

known place of darkness and of gloom. I had no cause of fear, and I feared not. I saw nothing; but some of the things I then heard I can well remember. Many voices spoke as if in earnest council about the earth. Wicked spirits, doubtless, they were who spoke; and they spoke of some mysterious house which they built on earth; and they seemed to address some chief amongst them; and what they said was this:—

"I have done my work well as a robber spirit," cried one; "for the house is full of robbery. Day and night robberies never cease. The labourer is robbed of his hire, and is his own house-breaker. The husband robs his wife, and the wife robs her husband. Parents rob their children, and children their parents. The rich are made poor, and then rob the rich; and industry is robbed to support the gang. My work goes bravely on!"

"I have done my work well, too," cried a demon spirit of murder. "The house is a slaughter-house of men, women, and children! Whole families slay each other, or commit suicide. Not suddenly; I know my work better than that; this would put an end to it; men would get alarmed. Slowly they do it; slowly, but surely. They are consuming from off the earth by thousands. I am satisfied."

"My work is better than all!" shouted a fierce spirit. "I have been murdering souls! What were all other deaths without this? I have laboured hard with those other spirits to make this house on earth the entrance-gate to our own mansions here. It is, be assured, the house that leadeth unto death; I can in a moment produce ten thousand witnesses, not far from us now, to prove it. The work goes on. Multitudes of souls perish; and, what think ye? parents, mothers, are our best assistants in bringing with themselves here the souls of their own babes!"

"And have not I," yelled a spirit of blasphemy, "filled the house with oaths and curses, and words of hate, malice, rage, and all vileness! yea, made it complete by filling it all the while with laughter! I have made it a house of raving bedlamites."

"No more could have been done!" cried all. "More have I done! whispered a spirit of hypocrisy and deceit. "Have I not got rare good keepers of this house? Yes; I have got many a professing Christian to keep it. Many who say that they are the disciples and followers of Jesus and His fellow-labourers, and who profess to do all for His glory. I have got a few of those to keep our house, and do our work. Without my aid the house would not, I think, have been perfect."

"Tis well done! cried many voices; "'tis perfect—'tis worthy of ourselves."

"I am pleased with Legion!" replied the unknown one to whom they seemed to address themselves: "Return to earth. Everywhere build the house: in every street—in every village. Empty churches, empty schools. Fill the prison—fill bedlam—fill the hospital—fill the grave—fill hell! Be rewarded by the tears, and groans, and horrors of men, now and for ever. Our time is short on earth; work bravely while it lasts.—Depart!"

What house is this? I cried in agony. My cry awoke me; and was it all a dream?—*Ibid.*

### MISCELLANEOUS.

**BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.**—The annual meeting of the above society was held on Wednesday in Exeter Hall. The Earl of Harrowby took the chair. The entire receipts of the year amount to £81,634 12s. 7d. The receipts applicable to the general purposes of the Society have amounted to £45,449 11s. 1d., including £31,413 1s. 7d., free contributions from auxiliary societies, and £1,314 8s. 2d. additional subscriptions to the special fund in aid of the extended circulation of the Scriptures on the Continent. The amount received for Bibles and Testaments is £46,185 1s. 2d. being an increase of £2,826, 9s.

8d. on this item. The issues of the Society for the year are as follows:—From the depot at home 783,203; from the depots abroad, 353,492. The total issues of the Society now amount to 23,110,050 copies. The expenditure during the past year has amounted to £97,249, 2s. being £8,415 0s. 10d. over the previous year. The Society is under engagements to the extent of £63,555 18s. 2d. It was also announced that Prince Albert had constituted himself a life governor of the Society by a donation of £50. The Bishop of Norwich, Mr. Lawrence, the American Minister, the Marquis of Cholmondeley, and others addressed the meeting, and several resolutions in support of the Society were carried unanimously.

**CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.**—The anniversary meeting of this Society was held at Exeter-hall; the Earl of Chichester in the chair. The report stated the gross income of the Society for the year to be £104,273. 6s. 10d., showing an increase over the income of last year of £3,269 18s. 5d.—The Society had in all 147 clergymen labouring in the Missionary field, besides 29 European laymen, catechists, secretaries, printers, &c. There were attendants on Christian worship in the Society's Missions throughout the world about 107,000 persons, and of communicants 13,551, besides 40,000 children under Christian education. In the past year the number of baptisms had been 5,885, and the increase in this number of communicants 543. During the year the Society had opened the Missionaries' Children's Home, and a large new Church in Freetown, Sierra Leone. They had also commenced Missionary operations in Syria, and caused Missionary tours and discoveries to be made in the interior of Eastern Africa. In Western India they had prepared several natives for the ministry and had projected a Mission to Scinde and the Punjab. In China also the Society expected to produce a beneficial influence, and they anticipated good results from the sailing of a bishop with four Missionaries to Victoria. They were gratified to learn that in New Zealand a great increase of converts had taken place, and that the education of the natives was rapidly advancing there,—nor had they neglected North West America, where the arrival of the Bishop of Rupert's Land was expected to have a great effect in civilizing and Christianizing the inhabitants in these regions.

