

are joining their husbands, and altogether nothing could be more reasonably satisfactory and gratifying than the progress of Vancouver. The Pacific terminus will be a big place before many years.

THE SLAVE TRADE IN AFRICA.

DAVID LIVINGSTONE, as he lay dying in an African hut, wrote this pathetic prayer for the success of his work:—"All I may add in my loneliness is, may Heaven's rich blessing come down on every one, American, English, or Turk, who will help to heal this open sore of the world!" In his last feeble hours the great heart of the Christian hero was bleeding for myriads of helpless natives, the prey of strong and irresistible bands of roving men-stealers to invade their homes, kill most of the wretched inhabitants, and drag the rest into slavery.

The world hears little of the seemingly endless tragedy of suffering and wrong that is still scourging the peoples of inner Africa. Cameron predicted a few years ago that unless an end was made to the horrid traffic between Arab slave-buyers and the slave-selling chiefs, the vast regions of Central Africa would become utterly depopulated. Mr. Williams, of the American Missions, writes that last year he saw twenty thousand slaves, fastened together in long gangs by heavy wooden yokes, pass his way near Lake Nyassa on their way to the coast. These wretched captives were not set free, but were taken to the sea without frightful sacrifice of human life. As a rule, for every bondsman who is fastened in a yoke and started for the markets, from two to six bleeding bodies are left behind near the ashes of their once peaceful and happy homes. Mr. Stanley says that the Arab raid on the Upper Congo, whose results he saw in two thousand suffering wretched creatures together on the river bank, cost no less than twelve thousand lives.

Five months ago Mr. Ashe, an English missionary in Uganda, writing amid the scenes of King Mwanga's slaughters, re-echoed the pathetic appeal that fell from Livingstone's dying lips. "The nameless wrongs of these happy people," he wrote, "their homes invaded, themselves slain, their wives dragged off to degrading slavery, should stir the heart of America. Let America, Germany and England join hands and say that such wrongs shall not be; that Africa shall no longer be given to be the prey of wolfish native chiefs and Arab traders!"

THE DAMNATION ARMY.

WHICH has been said in favor of, and in opposition to, the Salvation Army. Its ways, means and methods have been criticised with more or less severity, and much fault has been found with the things done and with the manner of doing them. Members of the Salvation Army have frequently been mobbed and arrested, and sometimes fined and imprisoned, while their parades and performances have often been discountenanced and forbidden.

While we do not feel obliged to approve or disapprove of all that the Salvation Army has done, we would call attention to another army, which does not seem to attract as much notice as its importance demands. It is the Damnation Army, whose organization is more ancient, whose forces are much larger, and whose operations are much more widely extended than those of the Salvation Army. It has more recruits, more soldiers, more officers, more money, and more men, than the Salvation Army can expect to have. It does more marching—not always in straight lines; makes more noise, more tumult, more hallabaloos, than the Salvation Army ever thought of making. It has filled more prisons, hospitals, alms-houses and asylums with its shattered wrecks than the Salvation Army could fill if its entire force was quartered in those institutions.

The organization of the Damnation Army is very complete. It has hundreds of thousands of recruiting officers and drill-rooms. Its officers stand behind the bar, well fed, ruddy-nosed, portly, and self-possessed. The rank and file are in front of the bar, in every condition of preservation and dilapidation, from the high-toned swell, the proud aristocrat, the inheritors of millions, and the rising politician, down to the little boy, the wan-faced girl, and the seedy-looking tatterdemalions, poverty-stricken, wretched, helpless, noisy, abusive, unreasonable, riotous, violent, criminal, degraded, diseased and insane.

It would be quite impossible for any tongue to tell the woes and miseries caused by and endured in this Damnation Army, and yet it has seemed to attract comparatively very little notice or attention. It gathers its recruits, young, bright, intelligent, gay, witty and brilliant; and it turns out its veterans, bold, brazen, degraded, debauched, diseased, ruined and lost. It marches its solid columns down to the dark gorges of intemperance and crime until they stream over the awful precipices of