'LIFE IN SOUTH AFRICA."

A METHODIST MINISTER'S ZULE EXPE-

RIENCE. Under the title of "Life in South Affica," a highly entertaining lecture returned from a twelve months' miswhile having regard to the present abseveral hundred families of the Dutch, man offers a certain number of cattle, and a war ensued which ended in the say half a dozen, for a girl he fancies. assassination of Dingaan by his broth. and her father having a higher offer from er Panda, the ally of the Dutch. They some old Blue-beard, the suitor desassisted him to gain supreme power in pairs of out-bidding the patriarch, and Zu'u'and. The country coming under accordingly finds a way out of the diffithe British in 1843, a large number of culty by making a raid upon the cattle the Dutch emigrated again to the of a convenient form. This form of northward, and founded what was woman slavery has now for some years known as the Transvaal Republic. Two | been sanctioned at Natal, by the Govyears ago the country, in extent equal ernment requiring that all marriages to France, was annexed to our empire. | shall be registered with a fee, and fix-Having glanced at the colonists, the | ing the number of cows as the legal lecturer proceeded to notice the more price to be paid by the bridegroom. interesting features of native life and The lecturer said that missionaries character. He said that while the have strongly protested against this, European nations are advancing northward, there is a constant slow pressure of the Kaffir southward. Great changes have taken place in very recent times, and who were the aborigines cannot be definitely stated. The Europeans are practically masters of the country, the whites, Dutch or English, having dis. possessed the owners of the soil; those whom they displaced having overcome the Hottentots, who in their day eject el the Bushmen. The various Kaffir tribes inhabit the tract of country between the Drakesensburg mountain and the coast. Of the five Kaffir tribes the Zulu is the chief type. The Zulus have their headquarters to the north of Natal, where may be found the best specimens of this splendid race. Balonging to the dark-skinned race, they are not so jetty black as the Negro. They have finely-modelled forms, are of In the first part of the lecture, Mr. tall stature, with high foreheads, and Sawtell mentioned that this chief. intelligent expression, and altogether they afford as fine specimens of the human race as perhaps are to be found anywhere. As a people they are free from care, undisturbed by the great causes for anxiety in civilized lands; and their food is easily got either by hunting the abundant game or by sharing the crops of prore industrious cultivators. Clothing is of the most trifling description, and generally conspicuous by its absence; and as for a sleeping as the first shower of spears fall they hut, it costs no more trouble than that of collecting a few wattle poles, shaping them into a huge beehive and thatching them with grass. Speaking of the absence in the Zulu of all care for to-morrow, the lecturer said that one cause is the absolute power of the chiefs, which in the logical mind of the Kaffir produces an instructive fatalism. He knows that his chief may require his life at any moment, and therefore never troubles himself about a future stields, or young men, are always which may have no existence for him : and the same time that his loyalty prompts him to constant self-sacrifice their duty. After a battle the officers to obey the despotic orders of his are questioned as to the conduct of luding to this little act, he says:chiefs. As an instance of this Mr. Sawtell mentioned that Dingaan a few years age ordered his soldiers to catch a lion and bring it to him alive. The ardice are as quickly slain. Tcharka warriors attacked and overpowered by once ordered a whole regiment of white their number a lion, which they brought to Dingaan without a wound; shields to be slain, commanding the boys to take the place and position of and the fact that several lives were lost the slain. There are thirty-three regi-

