

Remember the wife in the days of thy vigor,
 Ere there come the days of evil,
 And the years draw nigh
 In which thou wilt say I have no pleasure.
 Ere is darkened the sun and the light of day,
 And the moon, and the stars,
 And the clouds return after the rain,
 When the keepers of the house tremble,
 And the men of power bend themselves ;
 The grinding maid cease
 And the ladies that look out through the
 lattice are darkened.

ASHA, THE HINDU MAIDEN.

(By Lydia J. Mosher.)

CHAPTER V.—A HUNT AND WHAT CAME OF IT.

David Ellsworth entered upon the work of the Mission with great zeal and a truly consecrated heart. He was gladly welcomed by the inmates, some of whom had spent many years in the endeavor to enable those "sitting in darkness" to behold and accept the light of Christ.

There were two families in the Mission, one a man and his wife, the other a man, wife and two children ; and besides these were two sisters, young women from England, who had devoted their lives to the work, and an aged, white-haired man by the name of Samuel Walters ; the latter was greatly loved and revered by all, not only his associates, but the natives, to many of whom he had carried the Truth in all its purity ; and many an invalid had died trusting and happy through his ministrations. He it was who had visited the mother of Asha when her daughter was praying in the forest, and no other could have carried such comfort to the heart which had long been under the preparing hand, and was ready and waiting for the message he had to give her.

For the first time in several months the vicinity of the Mission buildings had been rendered dangerous by a wild beast which had badly frightened some natives, who were at work on one of the buildings connected with the Mission. The consequence was that all the men, except Samuel Walters, started out one morning with their rifles, determined not to return until the animal, whatever it was, should be slain. In the latter part of the day the hunters found themselves separated from each other, and as yet no trace of their game had appeared. David Ellsworth stopped a moment to rest near the edge of the forest, and as he stood leaning against

The meaning is plainer in the new version. "Ere is darkened the sun," the professor says, refers to the sunshine of childhood, when all is bright. The "moon" suggests the tempered light of boyhood, while the "stars" indicate fewer moments of happiness in mature age. As age advances there are many days darkened with rain "and the clouds return after the rain," so that there are few bright moments. The "keepers of the house" are the hands. As age proceeds erectness of carriage is lost "the men of power bend themselves." Man loses his teeth, which are "the grinding maids," and his eyes grow dim—"the ladies that look out through the lattice are darkened." The old man's sleep is short and "he rises at the voice of the birds." The "daughters of music are brought low" means that the sense of hearing is lost. The septuagenarian dislikes to go upstairs or climb a hill—he is "afraid of that which is high." His hair becomes white—"the almond tree blossometh." The pessimism of the chapter is intensified in the concluding line of the new version, "All is vanity and all that is coming is vanity."—Scientific American.

Wherever souls are being tried and ripened, in whatever commonplace and homely ways—there God is hewing out the pillars for His temple.—Phillips Brooks.

Prayer is the pulse of the renewed soul, and the constancy of its beat is the test and measure of the spiritual life.—Octavius Winslow.