

is and a plenty of it, and yet we have never before known such an instance of endurance.

After the above was in type we learned that Dr. Pierson's friends in Scotland have crowned all their acts of appreciation of him and of his eminent services, by appointing him to the "Duff Lectureship." This Lectureship was founded in memory of Dr. Alexander Duff, and has been filled by such eminent men as Dr. William Fleming Stevenson, and Sir Monier Williams. In conveying to him the fact of this appointment, the venerable Dr. Thomson of Edinburgh says: "I suppose you will have heard that the Duff Trustees have appointed you as their next lecturer. Nothing could be more cordial than the appointment; and I may add no appointment could be more gratifying to myself. I hope no obstacle will be found to stand in the way of your acceptance of the appointment. You have proved that, of all the men of the age, you are most qualified to do the subject justice."

J. M. S.

The Khartoum Congress has been mentioned before in these columns in connection with the Congress of Brussels. It is not a little remarkable, that while the great Christian powers are convened by their representatives to deliberate and to devise means to check and finally overthrow the horrible slave traffic in Africa, the *slave traders* should also assemble to the number of 200 delegates to devise measures to suppress the traffic in liquors, which is sweeping Africa with the besom of destruction. While the motive of these Mohammedan slave dealers is a purely selfish one—the terrible ravages of the rum trade among the native races of the country greatly diminishing the number of their victims, and the consequent profit of their own trade in human flesh—yet the Christian world can but rejoice in this feature of the Khartoum Congress and bid it God speed. It is another instance of a divine power overruling the wrath of man to

praise Him, and bringing good out of evil. The "two great curses of Africa are pitted," in His providence, "against each other," and what the Christian powers might not be able to do to abate the rum ruin, the Arab slavers may accomplish. Strong words were heard in the Congress, and the action taken "to surround the entire coast of Africa with a cordon of armed dhows, and confiscate every European vessel containing liquors, and sell the crews into slavery," looks like business, and business of a vigorous sort. A few such captures and confiscations would strike a wholesome terror among the European and American traders in this infernal traffic. We could almost be reconciled to see the "crews sold into slavery" by these worse than piratical traders.

J. M. S.

Mission to the Chinese Blind. A note from Miss C. F. Gordon-Cumming, the noted traveler, and a warm friend of missions, calls our attention to the Third Annual Report of the Mission to the Chinese Blind, 1889. The report consists mainly of the details of Mr. W. H. Murray's work in China, written out by Miss Gordon herself. We have given heretofore some account of Mr. Murray's system of teaching the blind, by which they successfully have been able to learn to read with great facility. Mr. Murray, previous to this, was a colporteur of the Scotch National Bible Society at Peking, and sold more than 100,000 copies and portions of the Bible in the Chinese and Tartar languages. He now employs the blind in stereotyping and printing the scriptures and other books. The books are produced at a remarkably low rate. His school at Peking has now an average of about fourteen boys, who make great proficiency. Miss Gordon-Cumming makes a strong appeal for aid, both for this boys' school and a separate one for girls. The treasurer of the Mission states that the special appeal made in 1889 for funds to start this separate school for blind