

The Church Guardian.

"Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity."—Eph. vi. 24.
"Earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."—Jude, 3.

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1881.

One Dollar a Year.

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EXPERIMENTS show that if locomotives could run at the rate of one hundred and fifty miles an hour the driving wheels would burst by means of the centrifugal force exerted on the ties.

THE score of a missing opera by Donizetti, *Il Duca d'Alba*, has just been discovered, sealed in a tin box which has not been opened for some thirty years. It is in the composer's autograph.

An interpreter is trying to teach King Cetewayo to read and write, but does not succeed well, as the savage sovereign always stops after a few minutes, saying, "I can only think of Zululand."

In Zululand the eccentric white chief, John Dunn, has permitted the new Bishop Mackenzie to receive seven of his daughters as catechumens. Two of his nieces have been already baptized.

It is a singular fact that no President of the United States, from Washington to Garfield, was born in a city, and but one, John Quincy Adams, was ever a resident of a city at the time of his election.

A NEW church, from designs prepared by the late Sir Gilbert Scott, is about to be erected at Stourport, at a cost exceeding £30,000. The cost will be principally defrayed through the munificence of the vicar.

"PINKEYE," the new and mysterious horse disease, is spreading in Chicago. It first made its appearance there about ten days ago, and has spread so rapidly that nearly every large stable in the city is suffering from its ravages.

ONE of Sir Edwin Landseer's pictures was recently sold in London for \$14,750. While he was engaged upon it, he said to Millais, who had called upon him, "If I do not live to finish it you will do it for me, and it happened so."

It is stated that only one-tenth of the human body is solid matter. Egyptian mummies, which are bodies thoroughly dried, usually weigh about seven pounds. A body of one hundred and twenty pounds, if dried thoroughly in an oven, would be reduced to twelve pounds.

THE burned district of Michigan extends about thirty miles north and south and fifty miles east and west. About 1,500 families in Huron and Sanilac counties alone have been burned out, and over 200 lives lost. It is estimated that more than 500 persons in all must have lost their lives.

THE most notorious outlaw known in the criminal annals of the West, Frank Rande, stood a few months ago at the bar of his cell in St. Louis, the very impersonation of every crime, and with the air of a braggart, said to preachers, priests and policemen, to throngs of men and women, "I am a Bob Ingersoll man"—and every man and woman in the land believed him!

THE Bishop of Rangoon is ordered to England immediately on six months' medical furlough. He received from his accident in the hills near Tourgoon, last February, not only a severe constitutional shock, but also injury to the spine. The Bishop fell about twenty-five feet into the bed of a mountain torrent upon boulders of stone, and was badly cut and bruised, though no bones were fractured.

A "WOULD-BE COLONIST," who has just returned from "Rugby, Tennessee," writes to the *Pall Mall Gazette* in confirmation of the unfavourable descriptions which have been published of the prospects of that colony. He says the soil is poor and thin, wages low, work scarce, and many of the settlers down with typhoid fever. "The people who are there," he says, "seem very discontented, and on all sides one hears the place called a fraud and swindle. The scenery is a little pretty in places, but people cannot live on views and scenery."

THE late Dean of Westminster has bequeathed to the University of St. Andrews, for which he had a special regard, his interesting collection of curiosities and historical relics. These include souvenirs of the desert of Sinai and of Palestine gathered by the Dean himself during his Eastern tour, as well as many memorials connected with the Eastern Church, and also with famous scenes in mediæval and modern history. In handing this collection over to the University, the executors of the late Dean have expressed a wish that it should be preserved in a separate cabinet within the museum of the University.

THE English Church Pastoral Aid Society has helped to erect or keep open 350 churches and chapels, and is now keeping open 307 rooms for worship. By means of its grants, additional and more systematic pastoral visitation is provided for a population amounting to nearly 4,000,750.

THE Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishops of London and Winchester, with whom the choice of a successor to Dr. Mitchinson has been left, offered the bishopric of Barbados to Dr. Sandford, vicar of St. John's, Edinburgh; but the *Daily News* is informed that he has declined to accept it.

ON the fifth story terrace of a gigantic house in Washington Street, Paris, twenty yards long, six and one half feet wide, and over-hanging the street, the owner has an aerial garden where he successfully grows pears (twenty varieties), currants, gooseberries and roses, all of quality and beauty equal to those that have their footing in the solid earth.

THE British authorities at Lagos have persuaded the king and chiefs of Ode Ondo in the Yoruba country to abandon the practice of human sacrifices. A treaty has been signed to this effect. At our Consul's request, the Rev. C. Phillips, C.M.S., native missionary at Ode Ondo, held a thanksgiving service for the success, and the Governor of Lagos has since written an official letter of thanks to the Society.

