

lowing, foaming, torn by the fury of the fiend ! The father feels all the anguish that can wring a parent's heart. Vain alike is the help of disciple and Scribe and Pharisee; and the latter exult in the baffling of the skill and power of those who bear the hated name of Jesus. In the crisis of the dispute the **HEALER** comes, His face perhaps still radiant with the glory of the Transfiguration, His voice strong with the might of Deity, His heart overflowing with pity and love for torn, bleeding, down-trodden humanity.—'Tis quail before Him : the weakness of the disciples' faith is rebuked: the boy is rescued from his tormentor, and the mighty Helper has done all things well. Is there not as much of Deity, of real glory and grandeur about Him, healing and helping, as when surrounded with the radiance of Heaven on the Mount of Transfiguration ? O come and let us worship Him ! Let us, helpless, call evermore to Him for help, healing, complete salvation.

#### THE PROSPECT.

Eighteen hundred years have passed since eye of mortal beheld Jesus. He has gone to heaven to prepare a place for us; and though unseen He has not been unbeloved. Millions have seen him with the eye of faith, and rejoiced with joy unspeakable. Millions thus see him now. And we have the hope, the absolute certainty, of beholding Him when He shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, with the voice of the archangel, and the trump of God, when this earth shall flee away from His presence, and these heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll. Every eye shall see Him. We shall stand in His presence, and behold that Face and Form bearing no trace of sorrow or humiliation, but clothed with all the majesty and magnificence of Deity. Even so, come, Lord Jesus !

#### "THE FIELD IS THE WORLD."

There is "much land" for the Church to inherit even in christian countries; but when we lift up our eyes and survey the whole field how solemnly are we impressed with the duty of praying and giving and working while the day of grace last! To

arrest the attention of the reader we submit the latest estimate of the population of the world and its religious condition:—

The total population of the five grand divisions of the world is set down at 1,284,738,000, of which number the total Christian population is estimated to be 361,718,000, or little more than one fourth of the whole. The proportion of Protestants to Roman Catholics in this estimate is about 1 to 2, the former numbering 96,915,000, and the latter 185,041,000. This relative proportion is approximately maintained in America, Europe, Asia and Africa; whilst in Australia and Polynesia, (the fifth grand division,) it is very strikingly reversed, the Roman Catholics there numbering but 280,000, to 1,100,000 Protestants.

Protestantism is on the increase in this continent, yet millions in South America, and in Mexico are little removed from heathenism.

#### REMARKABLE ESCAPE OF A CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IN AFRICA.

Recent papers have brought tidings of a most signal display of God's providence in protecting the Christians of Abbeokuta from the wrathful vengeance of the bloody King of Dahomey. This King has been for years infamous all over the civilized world for his delight in plunder, in oppression, in blood. He was the Nimrod of Western Africa, a mighty hunter of miserable slaves; and his path wherever he went was marked with desolation, cruelty and death. His plans were generally laid with great skill and carried out with that consummate energy which so often commands success.

For the last three years he has been breathing out threats of vengeance and slaughter against the Christians of Abbeokuta and the Missionaries who had taught them the way of life: boasting that he would make an utter end of the infant church and the community in which its heaven was so vigorously operating. On two occasions, within the last few years, BAPAHUNG with his Dahomians endeavoured to crush Abbeokuta; and on both occasions he was foiled. His third expedition was on a gigantic scale and nothing was left undone to secure the end in view. He