji Pestonji, of Poonah, informs us of the death of Yemuna, whose portrait, with that of her husband, Rama Dugdoo, we are able to present. The following extract is taken from Mr. Hormazdji's communication:—

"Her husband asked her, when she was very ill, 'Yemuna, are you trusting in the Lord?' and she cheerfully replied, amidst her pain, 'Yes.' At last, about half-past eleven o'clock that very mid-day, she quietly passed away, but so suddenly that her relatives and friends had no time to come and see her for the last time. Her husband and niece alone were with her to the last. She died at the age of thirty. When the notices of the funeral and previous service in the chapel were circulated, many of her Christian friends could hardly believe that she was dead, she having been so well, but the sight of the corpse convinced them of the reality of death. This sister had been in the employment of the Baptist Mission for four years, during which time she faithfully and earnestly sounded the Gospel truths to all whom she met, and was highly esteemed by heathen and Christians alike. Her work as a Bible-woman often took her, along with her companion, to the city and suburbs of Poona, and to its surrounding villages. In like manner, she often went to the districts of Decksal and Dhond to preach Christ."

### Noki.

OKI, the illustration forming the frontispiece, is a trading station on the south bank of the Congo, about four miles below Underhill. It is in Portuguese territory, and is the river starting-point for San Salvador. The trading house in the centre belongs to the "Companha Portugueza do Zaire," and the one to the left, on the point, belongs to a French trading company.

Noki is the farthest point reached by an ocean steamer. The attempt to navigate thus far was made some four years ago, but it was considered such a dangerous experiment that it has not been repeated.

H. Ross Phillips.

### Acknowledgments.

THE Committee gratefully acknowledge the receipt of the following useful and welcome gifts:—A box of toys, books, &c., from Mrs. Jane Gething, of Pontnewydd, for the Rev. D. Jones, of Agra; numerous articles of clothing, fancy goods and toys, from Mrs. Shearer, of Edinburgh, from Mrs. Underhill, of Hampstead, and Mrs. Steane, of Rickmansworth, and a bale of woollen garments from Miss Barcham, of Norwich, for Mrs. Wall, of Rome; parcel of tracts from High Wycombe, for Rev. R. Spurgeon; a medicine case from Messrs. Burroughs & Welcome, for the Rev. R. H. C. Graham, of the Congo; a child's frock from Misses Lily and Mildred Gould, of Henley-in-Arden, a box of toys and other Christmas gifts from the scholars of the Battersea Fark Sunday-school, for the Rev. G. Gray's school at Ratnapura,

Ceylon; a parcel of books from Mrs. C. H. Spurgeon, of Norwood, for Rev. G. J. Dann, of Allahabad; and one dozen print jackets from Miss Howell, of Bournemouth, for Bengali children under the Rev. R. Spurgeon, of Madaripore.

### The Lord Loveth a Cheerful Giver.

XXE very heartily acknowledge the receipt of a Five Pound Bank of England note from "A. C. B."; and of £6 from a contributor who writes:-"Some time ago I decided to send this £5 note to the Missionary Society; but I did not seize the opportunity. Meanwhile the £5 have increased, and so now I rejoice that I am able to send £6 to help forward the Kingdom of our Redeemer. I hope that before the New Year the old debt will have entirely gone." A Friend, in sending £10, says:-"I had thought of leaving a trifling legacy to several societies I now subscribe to, but find on the small amount I could afford to leave there would be 10s. duty to pay to the Government, so thought I had better make a little sacrifice and give it in my lifetime." A donor of £5 writes:—"When at Aberystwith in September last, I feel that I was very mercifully preserved during the night of Saturday, the 21st September, when I was shut in by the tide and had to stay out all the night. I have since thought it requires some practical acknowledgment of God's goodness to me during the time I was out, and permitting me to reach my friends in health and safety in the morning. It occurs to me that a donation to the Mission will be as good a way as any of showing my gratitude to God for His great mercy to me on that occasion. I have, therefore, much pleasure in enclosing a cheque for £5 on behalf of the Mission cause. I don't remember for certain if you have any debt to clear off, so will leave it to you to use as you think best for the Mission cause." "One who loves the Redeemer" sends twenty shillings. "Only a Servant Girl," sending five shillings, writes. -"I am very much interested in Mission work, and I try to help as much as I can. Some friends send me a HERALD, I lend it to my mistress, as she is a Christian lady. Another lady gave me 5s. for the Congo, who said she did not know anything of the Congo until I gave her the HERALD to read. My mistress has sewing meetings, and she gives some of the profits to the Congo Mission." From a Congo Missionary, £12, who wishes to give a tenth of his first year's salary as a thankoffering on the completion of his first year on the Congo River; a signet-ring and pencil-case have been received from Mrs. Harris, of Reading; also pair of hair earrings set in gold, mourning ring, 10 cent piece, gold brooch, and two small pieces of gold quartz, for the Congo, from "An Old Servant."

