

generously begun—a work which demands the gratitude of the community to him whose enlightened Christian liberality had originated it, and above all, unfeigned gratitude to the Supreme Disposer of all things, for having put it into his heart thus to act."

THE CHINAMAN.—The Chinaman is, perhaps, the most naturally cruel individual in the world; yet his pusillanimity and unwarlike character are too notorious to need remark. A soldier's profession is not, as with other civilized nations, considered one of glory and honor, but as the lowest and most degraded of any. Although it cannot be denied that the moral character of the Chinaman is considerably below par, and that in debauchery and sensuality they perhaps exceed any nation in the world; yet it is evident that when their natural intelligence is fostered by good education, good government, and good example, they would be fully equal in many respects to any other people. During my residence at Shanghai the best speech I heard there was delivered in good and classical English by a Chinaman named Ly Sung, and connected with one of the English bongs, at a large dinner party, at which he was the only Chinaman present. It was a noble defence of his countrymen from many of the imputations brought against them, candidly confessing their faults, but attributing their most glaring errors to the effects of bad education, bad example, and above all, bad government; yet under all these disadvantages triumphantly remarking that no country in the world possessed more energy, industry, and perseverance, and without machinery and appliances of Europe and America, that in some manufactures they fully equalled, if not surpassed, those countries. He closed his remarks by appealing to the present party whether they had ever experienced more liberality in commercial dealings with other nations. John Chinaman is not a very moral being, but not quite so bad as it is the fashion to represent him, at least in the north; and I very much doubt if we have taken the right means to make him better. We have certainly forced upon him the sacred and profane—Christianity and opium—in a manner not very well calculated to inspire him with a belief in our own sincerity and disinterestedness, and to speculate in his own way upon such a paradoxical nature of affairs; the least we can do is to treat them civilly, if it be only for the sake of the many good cups of tea we owe to him. Not having been at any other Chinese port than Shanghai, I cannot speak from experience or comparison of their respect for "barbarians;" but certainly neither at this place, nor, as I understand, anywhere in the north of China, is the same dislike manifested to Europeans as it is said to be at Canton or in the south. On the contrary, the authorities and the merchants, both of the city and settlement, are on the best terms; an interchange of civilities often takes place between them, and in spite of the stringent clause in the treaty, Europeans are allowed to travel with impunity through the country. A Chinaman, with a little instruction becomes one of the best of cooks in the world.

ECHOES OF A MOTHER'S VOICE.—"There was once," says Rev. Dr. P. H. Fowler, "an obscure and pious woman living in the south of England. History is silent respecting her ancestry, her place of birth, and education. She had an only son, whom she made it her great business to train in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. In the seventh year of his age his mother died, and, a few years later, the lad went to sea, and engaged at length as a sailor in the African slave trade. He was soon an adept in vice, and though amongst the youngest of the crew, he was the most proficient in guilt. But his mother's instructions sent their echoes to him, and though at first he sought to defend himself from them, they grew louder and louder, until, listening to them at last, he became a fervent Christian, a successful preacher, the author of books which the Church will never let die, and the writer of hymns, the use of which is co-extensive with our tongue.

This wayward son whom his mother, though dead, addressed and reclaimed, was the means of the conversion of Claudius Buchanan, so distinguished for his labors in the East Indies; and the 'Star of the East,' a book published by Mr. Buchanan, first called the attention of Mr. Jydon to the missionary work, and sent him an apostle to Burmah!

The sailor, turned preacher, was also the means of delivering the Rev. Thomas Scott from the mazes of sin, error, and of introducing him to the way, the truth, and the life. Mr. Scott prepared the Commen-

tary known by his name, and which still continues its mission of converting and sanctifying power.

The influence of this same minister and author, in connection with that of Doddridge, was principally instrumental in making Wilberforce the Christian he was. To Wilberforce's "Practical View of Christianity," the conversion of Legh Richmond may be ascribed, and Legh Richmond wrote "Dairyman's Daughter" and other tracts, which have contributed to the salvation of thousands of souls.

