

wrapped it in new linen with costly spices, and laid it in a virgin tomb—all this has at length been surpassed by the ingenious devotion of a few black men who belong to a race which white men have been accustomed to treat as heirs of an eternal curse. The grandeur and pathos of that burial scene, amid the stately columns and arches of England's famous abbey, loses in lustre when contrasted with that simpler scene near Ilala, when, in God's greater cathedral of nature, whose columns and arches are the trees, whose surpliced choir are the singing birds, whose organ is the moaning wind, the grassy carpet was lifted and dark hands laid Livingstone's heart to rest ! In that great procession that moved up the nave, what truer nobleman was found than that black man, Susi, who in illness had nursed the Blantyre hero, had laid his heart in Africa's bosom, and whose hand was now upon his pall ? Let those who doubt and deride Christian missions to the degraded children of Ham, who tell us that it is not worth while to sacrifice precious lives for the sake of these doubly lost millions of the Dark Continent—let such tell us whether the effort is not worth any cost, which seeks out and saves men of whom such Christian heroism is possible !

Burn on, thou humble candle, burn, within thy hut of grass,
 Though few may be the pilgrim feet that through Ilala pass.
 God's hand hath lit thee long to shine, and shed thy holy light,
 Till the new day dawn pours its beams o'er Afric's long midnight.
 Sleep on, dear heart, that beat for those whom cruel bonds enslaved,
 And yearned, with such a Christlike love, that black men might be saved.
 Thy grave shall draw heroic souls to seek the moula-tree,
 That God's own image may be carved on Afric's ebony !

THE UNOCCUPIED MISSION FIELDS OF THE WORLD.—I.

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By the unoccupied mission fields of the world we mean those lands or peoples which, speaking roughly, are as yet unreached by any direct Gospel agency. Large as this theme is, it is far from measuring the actual dearth of Gospel knowledge throughout the earth. Many of the foreign fields now regarded as occupied are only touched at a few points by Christian teaching, the masses of the population being sunk in their ancient idolatries and superstitions. It is doubtful, indeed, whether the fields unoccupied in the sense given above represent even a tithe of the land that yet remains to be possessed ; for, notwithstanding the marvellous progress of missions in the present century, it is computed that still two thirds of the world's inhabitants have not even heard of Jesus' name.

Though comparatively few in number, the unoccupied fields are important on various grounds. The area represented is enormous ; and while the question of population remains hazy—statistics as to numbers resting