Our warm thanks are also due to the following generous donors:—Mr. T. M. Russell, £200; "O. B.," £105; Sir C. Wathen, for Congo, £100; Mr. Alfred Robinson, for Debt, £100; Mr. Chas. A. Rose, for China, £50; ditto, for Debt, £50; Mr. John Marnham, for support of Congo Missionary, £75; Matthew vi. 1—4, for ditto, £60; a Clifton Friend, for Mrs. Wall's medical and evangelistic work, £50; Mr. Arthur Robinson, for Congo, £25; "G. W. R.," £20 13s. 5d.; Rev. W. Martin, Bath, for Congo, £20; E. L. Coventry, for Debt, £20; Mr. John Evans, Maesbrook, per Rev. G. Archer and Mr. C. G. Bayley, £20;

Mr. Joseph Wates, £20; A Friend, per ditto, £20; Miss E. Haggas, for boat for new station beyond Madaripore, £20; Mr. T. D. Paul, £20; Mr. W. C. Houghton, £15; "F. R. O.," thaukoffering, £12; A Friend, £10; Baroness Solwyns, for Congo, £10; Mrs. Davies, £10; Mr. E. J. Upward, J.P., for Congo, £10; "J.H.W.," for Congo, £10; Mr. and Mrs. C. Wickenden Pratt, £10; Mrs. J. L. MacDonald, for Debt, £10; Mrs. Bury, for Debt, £10; Mrs. Anderton, for Debt, £10; Mr. J. T. G. Dodd, £10.

A friend, having himself proved the advantage to the Society of lending his copy of the MISSIONARY HERALD, wishes us to commend the custom he has adopted. We heartily comply with his request. There must be many opportunities for thus calling attention to the work of the Mission; and to interest friends of the friends of the Society would be sure to increase the number of subscribers.

### Recent Intelligence.

DURING the past month several cheering reports have been received from brethren in Norway:—The Rev. H. Andersen, writing from Arendal, says:—"Everywhere our meetings have been well attended. In this town we require a larger meeting-house in order to give all sufficient room who come to hear the Word of God. The work is still furthered, not only in Arendal, but in Grimstad and Lillesand and the surrounding districts. In all places interest is to be seen; and we believe God will also, in the coming time, show Himself gloriously among us."

The Rev. A. Milde, of Skien, reports:—"I have this quarter seen the great work of our Lord; and the church, both in Skien and Melum, has made progress. Many are seeking the Lord. Some have already found peace in God and have been baptized."

The Rev. M. Ohrn writes from Christiania:—"I am glad to be able to tell that God has blessed our work here, so that the church now has ninety members. We still hire a mission-hall, and are carrying on a prosperous Gospel work through a travelling evangelist in the surrounding country and towns."

The secretary of the church in Genoa sends information of the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the opening of the hall in that city. "The day," he writes, "established for same was the 9th September; and at eight o'clock in the evening, a truly brotherly meal took place, presided over by Sig. P. E. Jahier, who opened the union with a prayer of thanks to the Lord; he also read a brief account of the progress of our church in the period of ten years; and at the end, all, with one accord, decided that a letter of deep gratitude should be written to the Committee in England, and to all our English friends who have done, and continue doing, great sacrifices on the behalf of our Church and for the propagation of the Gospel in our country."

It is with deep sympathy we record the departure, from Japan, of the Rev. George Eaves, in consequence of failing health, the medical opinion being very decided as to the change being imperative. We very earnestly hope and pray that the drier climate of Colorado may prove beneficial. The same mail com-

municating this sad news also brings tidings of a great trial which has overtaken our other brother in Japan, the Rev. W. J. White:—"The angel of death has again come to my family and taken away another little much-loved baby boy of eleven months. Yesterday afternoon we laid him with his infant brother at Aoyama—the other two little ones lie in the Yokohama cemetery. I arrived home from the Tochigi station about half-past ten in the morning and found the child very sick; at ten o'clock at night his sweet spirit fled to the arms of the children's Saviour. To my dear wife this has been a terrible trial. The fact that she has lost each of her children thus makes it very sad. We have been shown much sympathy from our friends in this neighbourhood; but it is only the Father Himself who can comfort and sustain." We are sure friends at home will not fail to remember our dear brother and his sorrowing wife in this repeated bereavement.

On the 14th ult., the Rev. A. Day, of the Pastors' College, left in the s.s. Bokhara for Bombay, en route to Agra; and on the same day Mrs. Waldock, with her son and the two Misses Pigott, departed for Ceylon in the s.s. Nepaul.

At the General Committee Meeting held on the 19th ult., Mr. Walter Stapleton, of Bristol College, was accepted as a missionary for the Congo, and will join the Rev. H. R. C. Graham, Mrs. Graham, and Mrs. Lewis, who left for Africa on Friday last in s.s. *Mexican*; and Mr. J. A. A. Fuller, son of our missionary the Rev. J. J. Fuller, was also accepted as an assistant to one of our Congo brethren.

Those of our friends who may not yet have procured a copy of the memorials of our late treasurer, Mr. Tritton, may be glad to know that a few copies are still left, and can be obtained at the Mission House.

### Contributions

From October 13th to November 12th, 1889.

When contributions are given for special objects, they are denoted as follows:—The letter T is placed before the sum when it is intended for Translations; N P, for Native Preachers; W & O, for Widows and Orphans.

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