

Christian Mirror

AND GENERAL MISSIONARY REGISTER.

"MANY SHALL RUN TO AND FRO, AND KNOWLEDGE SHALL BE INCREASED."—DANIEL xii. 4.

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POETRY.

THE LOVE OF CHRIST.

BY MRS. JOUGREVE.

"Unto Him who loved us, and gave himself for us; and washed us from our sins in his own blood."—Revelation.

How hath he loved us!—Ask the star
That on its wondrous mission sped,
Hung trembling o'er that manger scene,
Where he, Messiah, bowed his head:
He who of earth doth seal the doom,
Found in her lowliest inn—no room.

Judea's mountains, lift your voice,
With legends of the Saviour fraught;
Speak, favored Olivet, so oft
At midnight's prayerful vigil sought—
And Cedron's brook, whose rippling wave
Frequent his weary feet did lave.

How hath he loved us? Ask the band
That fled his woes with breathless haste—
Ask the weak friend's denial tone,
Scarce by his bitterest tears effaced;
Ask of the traitor's kiss—and see
What Jesus hath endured for thee.

Ask of Gethsemane, whose dew
Shrunk from that moisture strangely red;
Which in that unwatched hour of pain,
His agonizing temples shed!
The scourge, the thorn, whose anguish sore,
Like the unanswering lamb he bore.

How hath he loved us? Ask the cross,
The Roman spear, the shrouded sky;
Ask of the sheeted dead, who burst
Their restraints at his fearful cry.
O! ask no more; but bow thy pride,
Abjurd thy heart to Him who died.

LINES ON THE DEATH OF AN INFANT.

BY THE SAME.

A butterfly dashed on a baby's grave,
Where a life had shined to grow:
Why art thou here with thy gaudy dye,
Where life of the bright and sparkling eye
Must sleep in the churchyard low?
Till it had burst through the sunny air,
And sped from its shining track
"I was a dove; I know my wings—
And as when thou mourn'st, like a seraph sings:
Would thou call the blest one back!"

GENERAL LITERATURE.

THE CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY IN CHINA. EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNAL OF REV. MR. ABEEL. [Concluded.]

Infanticide in China—Sickness—Death of Mrs. Boone.

THE following extract will throw some light upon the character of the religion which now degrades and imbrutes the millions belonging to that vast empire.

"23. To-day I have had a conversation with one of the merchants who came to Kolongsoo, on the subject of female infanticide. Assuming a countenance of as much indifference as I could command, I asked him how many of his own children he had destroyed. He instantly replied, two. I asked him whether he had spared any. He said he had saved one. I then inquired how many brothers he had. He answered eight. I asked how many children his eldest brother had destroyed. He said five or six. I inquired of the second, third, and all the rest. Some had killed four or five, some two or three; others had none to destroy. I then asked how many girls there were left among them. The answer was, three. And how many do you think have been strangled at birth? 'Probably from twelve to seventeen.' I wished to know the standing and employments of his brethren. One, he said, had obtained one of the literary degrees at the public examination. A second was a teacher; one was a sailor, and the rest were petty merchants like himself. It was not necessity then, but a cold inhuman calculation of the gains and losses of keeping the children, which must have led to their destruction. It is so seldom that we can find a man as candid as this merchant, that I am quite incapable of saying whether he and his brethren have or have not exceeded their neighbours in this respect. At present I think they have—

"I have asked Mr. Boone's teacher whether any of his children had been deprived of life. He said, No; adding that it was a very wicked act. He confessed, however, that his sister and sister-in-law had, with her own hands, destroyed her first three children successively. She was afraid to lay violent hands on the fourth, believing it to be one of the murdered ones re-appearing in a new body. The question had arisen in our minds whether mothers could ever be brought to participate in the destruction of their own offspring. Here was a heart-affecting reply.

"24. To-day, as well as the last Sabbath, we have been much encouraged in our Chinese labours. The congregations filled all the space within the house, and several sat without.

The missionaries, on their removal to Kolongsoo, anticipated a healthful residence. From some unknown cause, however, the whole coast of China was visited last year by a fever, which carried off great numbers, both natives and foreigners. It is said by the Chinese that such a season has not been known for many years.

"August 30: Disease rages around us. Two of the European officers have been buried to-day, and two of our own number are ill, one of whom lies in a very dangerous state.

"Within a few days, two Spanish priests have taken up their residence at Kolongsoo. They say that they are soon going into the interior. They have had a chapel fitted up very near us, where they perform mass for the Catholic part of the European soldiers. Not understanding the language, they can have but little personal influence over the Chinese. At times we see native converts with them, who probably understand this dialect."

Mrs. Boone, the lady whose death is mentioned below, went from this country in the service of the Episcopal Board of Missions. She was the daughter of the hon. Henry De Saussure, late Chancellor of the State of South Carolina; Mr. and Mrs. Boone left the United States in 1836, and commenced their labours at Batavia. In 1840 they removed to Macao, where they remained till last summer.

"31. This afternoon we committed to the tomb the remains of our much-esteemed and deeply regretted fellow missionary, Mrs. Boone. She departed this life yesterday, about five, P. M. She had been delirious through the day, and partially so for two or three days previous. Before her illness became at all alarming, she expressed her apprehensions that it would result in death, and set her house in order. She said she had no fear of the king of terrors, but felt an unshaken confidence in God her Saviour. She was deeply impressed with the honour which God had conferred upon her, in calling her to the missionary work. This she expressed in strong language. And this she acted out in all her duties. I have known no one more energetic, efficient, and uniformly cheerful, than this devoted and beloved sister.

"Sept. 9. To-day the steamer brings us the unexpected news of peace between Great Britain and China: The treaty quite equals our expectations. The opening of so many large cities to commerce and foreign intercourse; the appointment of consuls, to whom alone their countrymen are to be amenable; the regulation of trade by a fixed and published tariff, the liberty so often and effectually resisted, of having ladies accompany their husbands, are points gained which will promote the interests of the mission quite as much as that of the merchant."

Visit to the Hae Hong—Visit to the Yew Ako—Encouraging Indications.

"Oct. 31. During the past week, an event has occurred which may have a very important bearing. We were all invited to a visit to the Hae Hong, at present the highest mandarin at Amoy. Sedan chairs were sent for us, and all went except myself. I was unwell at the time. They were received and entertained with the greatest courtesy and kindness. Their host was so affable and engaging that the attendants thought he committed the extreme fault of rather slighting the important duties of