

one of the founders of the South Sea Mission towards the close of the last century, expired at Ryde, near Sydney, on or about the 1st of April last at the age of 89. Mr. Henry, who had survived all his early contemporaries in the missionary field, embarked on the ship "Duff" on the 10th of August, 1846, and landed at Tahiti on the 6th March in the following year. On that and the neighbouring islands, but chiefly at Tahiti, he continued to labour with zeal and fidelity in the cause of the Gospel until the year 1842, when, in consequence of advancing age, he retired to New South Wales; and it is remarkable that, from the time of his leaving England, 63 years ago, he had never revisited his native country.—*Missionary Herald*.

BISHOP BOWEN OF SIERRA LEONE.

Most of our English readers have already received the sad tidings of the very heavy blow that has befallen the Society's West-Africa Missions in the recent death of Bishop Bowen, which took place at Sierra Leone on May 28th last.

Of a noble, generous and manly nature, he became, under the power of Divine grace, one of the most efficient and zealous soldiers of the Cross in Mohammedan and heathen countries that these latter days have witnessed. His early manhood was spent in Upper Canada, where he passed upwards of seven years as a settler, serving in the militia during the rebellion there. A desire for a higher vocation led him to return to England in 1842; and, after graduating at Trinity College, Dublin, he was admitted to holy orders by the present Bishop of Durham. Having soon afterwards inherited considerable property in Wales—a circumstance which many would have regarded as justifying them in a life of ease and retirement—he made it the opportunity of offering himself to the Church Missionary Society to proceed to whatever part of the World they might think fit, at his own charges, but in all other respects under the usual control and direction of the Committee. On these terms he twice visited the Palestine Mission and the regions further east between the years 1847-1851 and 1854-1856, obtaining a thorough command of colloquial Arabic, and a great insight into the characters and prospects of Mohammedanism, and furnishing the Committee with much valuable counsel and information for the prosecution of missionary work amongst the Arabs.

In 1857 he was called from the Rectory of Orton Longueville, Hunts, to undertake the spiritual oversight of the see of Sierra Leone, and arrived in his diocese on December 13th in that year. In February last, after a commencement of his labours, in which he displayed those qualities which had before won for him the hearts of all with whom he had to do, and had laid out many plans for the progress of the Gospel, and the elevation of the African race, he visited the Yoruba Mission, furnishing the Committee with a valuable report as to its state and prospects.—*Church Missionary Intelligence*.

THE REV. A. F. LACROIX.

"It is with the deepest regret that we announce the death of this eminent missionary, who, after an illness of two months' duration, finished his earthly course at Calcutta on the 8th of July in the 60th year of his age. He was the oldest missionary in Northern India, having gone out there in connexion with the Netherlands Missionary Society in 1821; and seven years afterwards, when that Society determined on confining their operations to the islands of the Eastern Archipelago, and abandoned their station at Chinsurah, Mr. Lacroix—having made himself master of Bengali—ex-

pressed a wish to remain and join the London Missionary Society with the entire approval of the Dutch Committee. His labours were exclusively in the vernacular. He is allowed on all hands to have been for 30 years the best Bengali preacher in the whole country; and his discourses both to Christians and heathens have contributed immensely to spread the large amount of Christian knowledge which prevails throughout the province of Bengal. His personal religious character was of the highest order, and acquired universal respect. His large-headed catholicity led him to seek friendship and Christian communion with believers, and especially missionaries of various denominations; and both by example and precept he did much to increase and maintain the practical union existing between the agents and members of the several Missionary Societies in India. He was trusted, honoured and beloved amongst them all, and the high regard in which the London Missionary Society is held in Northern India was built to a large extent upon the high character which he, its oldest missionary, maintained so long. His alarming illness, which began at the end of May, excited universal sympathy, and called forth unceasing prayers in every church and chapel of every denomination. His dying interviews with old friends—as Dr. Duff, Mr. Wenger, Mr. Wylie and others—were affecting in the extreme; and strong men left his room weeping like children, 'sorrowing most for the words that he spoke, that they should see his face no more.' His funeral was the largest which the city of Calcutta has seen for many years. Christians of all Churches, including the Bishop of Calcutta, Archdeacon Pratt, and numerous ministers and missionaries, with a large number of the native Christians from the Society's stations, gathered round the grave. The Rev. T. Herdman, chaplain of the Scotch Church, the Rev. Dr. Duff, and the Rev. J. Wenger, of the Baptist Mission, undertook the burial service, reading the Scriptures and offering prayer in the English and native tongues. The death of Mr. Lacroix is a great loss to the Society and the Mission, in which his eminently wise judgment, his warm affection and his devoted zeal have had great influence for many years. He leaves a widow and two daughters in Calcutta, his eldest daughter, Mrs. Mullens, being at present in England."—*Patriot*.

