

acter, and there is no way of securing the object but by obtaining a change of law in the usual way.

On the other hand, the Metropolitan Committee for Promoting the Observance of the Lord's Day propose to address both the Sovereign and the Legislature, praying,—

"1. That the attendance of regimental bands, for amusement, on the Lord's day, in Kensington Gardens, or in garrison towns, or wherever else troops are stationed, may be discontinued.

"2. That the British Museum, the National Gallery, and other similar public establishments, may not be opened during any part of the Lord's day. And,—

"3. That no alteration be made in the law which prevents the opening of the Crystal Palace and other exhibitions on that day.

"To these three points the efforts of the Metropolitan Committee will be limited. It is not proposed to ask for new legislation of any kind. The main object is rather to prevent mischievous and dangerous changes from being made, than to seek for any alteration in the existing laws.

"And, with this simple and definite object, the Metropolitan Committee asks the aid, and hopes to enlist the support, of Christians of all classes."

We do trust that the efforts of this society will be most vigorously seconded and multiplied over all the country, and that without delay.

From the London Missionary Magazine.

A CHINESE CONVERT.

"My past life," says he, in a document which he wrote out, "is not worthy of being detailed; but as it may give me an interest in your prayers, I will lay a sketch of it before you, as in the sight of God. From my ninth year to my seventeenth I went to school; but I only learned the art of writing, and to repeat many pages of our books, of the meaning of which I understood but little; while, all the time, I was offending continually by forgetfulness of God and disobedience of my parents. Three years, from my eighteenth to my twenty-first, I passed as an actor; but that profession being commonly believed to take from those who follow it the protection of their ancestors, I left it and took to divination. This proving unprofitable, I added to it the writing of charms and repeating of spells, along with the art of medicine, expecting to make gain. I prayed to demons and exorcised evil spirits. I surrounded myself with the images and pictures of former masters, and worshipped them. On the first and fifteenth of every month I repeated my litanies, and prayed to various spirits, hoping that they would give efficacy to my charms and spells; thus, throughout a period of more than twenty years, earning the wages of iniquity. In the fourth month of the present year, the brethren Yu and Mok came to the city of Sin-ngan distributing the sacred Scriptures. Before I had met with them myself, the wife of a neighbour gave me to read a volume which had been received from them, but I laid it with indifference on a shelf. There my daughter took it up, and beginning to read, she was delighted. My wife also was interested by it, and they united in urging me to go to the strangers and get a copy for myself. I went accordingly to them, thinking that the book was an ordinary composition for the admonition of the age, but they told me that it was the Book of God, the Creator and Preserver of the universe, who had sent his beloved Son to die, making atonement for the sins of men. This was what, in all my life, I had never heard of. The information

was as if thunder rolled in my ears, startling me from sleep. My first emotions were of terror; but when I saw that there was a way of escape from my sins, and a way by which I might seek happiness, how could I but be moved to repentance, forsake at once all the idols which I had vainly worshipped, be grateful for the great grace of my heavenly Father, and rely with all my heart on the atoning merit of the Saviour? I consulted with my wife and daughter, and, procuring the necessary means, followed the two brethren here to Hong Kong, that I might be instructed in all the worship of God. While I have been here, I have felt something of the happiness of heaven."

From the American Messenger.

THE CHURCH'S STRENGTH.

The converts of this day of Pentecost, if doubled once in ten years, would, at the end of two centuries, have equalled the whole population of the globe. Yes, if Christians had continued to labor so humbly, and so prayerfully, and God had so blessed their labors as to make each convert the instrument of the conversion of two persons every ten years, the morning which ushered in the third century from that memorable day, would have shone upon a world containing not one soul unreconciled to God.

Why then did not Christianity go on "conquering and to conquer," until its triumphs were co-extensive with the abodes of man? Alas, the fault was in her professed friends. Even before the grave had closed on the last of the apostles, pride, and emulation, and worldliness had begun to mar the beauty and paralyze the energies of the Christian church. And, as years rolled on, the scene became darker and darker still, until at length a night of gloom settled down upon the world, which continued unbroken for ten centuries.

How impressive the lesson thus taught us by history. How clearly does it show that the strength of the church is in proportion to her purity and spirituality. Let her once more cherish the Pentecostal spirit, and would she not experience Pentecostal success, and receive a Pentecostal blessing?

ONE YEAR'S FRUITS OF THE LONDON CITY MISSION.

967 cases of decided reformation of life; 700 persons induced to become communicants; 411 prostitutes induced to enter asylums; 470 persons living improperly together induced to marry; 656 drunkards reclaimed; 363 persons induced to commence family prayer; 9561 children sent to school.—*Report.*

HAPPINESS NOT IN STATION ALONE.—There is one experience, gentlemen, to which the history of my various changes in life has peculiarly, and I will even say, has painfully exposed me—how little a man gains, or rather, indeed, how much he loses in the happiness of natural and healthful enjoyment, in passing from a narrower to a wider, and what some may call a more elevated sphere. There is not room in the heart of man for more than a certain number of objects; and he is therefore placed far more favorably for the development of all that pleasure which lies in the kind and friendly affections of our nature, when the intimacy of his regards is permitted to rest on a few, than when bustling through an interminable variety of persons and things, each individual can have but a slender hold upon the memory, and a hold as slender upon the emotions.—*Dr. Chalmers.*