

know that I do here, in the name of the Lord, call out to you and say, "O soul—man or woman—venture, venture upon Christ now! for you must come to trusting in Him at last; and if at last, why not now?"—*Sword and Trowel.*

STAND BY YOUR COLOURS.

A personal incident will illustrate this secret reliance, which the people of the world have upon the people of God. A young man, who was a professed Christian, was seeking to win the heart and hand of a young lady of wealth and fashion. His suit did not prosper, and one day she said to him:—"You know that you are a Church member, and I am a gay girl, very fond of what you call the pleasures of the world." This led him to suspect that his religion was the obstacle to his success in winning her consent to marry him.

He accordingly applied to the officers of his Church (which must have been very loose in its joints) for a release from its membership. They granted it. "Now," said he to her, when he met her again, "the barrier is removed. I have withdrawn from my Church, and I do not make any profession to be a Christian." The honest-hearted girl turned on him with disgust and horror, and said to him: "M—, you know that I have led a frivolous life, and I feel too weak to resist temptations. I determined that I never would marry any man who was not strong enough to stand firm himself, and to hold me up also. I said what I did just to try you; and if you have not principle enough to stick to your faith, you have not principle enough to be my husband. Let me never see you again."

Whether this incident be actual or not, the lesson it teaches is beyond dispute. The world expects Christians to stand by their colours. When we desert them, we not only dishonour our Master and ourselves, but we disappoint the world. Christ's followers never will save the world by secularizing themselves or surrendering their strict principles of loyalty to whatever is right and pure and holy. Conformity to the world will never convert it. "Come out and be ye separate," saith the Lord, "and touch no unclean thing." Even if the world could succeed in bringing the Church down to its own standard of opinion and practice, it would only work its own moral destruction. It would extinguish the light-houses which illuminate its own channel. It would destroy the spiritual leaven which Christ has ordained and prepared to save human society from corruption.—*Rev. Dr. T. L. Cuyler.*

IRREVERENCE.

Unbelief comes oftener from irreverent association than intellectual doubt. The sneer of a Voltaire has killed more than all his arguments. A jesting tone of talk on religious truths, a habit of reckless criticism on religious things, is to take the name of God in vain as truly as the vulgar oath; and when I hear him who calls himself a Christian, or a gentleman, indulging in burlesques of this sort, I at once recognize some moral defect in him. Intellect without reverence is the head of a man joined to a beast. There are many who think it a proof of wit; but it is the cheapest sort of wit, and shows as much lack of brains as of moral feeling. I would say it with emphasis to each Christian who hears me, never indulge that habit, never allow sacred things to be jested at without rebuke; but keep them as you would the miniature of your mother, for no vulgar hands to touch. There is an anecdote of Boyle that he never pronounced the name of God without an audible pause; and whatever you think, I recognize in it the dictate of a wise heart. We need this reverence in the air of our social life, and its neglect will palsify our piety.—*Rev. Dr. Washburn.*

THE IRON EGG.

In the museum at Berlin is an iron egg, of which the following beautiful story is told:

Many years ago a prince became affianced to a lovely princess, to whom he promised to send a magnificent gift as a testimonial of his affection. In due time the messenger arrived, bringing the promised gift, which proved to be an iron egg. The princess was so angry to think that the prince should send her so valueless a present that she threw it on the floor, when the iron egg opened, disclosing a silver lining. Surprised at such a discovery, she took the egg in her hand, and while examining it closely discovered a secret spring, which she touched, and the silver lining

opened, disclosing a golden yolk. Examining it carefully, she found another spring which, when opened, disclosed within the golden yolk a ruby crown. Subjecting that to an examination, she touched a spring, and forth came the diamond ring with which he affianced her to himself. So often comes the richest gifts of God to us. Their outward seeming is unattractive as the iron egg. But within the seeming repulsiveness lies hidden the silver linings of a Divine love. Within that love lies hidden the golden treasures of the gospel. Within that lies hidden the crown of life. ("Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of righteousness.") And within the Bridegroom—will affianc His bride unto Himself.

"And I saw the New Jerusalem coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband."—*Christian at Work.*

THE WONDERFUL.

"His name shall be called Wonderful."—*Isa. ix. 6.*

Thou art wonderful, O Jesus,
Where Thou sittest on the throne;
Through the mortal form Thou wearest
Is the Father's image known;
From that mortal form there beameth
The full Godhead's perfect light;
With Thee ever more abideth
The full Godhead's boundless might.

Thou art all divine, O Saviour!
Thou art lovely to my thought,
Who from Thine eternal glory
Life to dying men hast brought;
Thou art fairer than all angels,
Than the radiant seraphim;
Heaven and earth should sound Thy praises
In one everlasting hymn.

Yet Thou stoopest to the lowly;
Preseest childhood to Thy breast;
To the comfortless art comfort,
To the way-worn strength and rest;
Oh, Thy tenderness of pity!
Oh, the sweetness of Thy grace!
Oh, the goodness, pure, unfathomed,
That is found in Thine embrace!

Thou hast not, dear Lord, forgotten
Thine own griefs as mortal man;
From the cradle in the manger,
Where Thy mortal years began,
Thou didst bear each human burden;
Thou didst taste each bitter woe;
Thine were e'en the sore temptations
That our human bosoms know.