GENERAL READING. in the capture was regarded as nothing extraordinary. The lecturer went on to describe the Zulu as the most intellectual of all savages, mentioning his delight in controversy and the special faculty he has for the Socratic form of argument, asking questions we he compels his opponent to pronounce his own defeat. Adverting to social customs, was given in the Corn Exchange Stour- he said that the Zula is of very hospitbridge, England, by the Rev. J. R. able disposition. The Bechuana, liv-Sawtell, of the Stourbridge Weslevan | ing in a hungry land, salutes signifi-Circuit. Mr. Sawtell has only recently | cantly, "What are you eating?" and the answer is, " Nothing," for it is sionary work amongst the tribes of hidden away when the stranger ar-Southern Africa, and was therefore rives. With the Zulu food is abundant; well qualified to amuse and instruct his hence he never eats alone, snuffs alone, audience with his eventful experiences; or smokes alone. His fondness for chil dren is remarkable, though his supersorbing topic of the war in Zululand stitous notions lead to a rather unpleahis personal reminiscences of life in sant mode of treating a "little stranthat country were of a peculiar interest | ger," on its arrival in the world Shortand value. The story was recounted ly after birth it is inoculated by the with the aid of well managed dissolv. " medicine man," and thoroughly ing views, showing the places and smoked over a wood fire, and then scenes of interest touched upon, and by daubed over with fat and red clay : afthe terse but vigorous and graphic des. | ter which its little finger is cut off, if criptions which the series illustrated, | the child is a member of a high family, the lecturer was able to hold the atten and it is named. The young men tion of his numerous hearers without practice running, leaping and dancing. flagging to the close. Mr. Sawtell at speed being reckoned a great accomthe outset took his audience with him | plishment ; while their powers of enon the voyage to the Cape of Good durance are so great that a runner will Hope touching at St. Helena on the travel 50 or 60 miles a day. The lecpassage. Before landing at Cape Town | turer described the young women as he showed a map of the country, on generally good looking, but observed which he traced the routes pursued by that they become changed in old age the great explorers, and he gave an to very hags, under the hard treatment outline of the geography of the south- of married life. Their dresses are ern portion of Africa. Table Mountain | made of softened skins, generally dved was then passed, and Cape Town, with | with red ochre, with a profusion of or its easy going shopkeepers, was des nament. At this point Mr. Sawtell cribed, after which the lecturer took a dealt with the custom of the Zulus of Cape travelling wagon with its team of establishing military villages, and oxen, and proceeded across the Kooreo | showed the arrangements of a military Plain to Natal, en passant looking into kraal, with its circle of habitations. a Dutch Boer's farm, and scampering The whole arrangement is to further over the diamond and gold fields, the the object of the Zulu nation in constory of the discovery of which was stituting itself one vast standing briefly told. Natal the lecturer said, army. To this end all its efforts are was 1,200 miles from Cape Town, and directed, and he pointed out how the its first settlers were the Dutch Boers, men are forbidden to marry until nearwho in their eagerness to remove from | ly 40 years of age, and even then only British authority, crossed the Draken by the pleasure of their chiefs. Exberg mountain and saw the beautiful plaining the economy of the domestic well watered country at their feet. Im- cattle pen (a sacred spot to a Kaffir) agining it to be the Promised Land, and remarking that wealth is measured they immediately attempted to take by cows, he showed how this, coupled possession, but found the native Zulu | with the fact that wives are purchased. tribes more warlike than any they had | polygamy being the keystone of Kaffir yet met with. Dingaan, the Zuluchief, society, constitutes a fruitful source of treacherously and cruelly murdered trouble with the colonists. A young and he condemned such class legislation, believing that in thus tampering with heathen customs we have sown the wind and are reaping the whirlwind. He passed on to picture one of the weird war-dances of the Zulus, which he had witnessed, and after speaking of other dances, sketched a portrait of the Witch Doctor, or Prophet, who And he dreamed that night that an Angel came, next to the chief is the most important person in a tribe, and whose principal business it is to "make rain." A portrait of the Zulu blacksmith, gave an opportunity for introducing the native weapon-the assegai-which Mr. Cawtell said is a necessary of life to the Kaffir. The assegal was much altered by the terrible Tcharka, a great Zulu chief who lived but for war, and was a man of wonderful intellect, dauntless courage and great organizing power. hearing the career of the first Napolcon during the time of the Emperor, said he would be the Napoleon of South Africa, and consequently devastated the whole country with his army. He said the present chief, Cetewayo, follows the warlike tactics of Tcharka. The soldiers are armed with a very large shield and a single assegai; and when in action, after advancing in a compact body on the enemy, as soon crouch beneath the shields, and then spring in with their short spears. The only piece of armor carried by the Zulus is their shield, which is made of ox-hide. By difference in colour the shields denote the department of the army to which the owner belongs, young men carrying black ones, the veterans white. The shields, which stand as high as the soldiers, are given out by the King for bravery. The black placed in the van, with the white shields behind them to see they do their men, and those that bave shown notable courage receive immediate promotion, while those suspected of cow-

