

The Mission Field.

A HINDU LADY CONVERT.

THE *Cowley Magazine* gives the autobiography of Rama Bai, a Hindu lady of Western India, who, having been made acquainted with the Wantage Sisters, working in Poona, was induced to come to England, and was baptized, with her little daughter by Canon Butler in Wantage Church, on September 29th. Her father was a great advocate of female education, and for the sake of her education had, contrary to Hindu customs, kept her at home unmarried, instead of betrothing her in childhood. In 1874 she lost both her parents within two months of each other. After their deaths she was obliged by persecution to leave her country. Her sister died of cholera, and then for six years she travelled about India on foot with her brother. They traversed a distance of 2000 miles, and had thus a good opportunity of seeing the sufferings of Hindu women and were much touched by their sorrows. They found the same customs in the Madras Presidency, Bombay, Punjab, N. W. Provinces, Bengal and Assam. In some towns and villages they addressed large audiences of people. She lost her brother in 1880, and afterwards was married to a Bengal gentleman, Bisini Bahari Das, a native of the Sylket district in Assam, though it was contrary to the Hindu religion for a Brahmin lady to become the wife of a Shudra. In 1882 her husband died of cholera, leaving her with one little daughter. After paying their debts she went to live at the Bombay Presidency for a year. She wrote a book and published it in order to obtain money for her passage to England. In England she was kindly received and maintained by the Wantage Sisters, through whose teaching she was brought to baptism.

A Hindoo and a New Zealander met upon the deck of a missionary ship. They had been converted from their heathenism and were brothers in Christ, but they could not speak to each other. They pointed to their Bibles, shook hands, and smiled in each other's faces—but that was not all. At last a happy thought occurred to the Hindoo. With sudden joy he exclaimed "Hallelujah!" The New Zealander, in delight, cried out, "Amen!" These two words not found in their own heathen tongues, were to them the beginning of "one language and one speech."

When Christians get in earnest, we may be sure they can surprise and amaze the world now as well as in the days of Pentecost. They only need to work together, and they can break down any giant evil like intemperance or bribery in politics.

The Universities Mission received during the nine months of this year upwards of £4,300, which, with the £11,000 received for special funds by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, make up nearly £17,000, as against the £17,224, quoted for last year's nine months.

A TERRIBLE PROPHECY.

THE RED SUNSETS, CYCLONES AND EARTHQUAKES FORTELLING COMING DISASTER—HOW TO MEET IT.

The recent mysterious appearances following sunset and preceding sunrise have attracted wide attention from students of the skies and the people generally. During the days of recent weeks the sun seems to have been obscured by a thin veil of a dull laden hue which, as the sun receded toward the horizon, became more luminous, then yellow, then orange, then red; and as night settled down upon the earth, a dull purple. At first it was thought these appearances were ordinary sunset reflections of light but it is now pretty certain that they are either the misty substance of the tail of some unseen comet, in which the earth is enveloped, or a surrounding stratum of world dust or very small meteors. Professor Brooks, of the Red House Observatory, Phelps' N. Y., has turned his telescope upon these objects and discovered what he thinks are myriads of telescopic meteors. If it is unorganized world dust, or decomposed vapors, as the *Democrat and Chronicle* of Rochester, N. Y., remarks: "How is this matter to be disposed of? Will it settle and form a deposit upon the earth, or remain a partial opaque shell about the earth to cut off a portion of the sun's light upon it?"

Whatever the mystery is, there is no denying that some very strange forces are at work in the upper airs. The terrible tornadoes and cyclones which have swept our own country, the fearful volcanoes and earthquakes which have destroyed so many cities and thousands of people—the tidal waves which mysteriously rise and fall on coasts hitherto untroubled by them—the tremendous activity which is evident in the sun by the constant revelation of enormous spots upon its surface—all indicate unusual energy in the heavenly bodies.