Jesus, when the cup of sorrows
We are drinking, sad and lone,
Dry our tears, of Thy sweet pity,
In the mem'ry of Thine own;
Oh! since Thou didst kneel in anguish
In Thy darkness, suffering hour,
Look on us o'erborne and fainting;
To our weakness lend Thy power.

Thou Thy sacred head once bowing,
Didst yield up Thy mortal breath;
Thou didst pass the awful portal
And the gloomy shade of death;
By the pangs which Thou didst suffer,
By the fears which rung Thy heart,
Unto us, dear Lord, when dying,
Strength and holy peace impart.

As the tomb's firm barrier rending
Thou triumphant didst arise,
And all heaven's uncounted legions
Bade Thee welcome to the skies;
So let us—earth left behind us—
Cleave yon clouds with tireless wing;
Send Thine angel hosts with greetings
Our freed spirits home to bring.

Thou—the Wonderful—O Jesus,
Art for evermore the same;
God and man in one abiding,
Highest heaven adores Thy name.
Oh, let raptured mortal voices
Sound that name through every clime;
Till, one mighty chorus swelling,
Heavenward rolls the song sublime.

Ray Palmer, D.D., in S. S. Times.

VERY great progress is being made in female education in India. At the recent examination for admission to the Calcutta University eight women passed successfully, of whom six are natives of India; and at Bombay seven women were matriculated, including four from Poonah. It is stated, also, that a female candidate obtained a scholarship of the first grade at the First Arts examination of Calcutta. When this Mission of North India first proposed to open a Girls' School, an old Mohammedan ruler exclaimed, "What! teach girls! The next thing will be to open a school for cows!" But many of the natives now appreciate female education, and aid in promoting it.

MISSION NOTES.

THE gifts of the Presbyterian Church South, for Foreign Missions, in the year just closed were, in round numbers, \$60,000—an increase over the previous year of about \$2,600.

In the Presbyterian boys' school in Tokio, Japan, there are ninety-five students, nearly half of whom are Christians. There are at present eight or ten applicants for baptism from this school.

MISS SARAH GOODRICH, who has done such a good work as the Superintendent of the Chinese Mission in New York, died recently, and was buried from Dr. Crosby's Church, being carried to her grave by members of her Chinese class, who were greatly attached to her.

NEWS has been received by telegraph from Zanzibar of the death of the Rev. Charles Albert Janson, University College, Oxon, a member of the Universities' Mission to Central Africa. Mr. Janson died near Lake Nyassa, making the nineteenth death among the members of this mission.

THE headquarters of the Livingstonia Mission of the Free Church of Scotland has been moved to the more healthy and central port and promontory of Bandawe. Cape Maclear is now an out-station at the foot of Lake Nyassa, where is now an excellent day school, under the charge of a native Christian.

THIRTY-FOUR young men graduated from the theological seminary at Allegheny, Pa., last month. Eighteen will enter the Home Mission field. Five will devote themselves to the work of Foreign Missions—one in Africa, two in China, one in Siam, and one in India; while one goes to South Carolina to labour among the Freedmen.

A NEW missionary agency for the central provinces of India has been suggested. It is recommended that a missionary community, including men and women, should buy a village and develop native industries. Native customs should be respected, and the appearance of a European colony should be avoided. The missionaries should identify themselves with the people, and exercise a moral influence.

ON May 5th a meeting was held in London to take leave of twenty missionaries of the London Missionary Society. Five with their wives were leaving for Madagascar and ten for Africa. The ten include Captain Hore, who is in command of the missionary vessel on Lake Tanganyika; his wife, who will be the first European lady to penetrate so far into Central Africa; a young man who has been appointed mate of the vessel, and two artisans. Captain Hore carries the Gospel in his vessel round a lake shore of 900 miles.

REV. T. L. GULICK, missionary in Spain, has had an experience of the intolerance and bloodthirstiness that still animates the deluded people of that priest-ridden country. Mr. Gulick and his attendant, on their way to visit a company of Christians in the mountains of Navarre, were waylaid and repeatedly fired upon, even after taking their seats in the car, the priest who had incited the assassins having declared that if it was not for his "corona" (shaven crown) he would kill them himself. Mr. Gulick has applied to the Spanish Minister for redress.

AMONG the trials of a missionary's life, is the impossibility of securing any privacy. One in Japan writes as follows: At the different hotels along the way, we were only shut in by paper doors. Tired and almost frantic from being gazed at, we are still not allowed to remain unseen. They tear the paper and peep through the holes; soon on every side we see eyes, eyes, eyes. We shrink into the corners of the room; we make screens of each other; we turn our backs; we cover our faces, to get out of sight, and really, covering the face is about the only seclusion we can have while travelling through the country.

A CALL for mission labour has come from Luxor, Egypt, to the United Presbyterian missionaries of that field. The "Centre Presbyterian" refers to it thus: It was amid the splendid halls and columns of this capital that Moses delivered to Pharaoh the message of the Lord that he should 'let his people go.' Here was the theatre on which the wonders that preceded the exodus were wrought. More than three thousand years have rolled by, and now we have this petition for the organization of a Presbyterian Church at Luxor—in proximity to the very scenes familiar to Moses when he was brought up as a child by the daughter of the Egyptian king.