

He could proceed no further, but sat down with an emotion more effective than any words.

I have nothing to add to this narrative, except that he became a church member, and that his example of thorough repentance, of childlike faith in Christ, and of vigorous, practical, every-day righteousness elevated the standard of Christianity among my people.—*Selected.*

#### “FAITH-HEALING” AND AFRICAN FEVER

Some peculiarly painful cases of loss of life through “faith-healing” have been recently brought to light. One of these cases has been the occasion of ministerial correspondence between Great Britain and Mr. Secretary Blaine, dealing with a report from the colonial surgeon, Dr. Palmer Ross, of Free-Town, West Africa. This report shows that three deaths have taken place in a band of nine young missionaries from our own Western States. These deaths took place by fever soon after the arrival of the party at their African station. Under the guidance of their leader, an ardent believer in divine healing, the sick, whether their cases were grave or mild, were allowed to go untreated by medical means; and, in the opinion of Surgeon Ross, the febrile cases began to assume an unnecessarily virulent type which endangered the whole community, and which impelled him to order officially the adoption of sanitary measures, such as isolation, disinfection, and a speedy burial of the dead. Others of the missionaries also took the fever, but they submitted to treatment, some willingly, but others under protest. Surgeon Ross then declared his intention to report the matter to the Governor, and to advise that all the survivors be sent back to America, on the ground that a tropical climate was not suited to those who trusted alone to faith-healing, and ignored the means placed by Providence at their disposal for the relief of suffering humanity, and that such a line of conduct was a danger to the community at large.

A late issue of a missionary journal, called the *Regions Beyond*, although very friendly to this unfortunate party in Africa, takes special care to point out the error made by them in rejecting medical treatment, and says: “These deaths took place in July, and to us is an additional pain to know that, humanly speaking, these lives need not have been lost, but might have been usefully spent

in Gospel service in Africa. Unfortunately, in passing through New York, on their way out, they came under the influence of one who teaches what is called faith-healing. From him they received the sadly erroneous doctrine that, though God has given us medicines and the skill to use them, it is contrary to His will we should do so. It is inexpressibly sad that these devoted young lives should thus needlessly have been thrown away at the bidding of a false theory. Very solemn and terrible is the responsibility of the teachers of this theory when they urge African missionaries to dispense with quinine and other antidotes to deadly fever.” Among the other members of the party who also suffered from fever, but who received the usual medical treatment, there were no deaths reported.—*New York Medical Journal.*

#### EMBASSAGE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

If matter acts on matter without visible contact, and mind mysteriously affects mind independently of bodily senses, why should the dominance of the Supreme Mind over its own creature be deemed incredible? Denying the possibility of such dominance clearly denies the prerogative of a Creator, and makes the Supreme Being the dependent servant, rather than the master of His own works.

Man focusses light, and paints images, and sends messages across continents. By use of telegraphs he calls together merchants of every land, and constitutes them the world's board of trade. With lightning dispatch he sends forth news concerning some local tragedy that touches the sympathies of the civilized world, heralds some political revolution that kindled the hopes of the oppressed to the farthest boundaries of the earth, or some social event that becomes the theme of idle gossip on opposite sides of the globe.

President Cleveland, surrounded by his cabinet at Washington, by touching a battery of human contrivance, started the imposing pageant of the World's Fair in New Orleans, 1,400 miles away. May not, then, the Supreme Being utilize the mechanism of nature as a higher system of telegraphy in imparting to those created in His own likeness and craving communion with Him, fuller knowledge of Himself and of His will? May not He mysteriously touch springs of thought, feeling, and purpose, which affect the life, character, and destiny of individuals, nations, and races?—*Sel.*