be as readily distinguished as those of the crack regiment, answering to our Household troops, being distinguished by entire absence of clothing. Those who are conscious of not having been successful in fight may think themselves fortunate if they are not pointed out as bad soldiers and at once executed. The Zulus under Cetewayo muster 50,000 fighting men, who are so well disciplined that they never fall out The lecturer next described their mode of attack, which is to advance in a crescent or horse-shoe, pouring in a shower of spears or shot, and when within 200 yards they make a rush, and yelling, dash in with their short assegai to stab. Remarking that the King bad insisted on each soldier providing himself with a breechloader, Mr. Sawtell expressed the opinion that it was surely carrying the principles of free trade too far for our merchants to be allowed to supply ammunition and guns with which our brave troops were slaughtered. He went on to say that the Kaffirs in the colony are allied to the Zulus, and number 300,000 to only 20,000 whites. The fears that in case of a reverse to our arms the Natal Zulus would rise, have as yet not been realized, as there is, owing to missionary influence (said the lecturer) a large loyal native population in Natal Small thanks, however, to the Government, for by legalizing polygamy and sanctioning heathen customs the difficulties in the way of elevating the people are immensely increased. The lecand explained the causes which led to it, considering that the struggle was inevitable in the face of Cetewayo's standhe asserted that though Sir Bartle Isandula maasacre was a mission house; might have erred in bringing about the but they have produced no apparent war a little sooner than it might have effect, whether from their own msuffibeen, he could not join in the cry for ciency or from the fact that under his recall. As to promoting civilization | Cetewayo's rule conversion was death, amongst the savages, he was of opinion that the right way was to plant schools make any profession of conversion is and spread education and missionaries certain death to a Zulu, not only in English sergeant and eleven of his men amongst them, in order to secure lasting Zululand, but throughout the whole benefits. The lecture ended with some vast Matabele country. The chiefs hold ed up the gully, where they suddenly descriptions of the lake Scenery explored by Livingstone, Stanley and

FAMILY READING

THE BOOK-KEEPER'S DREAM.

had weatily worn to its close And the night had come down with its needed As a Book-keeper wended his way from the store.

Glad that the toilsome hours were o'er.

The night was cheerless, and dismal and damp,

As the flickering flame of the dim street lamp, Went out in the wild rough gust that beat, With furious speed through the gloomy street.

Tired and cold, with pain throbbing head, He sank to repose in his lonely bel; Still through his brain, as the Book-keeper slept, Visions of Debtor and Creditor crept.

The great Balance sheet he had finished that day, And Profit and Loss in the usual way Showed how much money the merchant had made Or lost in the preceding twelve month's trade.

With the Ledger of Life; and against his name Were charges until there was no more room to spare And nothing whatever was credited there : There were life, and its blessings, as intellect

health; There were charges of time, opportunities, wealth Of talents for good, of friendships the best, Of neurishments, joys, affections and rest.

And hundreds of others, and one as each great, All with interest accrued from the time of their date Till, dispairing of ever being able to pay, The Book-keeper shrank from the Angel away. But the Augel declared that the account must be

paid,
And protested it could not longer be delayed. The Book-keeper sighed, and began to deplore How meagre the treasure he'd laid up in store. He'd cheerfully render all he had acquired

And his note on demand for the balance required. Then quickly the Angel took paper and wrote The following as an acceptable note:

On demand, without grace, from the close of to-day

For value received, I promise to pay

To Him who has kept, and everywhere Has guarded his soul with infinite care. Whose blessings outnumber the drops of the ocean, While living, the sum of my heart's best devotion. In witness whereof, to be seen by all men,

I affix the great seal of my soul's Amen. The Book-keeper added his name to the note, While the Angel across the great ledger-page wrote,

In letters as crimson as human gore, Settled in full," and was seen no more

KAFFIRS AND ZULUS.

This morning's post (March 1, 1879) bring us another letter from South Africa, from our young Kaffir student, Charlie Maquba Sitwana.

Two dear children had written to him from England some few months since, enclosing a gift in stamps; al-

"I was very much pleased to receive my little friends' letter, and they have been very kind in sending me stamps, which I was much needing, and now I am writing to them with very great pleasure, and also I do not know them, but now I know them by their kindness. We stay now in Adam's Station. My hope is very, talk, and now is our best very great in the promise of our Lord, learning their language."