THE new submarine cable, the most northerly in Europe, is to be laid between Thurso, in Caithness, and Iceland, passing by the Faroe Islands. The chief office in Iceland will be at Reikjavik, and the line will connect with Stappen, the chief town of the Vester-Amt, and with Madruval in the Norder-Amt. The cost of the cable, the plans for which have been prepared at Copenhagen, is about £260,000.

THE Moquis are a tribe of Indians living in Northern Arizona, near the line of New Mexico. The only thing worshipped by these red men is the image of a calf, gorgeously decorated with ornaments of gold and silver. After committing some great crime they dance to a humdrum tune for twenty-four hours without food or water, and when they think their sin is cancelled they feel free to go forth and steal a horse or cow, as the case may be. They need the gospel more than powder and lead.

A LETTER from Aden, referring to a reported outbreak of cholera there, says:—"There is a disease here which is causing considerable alarm (it is entirely confined to Mussulmans), which the doctors pronounce to be sporadic cholera, being sometimes fatal in two hours. I don't believe it is anything of the kind, but is, I think, entirely due to Ramadan, the Mahomedan month of fasting, now just over. It is only reasonable to suppose that men who work all day without food and eat a heavy meal at night, and keep that on for a month, would suffer very seriously, especially in this climate."

THE British colony of Sierra Leone dates from the year 1808, having been designed for the settlement of liberated slaves; and the population continually increased by the cargoes of ships captured by British cruisers. The first signal success in missionary work among the motley tribes thus gathered was that which attended the labours of the Rev. W. A. B. Johnson, of the C. M. S., at Regent, between 1816 and 1820. Heathenism is now extinct. A native church is planted with native clergymen in every parish. The present statistics are: native clergy, 18; churches, 17; 79 lay teachers; baptisms last year, 774—of which 725 were of infants, showing how complete the possession of Christianity has now become.

ONE of the interesting religious monuments in that part of Rome known as the Transtevere has become a ruin. About a fortnight ago the walls of the old Benedictine Convent of St. Calixtus, in the square of Santa Maria, fell in with a terrific crash, seriously hurting nobody. Its numerous inmates had been warned that the walls were giving way, and had just sufficient time to make their escape. Since 1870 the convent has been used as an armory, and large quantities of ammunition and arms were buried in the ruins. The Transtevere lies between the Janiculum and the Tiber, and is inhabited by a peculiar people. There is a tradition that they are of the purest ancient Roman blood—a tradition to which some plausibility is given by their strange customs and dialect, their fine physical characteristics, and their spirit of haughty seclusion. They refuse to mix or inter-marry with the inhabitants of other quarters in Rome.

THE Marquis of Northampton recently invested King Alfonso with the British Order of the Garter with great ceremonies.

REPOSE is necessary to supply us with new powers to continue our course. All the avocations which alienate us from it, which draw us aside, which create in us a dislike for our calling, propriety forbids and religion condemns.

It is stated that the once famous cedar forest of Lebanon has dwindled down to a mere thicket, numbering about four hundred trees. To save it from complete destruction and preserve it at least in its present extent, Rustem Pasha, the Governor-General of the Lebanon, has issued a special ordinance, containing a series of stringent regulations.

PRESIDENT ARTHUR is a Churchman, a parishioner of the Church of the Heavenly Rest, New York. On the day of the burial services of President Garfield, he attended a memorial service at St. John's, Washington, of which the Rev. William A. Leonard is the Rector. Presidents Madison, Monroe, and Jackson attended this church, which is directly opposite the White House and separated from it only by Lafayette Square.

SPIRITUAL BARNES.

There is a parable of our Lord's that has an application not often noticed. It is that of the man whose ground has brought forth so plentifully, that his barns are not large enough to stow away all his fruits. This is the conclusion he comes to: "I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods." There does not seem to be anything wrong in his conclusion. But our Saviour prefaced the parable with the warning, "Take heed, and beware of covetousness." The parable has an application for the Church to heed, as it has for man individually. "We must take care of ourselves first," is the cry. "We cannot spare a penny for missionary work." There will always be the temptation to have our own barns heaping full first, before we can think of the empty barns of others. We look upon our spiritual barns in much the same way that we look upon the barns of wood and stone. These spiritual barns of ours must be well stocked before we can look out for the spiritual barns of others. We must build up our own church first. Now no Church is so poor but it will be better off by doing something for others. It is the duty of everyone to think of somebody besides himself, no matter how poor he may be; and it is the duty of the Church in every place, no matter how hard it may have to struggle there, to think of places where there is no Church, and to do something, be that something never so little, to help put the Church there. Our Saviour's warning "Beware of Covetousness" should urge every one to think of the Missionary work of the Church and to do something to help it. If you value rightly what you have, you will do this, nothing fearing as to your own to-morrow, but thinking of the to-day of others as well as of your own to-day, laying up for yourselves "treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through and steal."—*Living Church.*

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

SOME FIRST-FRUIT FROM THE MISSION FIELD.

