

people they can say, in the words of St. Paul, "Ye are in our hearts to live and to die with you."

At the present time a mission of great promise has been constituted in England, called *The Thibetan Pioneer Mission*, which is due, under God, to the heroic enterprise of Miss Annie Royal Taylor, who, having adventured into the mouth of the lion in spying out the land of Thibet, and having brought back the good report which faith, as distinguished from sight, finds, has, like another Deborah, summoned the princes of Israel and laid on them the solemn charge, "*Forward in the Lord's name!*" It would appear that the Lord has so laid the burden of Thibet on the heart of Miss Taylor, that whoever else stays out, she and her Thibetan attendant, *Pontso*, must enter in. But she goes not without the full contingent she had asked from the Lord. A band of thirteen, exclusive of the Thibetan attendant and convert, accompanies her, and will have reached their initial destination (D. V.) before this article appears. Scotland is largely represented in this contingent, but Norway, Denmark, and England have each their representation. Without exaggeration we may describe this pioneer movement as the most heroic enterprise of modern times. These devoted servants go forth in naked faith, not counting their lives dear unto themselves, relying on the invisible God for all supplies and on the Master's presence for grace to do and to suffer; and while seeking no sign from heaven (faith serving in lieu of eyes), yet counting on the Divine lead, as clearly defined as in Israel's exodus from Egypt. Was it to be wondered at, then, that the following telegram should have seemed like a voice from heaven in answer to faith?

"*Calcutta, February 8th.*—The Sikkim-Thibet Convention has fixed the trade mart where the Indian and Thibetan traders can meet at Yatung, on the Thibetan side of the frontier. *From May 1st British subjects will be free to reside at this place.* Trade will be unrestricted, all goods except arms, salt, and liquors being exempt from duty for five years."

Verily, "the Lord hath prepared His throne in the heavens, and His kingdom ruleth over all."

(*To be continued.*)

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## CHRISTENDOM'S RUM-TRADE WITH AFRICA: A MODERN DEVIL'S-MISSION.\*

BY FREDERIC PERRY NOBLE, SECRETARY OF THE CHICAGO CONGRESS ON AFRICA.

In 1863 Burton, the discoverer of Tanganika, said: "Rum and spirits, arms and ammunition, are a serious injury to the West Coast, and present a sad contrast between the commerce of Christian merchants and

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\* This article is the complement of one on the slave-trade, written by the same author, and published in *THE MISSIONARY REVIEW* of June, 1891.