**CASTE IN INDIA.**—We had an article on the evil of Caste in India prepared for last week, but laid it over for want of room. We now substitute another on the subject from *The Presbyterian* for this month, adding the names of the Catholic "eighteen." It gives us much pleasure to find *The Presbyterian* thus kindly affectioned towards Christians so widely differing in their distinctive creeds as do these hard workers in the field of the world. Would that a like spirit were in all the earth. But it will come. The triumph of the adversary must cease. We shall bruise his head as he has bruised our heel.—*Toronto (Wesleyan) Guardian.*

**HER MAJESTY IN HER CRADLE.**—"Two or three evenings previous to my visit to Sidmouth," thus writes one whose intercourse with the Duke was constant, "I was at Kensington Palace, and, on rising to take leave, the Duke intimated his wish that I should see the infant princess in her crib; adding 'as it may be some time before we meet again, I should like you to see the child, and give her your blessing.' The Duke preceded me into the little princess's room; and on my closing a short prayer that, 'as she grew in years, she might grow in grace and in favour both with God and man,' nothing could exceed the fervour and feeling with which he responded in an emphatic Amen. Then with no slight emotion he continued, 'Don't pray simply, that hers may be a brilliant career, and exempt from those trials and struggles which have pursued her father; but pray that God's blessing may rest on her, that it may overshadow her, and that in all her coming years she may be GUIDED AND GUARDED by God.' *That prayer was offered.*"—*Life of the Duke of Kent.*

**THE NEW CHURCH OF FALKLAND.**—The little ancient town of Falkland has just been adorned with one of the most beautiful and splendid ecclesiastical edifices in the country. The church is built in the middle Gothic style, and is surmounted by a handsome spire nearly two hundred feet in height. The stone is extremely beautiful, having almost the appearance of marble. The interior is fitted up in the most gorgeous manner. There is an open-painted roof, which is partly supported upon fluted pillars of cast metal, the largest, it is said, that have been cast in the country. The pulpit is of the most elegant description. The front of the galleries is done in carved oak, and the whole of the seats are stained. Altogether the edifice, externally as well as internally, presents the most ornate and yet chaste appearance. The church costs, we understand, about £7000. A circumstance well worthy of being mentioned is, that the whole has been built at the expense of but one of the heritors of the parish, viz., Onesiphorus Tyndal Bruce, Esq., of Falkland House. On Thursday week the church as completed was formally approved of by the Presbytery of Cupar, when the thanks of that Rev. Court were delivered by the Moderator. (Dr. Anderson) to Mr. Bruce for his magnificent gift. Upon the auspicious occasion Mr Bruce entertained the Presbytery and other friends to dinner at Falkland House. In the course of the interesting proceedings of the day a well merited and most emphatic testimony was borne to the worth of Mr Wilson, the talented and respected minister of the parish.

**FALKLAND, CHURCH OPENING.**—Sabbath week being the day appointed for the opening of our new church, a great concourse of people assembled from the surrounding parishes. The services of the day were most ably and impressively conducted in the forenoon by the Rev. Dr. Muir, from Edinburgh, and in the afternoon by our highly esteemed pastor, the Rev. A. Wilson. The Heritors and parishioners of Falkland, owe a deep debt of gratitude to Mr and Mrs Tyndal Bruce, who have not only relieved them from all expense in the erection, but have studied their comfort and accommodation throughout.—*Life Herald.*

### LABOUR.

Pause not to dream of the future before us;  
Pause not to weep the wild cares that come o'er us;

Mark how creation's deep, musical chorus,  
Unintermitting, goes up into Heaven!  
Never the ocean wave falters in flowing;  
Never the little seed stops in its growing,  
More and more richly the rose-heart keeps glowing,  
Till from its nourishing stem it is riven.

"Labour is worship!"—the robin is singing;  
"Labour is worship!"—the wild bee is ringing  
Listen! that eloquent whisper up-springing  
Speaks to thy soul from out Nature's great heart.

From the dark cloud flows the life-giving shower;  
From the rough sod blows the soft breathing flower;  
From the small insect, the rich coral bower;  
Only man, in the plan, shrinks from his part.

Labour is life!—'Tis the still water faileth:  
Idleness ever despaireth, bewaileth;  
Keep the watch wound, for the dark night assail-eth;

Flowers droop and die in the stillness of noon.  
Labour is glory!—the flying cloud lightens;  
Only the waving wing changes and brightens;  
Idle hearts only the dark future frightens;  
Play the sweet keys, wouldst thou keep them in tune!

Labour is rest—from the sorrows that greet us,  
Rest from all petty vexations that meet us,  
Rest from sin-promptings that ever entreat us,  
Rest from world-syrens that lure us to ill.