

ents its way into the heart of the most respectable castes, and a continual cry of misery and crime and unavailing repentance streams up from the victims of a cruel and unjust moral code. If the majority of Indian widows go through life in sorrowful and pained acquiescence, yet for every one who rises to the heights of sanctity many sink into the depths of shame.—*Sel.*

GOOD NEWS FROM THE CONGO.

The Christian, contains a letter dated August 5th, 1886, written by Mr. Stephen J. White, of the Livingstone Inland Mission, stationed at Mbanza Manteka, Congo, S. W. Africa :—

Here, there have been a few converts for some time, and these have shown a true working spirit, assisting Mr. Richards in the work of evangelising. The seed sown is now bringing forth a rich harvest. During the last month nearly 700 people have been blessedly converted to God, and one who saw these people five years ago, as I did, and see them now, can see the great change, and cannot but praise God for His wonderful grace, which has brought them salvation. Their faces tell the story, and their lives confirm their profession. One writing to me from this station, who is in no way connected with Mission work says : “ I was rather tired when I reached the hill above Mbanza. Manteka. It was changed in a moment when I saw below me a bird’s-eye view of the pretty villages and green ravines. The tones of a bell greeted me, and the whole impression was one of peace. I was not wrong. Arrived here, I could hardly believe my eyes. I beheld Mr. Richards preaching in the middle of a large circle of men and women, throwing away their ‘Inkisis’ (idols and charms). That is to say, I have been witness of an event of great importance, and Mbanza Manteka will be distinguished in the future Congo history, as the first Christian parish, already more than 600 people.”

This evening two of the converts returned from a preaching tour, and they have visited several villages. They report five conversions. They met with a good deal of opposition, and some of the people threatened to shoot them, but they replied that they were not afraid of death now, for it was not death to them, but only going to be with Jesus. One man got up and defended them, and said he would kill anyone who killed them. From this same

town a man and his family have been driven away, because he tried to teach his fellow-townsmen what he himself had learned. He is rejoicing in his new-found love.

I wish those who take an interest in the work out here could just peep in at the morning and evening services, and see with what vigour the people sing the hymns of praise, the eagerness with which they drink in the Word, and the simple child-like faith they show in their prayers. They would pray and give more liberally to forward the glorious work of the “Congo for Christ.”

PROHIBITION DOES NOT IMPOVERISH.

When Atlanta, Georgia, adopted a law prohibiting the sale of liquor in that city, says the *Christian Observer*, many a newspaper critic prophesied the early impoverishment of the city. Almost every one expected a temporary embarrassment of trade while those engaged in the liquor business were seeking other employment. But the reports from that city, as given in the newspapers, show a recent increase in the material brought into that city to be manufactured or consumed there, of from thirty to fifty per cent; and also an increase of about fifty per cent in the amount of manufactured articles shipped from that city, in June, July and August, 1886, over the amount shipped in the corresponding months of last year. This increase in prosperity was to have been expected at an early day. The surprise is, that it has come so much sooner than was expected. The time that was formerly spent in drunkenness is now spent largely in profitable labor, and the money that was formerly squandered in buying ruin and squalor now buys bread and clothing and the comforts of life.

DISAPPOINTMENTS.

It is good for a man to be checked, crossed, disappointed, made to feel his own ignorance, weakness, folly; made to feel his need of God; to feel, that in spite of all his cunning and self-confidence, he is no better off in this world than in a dark forest, unless he has a Father in heaven who loves him with an eternal love, and a Holy Spirit in heaven who will give him a right judgment in all things, and a Saviour in heaven who can be touched with the feeling of his infirmities.—*Charles Kingsley.*