"Out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation."—*Rev. v. 9.*

IV.—TWO CONVERTS THROUGH A BIBLE SOCIETY'S GIFT.

There is a small town in the southern part of North Tinnevely, which, however, is known far and wide for the annual fair which is held there. A huge mass of granite rock, rising several hundred feet from its base, forms a conspicuous object, and points the travellers from all parts to the spot to which they are directing their steps. The place is called, from this hill, Kalugumalei, or Eaglemont. The antiquarian could spend an interesting hour in trying to decipher the characters which are cut on the face of the rock. They would, however, disappoint his pains, for, though written in the old Tamil character, they narrate no event of importance. The missionary's interest is awakened by the fact that the place is a stronghold of heathenism; the fair being religious as well as mercantile, the devotion of the people being directed towards a temple of Siva on the summit of the hill. The boast, or shame, of the place, till lately, was, that no one among its inhabitants had ever become a

Christian. Happily it is not the case now. A congregation of twenty or thirty persons, of good social positions, drawn from several castes, now assembles there regularly for the worship of the one living and true God.

I proceed to give some account of two converts from that town. The first, the schoolmaster of the place, was sprung from a Telugu-speaking family and caste, known as Naik or Naidu; the other was a Brahmin priest, a sort of private chaplain, whose business was to say prayers or repeat charms for the welfare of the Zemindar's family of Ettiapuram, for which he received a monthly salary.

The conversion of the schoolmaster was in this wise. The Bible Society gave a grant of New Testaments to all missionaries in South India, to be offered and given to any heathen schoolmaster who would promise to read them. Our native brother, the Rev. Vedhanayagam Viravagu, offered a copy to the schoolmaster of Kalugumalei. The man seems long to have had his mind exercised on the subject of religion, and to have read all he could find of the religious systems connected with Hinduism. His earnest cravings, however, had by no means been satisfied. It was to a man thus ill at ease and seeking rest that the Gospel was given. He read it carefully, again and again, and for several years. Delighted with it himself, he invited his Brahmin friend also to read it. What an interesting sight! These earnest inquirers, of different castes, unaided by man, unknown to the missionary, studying together the Word of God! Soon they were baptized, the schoolmaster first, the priest about a year after. The difficulties of the latter were greater than those of his friend. He had literally to give up everything, house, land, salary, wife and children. The schoolmaster gave up nothing. He even retained his pupils, and is still the schoolmaster of the place, living on the income which he derives from his pupils and from an annual grant made by the government on the yearly results. Let me quote his words uttered at the time of his baptism before a congregation of some 300 native Christians, who had come together to take part in the service. Standing calmly among them he said, how that for many years he had sought rest for his aching soul in heathenism and Vedantism, but that having met with the Gospel he was satisfied. "It is to me," he said, "like a tender mother to her forlorn child, as rain to the parched plants, as a ship to a shipwrecked mariner. Now I am saved and am happy. But this only request would I make of my Christian brethren, that they would pray for me, that I may not prove a Judas, but a Paul."

The Brahmin, baptized by me at Sachiapuram, lived for four years a solitary life. After a time he succeeded in inducing his little son Krishna, to live with him. His wife and eldest son came, the former once, the latter several times, to see him and persuade him to go back. Happily he was strong to resist the temptation, and now he has the joy of being reunited to his wife and eldest son, who with Krishna and the youngest child were baptized by Mr. Horsley since I left. They seem truly converted. The eldest son, dying of consumption, is in a happy peaceful frame of mind. The good old man now kneels down with all his children at the family altar and in the House of God.

REV. R. R. MEADOWS.

CONQUERED AFTER TEN YEARS.

At Aurungabad, in the Nizam's territory in Central India, our Missionary is the Rev. Ruttonji Nowroji, a converted Parsee. He writes:—

"Eighteen adults and twenty-one children have been baptised during the last year. Among the adults there is an old man residing at Saigson, where we have a large and flourishing out-station. I was much struck when I first saw him ten years ago; and I still remember having told him that as his flowing, silvery beard made his countenance so venerable, Christianity would beautify the closing days of his earthly pilgrimage. Now, listen to me," said I, "and I shall tell you of the great matchless love which God has shown in sending His Son to save a poor guilty and perishing world." "I shall hear you with pleasure," said he, "but do not expect me to embrace Christianity; for that I shall never do. The sun will sooner rise in the west, and set in the east, than I shall suffer myself to be persuaded to give up the religion of my fathers."

For ten long years did the old man resist the Truth, showing no indication of any change; but at last the Truth triumphed over him, as it has triumphed over countless men of his stamp. The meek, childlike attitude with which he received baptism along with his wife, afforded a striking contrast to the hostility he had shown in the days of his ignorance and unbelief.