

and the people gave him encouragement. At twenty he married and went into business for himself. But hard times were upon him and for years he knew what grinding poverty was. He preached for several churches, but this added little to his scanty income. For a time he left shoemaking, and taught school. In this his failure was complete. Though he kept the school, the fact was that the boys kept him. (Still I

expect he would have been kept at it had he not succeeded in doing so. Only have kept the wolf from the door. But the family must be fed and so he went back again to the bench. All the time, however, he was learning as eagerly as ever. He had managed to pick up a working knowledge of half a dozen languages, and at the same time was making steady progress in science and the Scriptures. He managed to do this by mapping out his time, methodically. One day he would study languages, the next science and history, the third perhaps saw him with a string of shoes over his shoulder, bringing off eight or ten miles to the post of them in the nearest town, the next day would be given to writing; the last two of the week to special preparation for preaching on the Lord's Day. His studious habits gained a number of friends who afterwards became almost as distinguished in their own way as he in his. Among those were Fuller, Ryland, Arnold of Rugby, and John Newton.

After his conversion he left the Church of England, and, at the age of 24, becoming a Baptist he was immersed by Dr. Ryland, who preached on Matt. 19: 30. Was the text prophetic? Look and see. Three years later he was regularly set apart to the work of the Gospel ministry. The brethren had many doubts about his fitness but at last he was accepted and sent out by the Olney church "to preach the Gospel wherever God in His providence might call him."

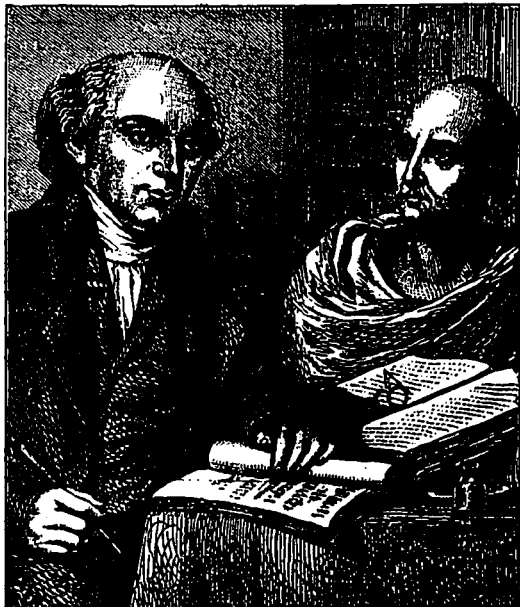
HOW HE BECAME A MISSIONARY. It was one day as he was teaching his class in geography, that the thought of missions to the heathen first dashed on his mind. It never afterwards left him. When he went back to shoemaking, he pasted sheets of paper together, made a map of the world, marked on it the different countries, and indicated the extent, population, and religious condition of each. Day by day, as he worked away, he would look up at his map and think over its dreadful facts in the light of Christ's command to preach the Gospel to every creature; and, by and by, his thoughts grew into a little book. His mind was made up that the heathen should have the gospel. He began trying to interest others in it but found little response. One day he brought it up for discussion in a ministers' meeting. Immediately, Dr. Ryland, Sen. sprang to his feet and said

"Young man, sit down. When God pleases to convert the heathen, he will do it without your aid or mine." But though Carey sat down, he was not put down. He was in the habit of finishing what he began. He continued to talk the matter publicly and privately. When he was called to the pastorate at Leicester, he read them his pamphlet at the recognition service. In God's good time the tide began to turn. Fuller

and others became interested. But when he pressed them to do something they put him off by asking him to publish his book. This, by the kindness of Mr. Potts, he was enabled to do, and so early in 1792, the little book went out to the world with its rich store of facts, its urgent plea for action, and its call for united prayer and a penny a week for missions.

At the Association held at Nottingham, May, 1792, Carey preached his famous sermon on Is. 54: 2, 3, drawing from the text two great lessons: (1) Expect great things from God, (2) Attempt great things for God. Those present were deeply moved by his burning words, but were about to go away without taking action, when Carey seized Fuller by the hand in agony of distress, and asked whether they were going away without doing anything. It was then decided that a plan for

forming a society should be prepared for the next ministers' meeting. That meeting of twelve Baptist ministers was held on the 2nd of October, 1792, at Kettering. After a long dis-



CAREY AND HIS PUNDIT.

SECOND) (HAND  
SHOES) (BOUGHT  
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CAREY'S SIGN BOARD

ussion in which Carey's arguments overcame all opposition, the society was formed, and a committee appointed. Of that committee Carey was a member and Fuller was Secretary.