REV. DR. ALEXANDER OF NEW YORK.

We have the sad duty to announce the death of Rev. James W. Alexander, D.D., one of the most distinguished clergymen of the Presbyterian Church. He died last Sunday morning at the Virginia Springs, to which he had repaired for the invigoration of his health. We have no particulars of the melancholy event, but may be well assured that he died as he lived, leaning on his Beloved. For such men to die is gain; but, because it is so, earth can ill afford to spare them. Dr. Alexander had long been the beloved pastor of the congregation formerly worshipping in Duane Street, but latterly in the Church at the corner of 5th Avenue and 19th Street. His funeral will take place this afternoon, four o'clock, at Princeton, N.J., and his remains will be there interred.

The death of so distinguished a man as the Rev. Dr. Alexander is a public calamity, as there have been but few members of the Presbyterian ministry who commanded from other denominations so much esteem.

He was respected for his evenness of character, his simplicity of faith, and for the incessant use he made of the fine intellect with which he was endowed. There is in his brief but excellent life the imperishable example of greatness, founded upon a conscientious interpretation of his duty as a messenger of the Gospel; likewise

a nobleness of action, and a devotedness to his congregation, which could not emanate except from a warm-hearted and gifted man. He was a brilliant specimen of a religious orator, a liberal pastor, and a faithful friend.

The following notice of the deceased we copy from the *American Encyclopedia*:—

J. W. Alexander, D.D., eldest son of Dr. Arch. Alexander, was born in Louisa county, Va., in 1804, graduated at the College of New Jersey in 1820, and was appointed a tutor in that institution in 1824. He resigned that station in the following year, and was settled as pastor of a congregation in Charlotte county, Va., where he remained about two years, when in 1828 he accepted a call to Trenton, N.J. In 1830 he resigned that charge, and became editor of the *Presbyterian*, a religious newspaper published in Philadelphia, whence he was called in 1833 to the Professorship of Rhetoric and Belles-Lettres in the College of New Jersey. He discharged the duties of this office with marked ability until 1844, when he accepted the pastoral charge of the Duane Street Church in the city of New York. In 1840 he was appointed Professor of Ecclesiastical History and Church Government in the Theological Seminary at Princeton, where he remained until 1851, when he was elected pastor of the 5th Avenue Church in the city of New York, which station he now occupies. The degree of D.D. was conferred upon him by La Fayette College, Pa., in 1843, and again in 1854 by Harvard University. His published works are numerous and popular. Among them is a volume of Sermons, entitled "Consolation, in discourses on Select Topics, addressed to the suffering people of God;" "Thoughts on Family Worship, and Plain Words to a young Communicant;" a series of essays entitled "The American Mechanic and Working man;" a Biography of his father, Dr. Arch. Alexander; numerous contributions to the *Biblical Repository* and *Princeton Review*, some of the publications of the American Tract Society, and several essays first published in the Newark *Daily Advertiser* and the *Literary World*, over the signature of "Cæsariensis." His writings are characterized more by precision of language, exact scholarship and literary elegance than by the profound erudition which is so conspicuous in the works of his father and brother.—*New York Journal of Commerce*.

THE CROSS.

Blest they who seek,
While in their youth,
With spirit meek
The Way of Truth.

To them the sacred Scriptures now display
Christ as the only true and living Way;
His precious blood on Calvary was given
To make them heirs of endless bliss in Heaven;
And e'en on Earth the child of God can trace
The glorious blessings of his Saviour's grace.

For them He bore
His Father's frown;
For them He wore
The thorny crown;
Nailed to the cross,
Endured his pain,
That His life's loss
Might be their gain.
Then haste to choose
That better part,
Nor ever dare refuse
The Lord your heart,
Lest He declare,
"I know you not;"
And deep despair
Forever be your lot.

Now look to Jesus who on Calvary died,
And trust on Him alone who there was crucified.
—N. Y. Observer.