ments in the Zulu army, and they can that we shall go to the best school in Africa, LOVEDALE, very good Zulu colour own army. The 33rd Regiment is lege, where they learn many, many kind of things. Now I am going to tell you what things is trouble very much, the people are fighting against the English, and persecute or kill some people! Also we have no rain come down, very dry, nothing is growing out in the fields, and so we have famine. I have seen my dear parents only once. because it is very far distant to walk by foot. but I do anxious has been protected from the sun. They very hard to walk, so many high hills and wide rivers, except you must have some of the ranks. They march at the horses for travelling, and sometimes peodouble, and can keep up fifty miles a He travel by waggons. Since I returned day carrying their own provisions, from them, I have not heard anything about them, and I am very sorry indeed My brother joins me to send our best love

About a week or ten days after writing the above, the brothers received a letter which conveyed not only the tidings that they were to have the desire of their heart granted in reference to going to Lovedale, but also the funds to defray the expenses of the journey. By this time they are probably on their way, if they have not already reached their destination.

But the above letter proves that Charlie has made very satisfactory progress during his stay at the American Mission School at Illovo. The fearful strife now raging in Zululand, suggests many a sad reflection. Alas! how readily England has rushed into war, and into an expenditure of millions in order to slay the Zulus, and how slow have English Christians been to evangelize them! They are now perishing in thousands, by our "Gat. ling guns" and "arms of precision." If earnest Christian efforts for their conversion had been carried on for the turer dilated on the subject of the war, last twenty years, might not Cetewayo and his host have long ere this abandoned their sanguinary and cruel customs, and become neighbors endurable ing army of 50,000 men. He defended by a civilized colony? Missions have Sir Bartle Frere, for whom he enter- existed in Zululand, as is proved by the tained the most profound respect, and fact that the very centre of the awful we cannot say. It is a sad fact that to that a Zulu converted is a Zulu spoiled, and the sooner he is got rid of the better. The only chance for Christian Zulus is to settle in the colony of Natinearly thirty of their opponents. When al. The present war is a terrible evil, the last Englishman had fallen, the old but it may be and probably will be chief of the tribe, one of the most renown. overruled in the providence of Him ed warriors of Northern India, turned to

> Cetewayo's country were French, Ger- wrist and fastening it to that of the dead man, and Swedish. The Gordon Memo- sergeant, "bind the green thread around rial mission is near the borders, but on them all, and not around one wrist only, the Natal side. We had been feeling anxious about en; and it may be that when God sees our dear friends, Mr. and Mrs. Aitche. how we have decorated them he will

received the following letter from M1. Fothergill, of Darlingten :-PIERREMONT CRESCENT, DARLINGTON.

Feb'y. 22d, 1879. " DEAR MR. G. GUINNESS .- You will be interested to know that we have just received a letter from Mrs. Clarke, from

ROCK FOUNTAIN, IXOPO, NATAL.

the new home at

They were long delayed at the coast from the drought, and the war preparations having so enormously increased the cost of travelling. They have, however, surmounted every difficulty, and reached their new home in safety. They took advantage of a temporary fall in prices of transport, and set out on Christmas Day. They arrived at their destination 6th January. They found the hut, which Mr. Clarke had built some time before, in busy preparing the soil and putting in seed for future crops, mealies, &c. He next proposes to build another hut, for a school-house and place of worship, and in the company of her more fortunate sisthey will then at once commence teaching | ters. Her presence is considered a conanxiety to learn. The war that has broken out and the signal disaster to British | childless widow, herself perhaps a child arms, make us attentively anxious; but we trust in the Lord, and hope that all will yet be well with our loved ones, whose | law. sole object is the good of those benighted people and the glory of God. who can keep them there, if it is His will, as safe as here at home.

You will be interested in two or three extracts from Mr. Clarke's letter. Having expressed their intention to build a proper kitchen and pantry, and to live in them till they can add the remainder of a proper house, she goes on :

'When once more a fireplace is ours, I shall be so thankful; for really, cooking in a shed with one side open, the wind blowing through the top and sides, and the rain running through on the floor, is anything but exhilarating. Twice when my bread was ready to go into the bakepot, a thunderstorm burst over us, and the rain put out the fire; but by dint of Bertie's blowing, and the boys' digging a sluice around the fire, the bread turned out successfully.'

Mrs. Clarke goes on :

'Some of the people seem pleasant enough, but as we have no interpreter yet our conversations with them have been limited. Kaffir of some kind we must talk, and now is our best opportunity of

Having mentioned a prospect of having an interpreter from the training school ar Illovo, she proceeds:

· Some of our callers here are most in quisitive, wanting me to undo my hair for their inspection (of course 1 don't) touching the sunburnt skin of Bertie's arms, wondering at the small, light hairs on them, and shouting and almost run. ning away if he lifts his sleeve above the elbow to show them the white skin which ask the most curious questions, and seem to peer into our faces as though they would look through us. Many of them express their wish to learn; and soon we hope to be settled enough to open school. At present we have only the one small but, so must wait till we get a second building up.'