These circumstances recall Professor Grimmer's prophecies that from 1881 to 1887, the passage of the five great planets—Mars, Neptune, Jupiter, Uranus and Saturn—around the sun would produce strange and wonderful phenomena. He says: "The waters of the earth will become more or less poisonous. The air will be foul with noisome odors. Ancient races will disappear from the earth." He attempts to prove his prophecy by the fact that in 1720, when Mars and Saturn made their passage around the sun coincidentally, great destruction and mortality visited all parts of the globe. He also found the same result in previous perihelion passages of the planets, and argues that these circumstances always produce epidemics and destructive diseases which will baffle the skill of the most eminent physicians; that the poor die by thousands, the weak and intemperate falling first, those whose blood has been impoverished by excess of work or dissipation next and only those who are in comparative vigor shall escape to enjoy the era of renewed activity and prosperity which will follow the period of destruction.

Inasmuch as the entire world seems subject to the sway of the heavenly

bodies no part of the earth, he thinks, can escape scourging. He even predicts that America will lose over ten millions of people; that farmers will be stricken with fear and cease to till the soil; that famine will make human misery more wretched. That hundreds will flee to overcrowded cities for aid in vain. That sudden changes in ocean currents, temperature and surroundings will entirely transform the face of nature and climate of countries; that the air will be so foul with malaria and other noxious gases; that those who survive will be troubled with disorders of the digestive organs. That many who escape other ills will bloat with dropsy and suddenly pass away, while others will grow thin and drag out a miserable existence in indescribable agony for weeks. Neuralgic pains in different parts of the body will torment them. They will easily tire and become despondent. A faint, hot feeling will be succeeded by chilly sensations while hallucinations and dread of impending ill will paralyze all effort. "The birds in the air, the beasts of the field and even the fish of the sea will become diseased, poisoning the air and poisoning the waters of the globe." We are told on the other hand that those who shall pass through this period of trial will have larger enjoyment of life and health. The earth will yield more abundantly than ever before. The animal kingdom will be more prolific and life prolonged very materially. This prolongation of life will be owing to the healthy electric and magnetic influences that will pervade the atmosphere. It would perhaps seem that the present redness of the sun, and the presence of a belt or veil of cosmic matter, justified, in a measure, the prediction of Professor Grimmer, but disturbing as his prediction may be we are told for our comfort that the strong and pure blooded need have little to fear in these calamities, that those who are delicate or indisposed should adopt means to keep the system well supported and the blood pure and that the most philosophical and effective method of accomplishing this is to keep the kidneys and liver in good condition. From the testimonials of such men as Dr. Dio Lewis and Professor R. A. Gunn, M. D., Dean of the United States Medical College, New York, and thousands of influential non-professional people, it seems almost certain that for this purpose there is no preparation known to science equal to Warner's Safe Cure, better known as Warner's Safe Kidney and Liver Cure. This medicine has acquired the finest reputation of any preparation that was ever put upon the market. It is a radical blood purifier, which soothes and heals all inflamed organs, strengthens the nervous system washes out all evidences of decay, regulates digestion, prevents malassimilation of food in a philosophical and rational manner, fortifies the system against climatic changes and malarial influences and the destructive agencies which seem to be so abundant in these "evil days."

It is not our purpose to dispute the correctness of Professor Grimmer's prophecies. As we have said, the marked disturbances of the past few years would seem to give a

semblance of verification of his theory. It is certain, as above stated, that we are passing through what may be regarded as a crucial period and it is the part of wise men not to ignore, but to learn to fortify themselves against the possibility of being overcome by these evils. It is a duty which each man owes to himself, and his fellows, to mitigate as much as possible the suffering of humanity and in no way better can he accomplish this purpose than to see to it that he, himself, is fortified by the best known preparation in the strongest possible manner and that he exert the influence of his own example upon his fellows to the end that they, too, may share with him immunity from the destructive influences which seek his ruin.

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