Such are some of the results of that voice from the dead which spoke to John Newton; and yet what a small portion of the whole sum has been revealed!"

BOXWOOD.—It is a curious fact, that box is the only European wood which will sink in water. Its closeness of grain, hardness, and toughness, are such as to render it admirably adapted to the purposes of wood engraving. The engraving is always made on the end of the wood, so that the fibres stand perpendicularly. When cut in this manner, the graver will make a clean stroke in every direction, and the piece is liable to warp but little; when cut plankwise, boxwood is extremely apt to warp, unless very well seasoned. No kind of wood turns smoother than this, and its yellow colour, when it is well polished, is very beautiful. When ivory would be too expensive, or cannot be obtained of the requisite dimensions, boxwood is commonly substituted for it. The bitter quality of this wood also secures it from the attack of worms.

COLORED RACES.—We find the following passage in Shooter's *Kaffirs of Natal* :—

The prevailing color is a mixture of black and red, the most common shade being chocolate. Lighter colors are met with: an olive, for example, not darker than the complexion of a Spaniard, and occasionally an instance of copper color. Generally the hair is black, while the eyes are dark; but in some cases the former is of a red hue. Albinos are not unknown. Dark complexions, as being most common, are naturally held in the highest esteem. To be told that he is light colored, or like a white man, would be deemed a very poor compliment by a Kaffir. I have heard of one unfortunate person who was so very fair that no girl would marry him; and it may have been the dread of such a dire calamity which made a young man vehemently indignant when told that he was as fair as a European: his color was a light olive. A modest gentleman, whose opinion I asked respecting the most approved complexion, assured me that it was just his own, black with a little red. One of the Zulu King's titles is "You who are black." Hunger deepens the color." I have heard the Zulu soldiers, when they have returned from a long expedition and suffered much want of food, described as peculiarly black. This illustrates the passage in Jeremiah, "Our skin was black like an oven, because of the terrible famine."

INDIA.—The territory in India which owns British sway is about the size of Austria, Prussia, France, and Belgium put together. The Bengal Presidency is about the size of Turkey in Europe, but four times as populous. The Madras Presidency is not much larger than Spain, but contains a population equal to Spain and Portugal combined. The population of British India in comparison with other parts of that country, is the best possible proof that the natives prefer British rule to the power of their own potentates. Belgium, the most thickly populated country in Europe, contains 337 persons to a square mile. The population to every square mile in England is 304; in Ireland, 242; in Scotland, 110; and in France 168; but that of British India, notwithstanding the vast forests and the thousands of acres still uncultivated, reaches 124 persons to the square mile. The natives are continually pouring into those parts of India where they are under the protection of British law and government. In England the taxation per head in 1853 was £1 19s. 4d.; in France, £1 12s.; in Prussia, 19s. 3d.; whilst in British India it was only 4s. 5d. per head. The wages of a native laborer are about 7s. a month; but whilst the price of labour comparatively is as six to one, the taxation is as nine to one.—*Canon Trevor's Lecture on India.*

A prominent Dissenting preacher of London was lately married to a Romish lady by a Romish Bishop, in a Romish church. It is stated in excuse that the lady, who was a widow, had a very large fortune.—*N. Y. Church Journal.*

REFORM OF AUSTRIAN MONKS.—By degrees all the convents in Austria will be reformed, and if their inmates should object to the strict discipline which was observed by the founders of their respective orders, they will be secularized. In one of his pastoral letters to the Austrian clergy his Holiness expressed his expectation that the rich convents in Austria would contribute largely towards the maintenance of the Papal chair; but the Austrian monks refused to part with their money, and thereby incurred the displeasure of the "follower of Christ." If Austrians cannot be induced to submit to the strict discipline which is to be introduced into the convents of Bavaria, Heligoland, Westphalia, Italian, and Spanish monks will be imported, and they will naturally have no right to object to the export of Austrian cash to Rome. Alas! alas! for Austria!

