

I have known neither pain of body nor pain of mind.' So wonderfully had Christ lifted him above all his suffering that he was able to say that. I was so struck by it that I turned to my friend, a missionary on the right, and I asked him whether I had heard the man aright. I asked him again, and again the old man said to me, 'No sir; since I trusted Christ I have known neither pain of body nor pain of mind.'"

Of course, insensibility to pain is one of the most fatal features of the disease. When it reaches this stage the wretched victim knows that there is no longer any hope for him, that his doom is irrevocably sealed. He may handle burning objects, or have a point or a member lopped off without experiencing a sensation of uneasiness; but this does not in the least detract from the value of the testimony cited above. For, notice: The man says, "since I trusted Christ I have known neither pain of body nor pain of mind." It is to this, his trusting Christ, he attributes his relief. What brighter instance of faith can any age or cause produce?

I alluded briefly to the case of Father Damien, who contracted leprosy while ministering to the lepers of Molokai.

We now read that Mr. Edward Clifford, Treasurer of the Church Army, has gone out to visit Father Damien, taking with him a particular oil, the produce of a tree found in the Andaman Islands, and said to be a cure for the disease.*

For none of us, perhaps, is it reserved to give ourselves individually to this work. A peculiar preparation, peculiar individual and circumstantial adaptability, and peculiar and entire consecration are demanded for it. But we can give it our prayers, our sympathy and our offerings. It was a part of the Divine Mission of Christ to cleanse the lepers.

His Church in the past, and to-day, follows Him when she strives to alleviate their bodily sufferings, and to bring them to Him for their souls' cleansing. And in that day, when the discordant echoes of earth shall be hushed, and the "songs of all the sinless sweep across the chrystal sea," surely those voices, so hoarse and inhuman here below, taught through her instrumentality to utter prayers and praises to Jesus, will be among the sweetest in "that triumph song."

*Since writing the above Father Damien has gone to his reward. "Requiescat in pace." "Greater love hath no man than this; that a man lay down his life for his friends."

Catholic, not Roman, we call him, while in his open grave Christianity, for the time, buries her differences, and unites in a common effort to promote and extend the work for which he died.

"FATHER DAMIEN MEMORIAL.—The Prince of Wales recently presided at Marlborough House, London, over the first meeting of the committee for promoting a memorial to the late Father Damien. A scheme was adopted, embracing a monument on the spot at Molokai where Father Damien's remains are interred; the establishment of a leper ward in London, to be called the 'Father Damien Ward,' together with the endowment of a travelling studentship to encourage the study of leprosy; and a full and complete inquiry into the question of leprosy in India. Mr. Edward Clifford, the Duke of Westminster, Sir James Paget, Cardinal Manning, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Lord Mayor of London, addressed the meeting."

I notice that the Cathedral, Montreal, Sunday School, ever foremost in good works, contributes to the London, England, Mission to the Lepers, and perhaps other of our city churches and Sunday schools also do.

THE CONVERSION OF ENGLAND.

By THE RT. REV. ARTHUR SWEATMAN, D. D., BISHOP OF TORONTO.

(Continued.)

ESSEX RELAPSES INTO HEATHENISM.

TO return to the short-lived Mission of Mellitus in Essex, the king Sebert died in 616. His three sons repudiated the Christian religion and attempted to profane the Sacrament. Mellitus remonstrated, but they refused to be baptized and drove the bishop from his see, and the land went back to heathenism.

At the same time Ethelbert, the Christian King of Kent died, and his son, Eadbald, renounced the faith of Christ, and the people followed the example of the king and court as readily in abjuring as in embracing religion. Justus, Bishop of Rochester, and Mellitus, Bishop of London, went into voluntary exile in Gaul; and Laurentius, Archbishop of Canterbury, was on the point of following them when he was arrested by a dream. Eadbald admired his constancy and became his warm supporter, and thus Kent was saved from total apostasy.

This was the extent of the successes achieved by the Roman Mission in the south of England—Kent converted and two failures, viz., in Essex and East Anglia. In the north they had one success of very brief duration.

PAULINUS IN NORTHUMBRIA, A. D. 626.

On the death of Ethelbert, Edwin, King of Northumbria became Bretwalda, or chief king. Northumbria, extending from the River Humber to the Firth of Forth was divided by the Tees into two provinces, Bernicia in the north and Deira in the south. York was situated in Deira. Edwin desired to marry Ethelburga, daughter of Ethelbert, but she was a Christian. The condition was therefore imposed by her brother Eadwald, now himself a Christian, that she should be permitted to exercise her religion, and Paulinus, the third of the clergy sent out by Gregory, was chosen to accompany the young queen as her spiritual adviser. He was consecrated bishop in 626 by Justus, now Archbishop of Canterbury.

Edwin was induced after a year to assemble his Witan to discuss the claims of Christianity. Bede's report of the proceedings is very full and interesting. The king asked those present, one by one, what they thought of the new doctrine and worship. Coifi, the chief of the heathen priests, answered to the effect that, as far as he knew, the religion they had hitherto professed had no virtue in it. None had worshipped the gods more diligently than he, yet many were more prosperous and received greater favors from the king. "If, therefore," he said, "upon examination, you find these new doctrines more efficacious, let us at once receive them."

Another speech of one of the thanes exhibits a