With regard to the prospect of war, sh

So long as the English are successful no danger is apprehended in Natal Should, however, the Zulus only gain temporary victory, the Natal Kaffi s would probably rise, and one place would then be about as dangerous as another. Here we are further from whites and protection, but we are also further from the Zulus under Cetewayo and the seat of warshould it have broken out. We passed on our way here different places which have been hastily fortified as retreats for the white population in case of a rising. One is a court house with a wall around it, with holes for rifles. One a Wesleyan chapel, round which a sod wall is to be built. As for us, surely God will protect us and suffer no evil to befall us, or any plague to come nigh our dwelling.'

Little did Mrs. Clarke, think while writing the above, how soon a terrible British defeat was to be experienced. We can only hope and trust and devoutly pray that the worst of the apprehended results will not be realized, but that a gracious Providence will give to the helpess settlers a measure of protection which their rulers are powerless to give."-The Regions Beyond.

A CHARGE INTO THE JAWS OF DEATH.

The respect paid to courage by the warlike tribes of the Anglo-Indian border is strikingly illustrated by an episode of Na. pier's famous campaign in Scinde. A detachment had been sent against one of the bravest of the native tribes, almost every warrior of which bore proof of his valor in the green thread tied around his waist, a badge more highly-prized by the "hill-men" than the Cross of the Legion of Honor by a French soldier. In the course of skirmishing that ensued, an mistaking the order given them advancfound themselves surrounded by over one hundred of the enemy. The gallant handful charged without a moment's hesitation, and were slain to a man, after killing who brings good out of evil, for the furtherance of the Gospel, in securing religious toleration for countless thousand the furtherance of the Gospel, in securing men?" "The bravest we have ever met," answered the mountaineers with who brings good out of evil, for the his men and said: "How say ye, my sons! sands of the finest native race of the one voice. "Then," cried the old man, dark continent. The missions in taking the precious thread from his own but around both. Unbelievers though son, of Ikwesi Lamaci, and Mr. and grudge such heroes to Shaitaun (Satan) Mrs. Clarke, of Ixopo, Natal, when we and give them a place beside his throne.'

THE WIDOWS OF INDIA.

It is an appalling fact that there are in India to day eighty thousand widows between the ages of six and sixteen! From the custom of early marriages in India arise the worst features of Hindoo widow. hood; for many a child becomes a widow before she has reached the age of seven years. It may be that the child has never lived with her husband, and yet custom forbids her ever marrying again. From the hour of her widowhood her life becomes one of misery. She has no sympathy from friends, not even from members of her own family. She is bereft of all her ornaments; her hair is cut off. She is clothed in the commonest apparal, and acts in the capacity of a menial for all the household Her jewels, which she valued so much in the days of her pride, are no longer on good condition. Mr, Clarke has been very her person. She can never wear them again, never wear a nice dress, or cat other than a given quantity of poor food. She seldom mingles, or is allowed to mingle the natives, many of whom express great tamination, We cannot depict her misery. Her condition is almost hopeless. A drinks to its dregs the bitterest cup of a soulless heathenism, whose only fate is

> Therewas a time when many such preferred death to life, and the widow abandoned her home and earthly connections and committed herself to the flames upon the dead body of her husband. This practice was abolished by the government years ago, although there are occasional instances of it even in these days. Her life is thus spared, but the sentence upon her brow has only been commuted. A recent act of the British Government has rendered the re-marriage of widows lawful, and she is now no longer doomed to perpetual widowhood, yet custom and prejudice prevent this act from rapidly aking effect, but it will make its power felt in softening the lot of the Hindu

How different the teachings of Christis anity: "Ye shall not affict the widows." Let thy widows trust in me."

BLESSINGS BRIGHTEN AS THEY TAKE THEIR FLIGHT.—If you have a good head of hair take care of it; once gone and we realize its loss far more than we appreciate its presence. The BEARINE is taking the place of all other hair dressings, because it is healthful to the hair and delightful to use.

BIBLE

B. C. 712. L CALL: 55.31 11

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