EXTRAORDINARY FORGERY OF BANK OF ENGLAND NOTES.—The authorities of the Bank of England have within the last few days instituted an investigation relative to the extraordinary discovery of a considerable number of £5, £10, and £20, forged Bank of England notes, representing in the aggregate the large amount of £41,755. It appears that on the 29th of last month a communication was received at the Bank from Brussels, intimating the discovery of the notes in that capital. Brett, an officer of the detective force, was despatched to Brussels for the purpose of impounding the notes, and tracing if possible the author of the forgeries. About three years ago, a porter entered the Hotel des Etrangers, kept by Mr. Bellefroid, No. 34, Rue des Tressiers, with a box in his hand, and, addressing the proprietor, said he had been sent by a gentleman who was coming to sleep at the hotel that night, and handing it over to the landlord, left. Several travellers stopped at the hotel about the time, but none of them owned the box, which, after laying some weeks in the bar was deposited in a lumber room, in one of the attics. The proprietor, noticing the accounts in the English papers of the discovery at Waterloo bridge, a thought struck him as to what might be the contents of the mysterious box which had continued so long in his charge. It was heavy, and well secured by a brass padlock, and its general appearance was calculated to excite suspicion. His curiosity induced him to get it down and break the padlock, and he found it contained 13 large official looking sealed envelope parcels. He opened them, and to his great astonishment discovered the contents to consist of some thousands of what appeared to him to be Bank of England notes, he took two of them to the shop of M. Edward de Poire, a money changer, who detected that they were forgeries, but so cleverly were they executed that other money changers in the city offered exchange for them. The notes were placed in the custody of Mr. Van Hauw, of the Brussels police, until the English officer arrived. They had evidently been struck off from three plates, which the Bank authorities believe to be British engraving. The £10 notes bear a date when there was no issue of that description of notes at the Bank of England. The Belgian police seem rather perplexed at the fact of so large a quantity of fictitious notes having escaped the scrutiny of their own custom-house officials; but on examination of the envelopes it was ascertained that the parcels, notwithstanding their size, had passed through the Post-office from Marseilles, which post-mark was attached to each. The forged notes were placed in an inner envelope. The outer ones were addressed to different parties in various places in Belgium (who were known to be living at the parts named at the time, but since absconded), while the inner ones were readdressed to persons in Marseilles. This was a stratagem to deceive the police. In the event of one of the parties being captured no doubt his excuse would be, for possession of the parcel, that he only received it to send it to the direction of the enclosed envelope, and that as it was sealed he knew nothing of the contents. Just previous to the time of the box being left at the Hotel des Etrangers, some parties were apprehended at Frankfurt on a charge of passing Bank of England notes. Those forged notes now turn out to be facsimiles of those discovered at Brussels. A great number of forged notes of a like character were in circulation on the Continent about that time, the parties were convicted, and they made certain revelations to the Government respecting accomplices, who no doubt were in Brussels at the time, and owing to the publicity of the fraud, and fearing detection, they resorted to the expedient of getting their stock in trade left at the hotel as before narrated. That they carried on their nefarious trade in many of the continental cities and towns there is ample proof. Brett, the officer, has reached London, and deposited the forged notes in the custody of the Bank of England.

HORRIBLE SPECTACLE IN THE SUNKEN RUSSIAN MAN OF WAR.—Towards the end of last month, by order of the Russian government, the Russian vessel of the line, *Lefert*, of whose foundering in the Gulf of Finland with 1,400 men on board, we had a report at the time, was searched for, found, and examined by English divers, brought thither for the purpose. According to a narrative in a Danish paper, the divers found 1,100 corpses in the interior of the vessel, so that 300 seem to have been on deck when the frightful accident happened. The corpses were mostly found embracing each other, or clinging to the portions of the vessel; the composition had already set in. So horrible was the spectacle that the divers were obliged to leave the vessel, and the bodies were removed to the shore.