

parried the blows with his right arm, but unhappily one of the thrusts reached his person, and penetrated the breast below the left shoulder. It is not known how deep the wound may extend, or whether the knife has reached any vital part. Till this is known much uncertainty must be felt. The last intelligence which we have seen is not very decisive; yet the length of time which has elapsed, warrants a hope that a life so valuable may be further prolonged. Meanwhile Mr. Swartz is tranquil, and waits with patience how it may please the Master to dispose of His servant."

The occurrence excited a deep sensation in Amsterdam and was universally condemned even by the Jews.

Later accounts state that Mr. Swartz is recovering.

MISSIONS OF ENGLISH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

CINSA—AMOI.—The following letter from Rev. D. Sandeman, is contained in the *Messenger*, for September:—

Amoy, June 2nd, 1858.

To the Convener of the Foreign Mission Committee.

DEAR SIR,—We have still to record the mercy and kindness of God towards the missionaries and native Christians of Amoy and the neighbourhood. No disturbance or any annoyance has been permitted to touch us, though war has been carrying on to the south, and we believe now to the north, of this station.

The death of the wife of one of the American missionaries seemed, and has been, a great loss. She met with the Chinese women for prayer and the reading of the Scriptures once a week, and was much beloved and looked up to by them. But He, in whose hands are all events for the good of his church, knoweth how to bring spiritual blessings out of temporal trial. The large number of Chinese who followed the earthly remains to their last resting-place were deeply moved—many in tears. And since then there has been a marked quickening among the native brethren; and there may have been a looking more closely to their "lamps," and a firmer "girding up of their loins," lest the "Son of Man," the glorious bridegroom, should come on them suddenly. Inquirers have been led to a deeper searching of heart, seeing that death, too, out of Christ, is but the prelude to everlasting woe, and this may arrive on them at any moment of any day.

Among other hopeful cases, I understand that five Chinese women are applicants for baptism in Amoy at present. We may not complain when Jesus removes well established believers, even though they be missionaries or their helpmates, when He causes many to stand up in their room, new precious souls from among the heathen.

Nor let any one remain at home merely for the sake of mercantile relations, how dear soever they may be to them. While the departed sister in Jesus lay a dying here—having quitted a home in America, the only converted child, I believe, out of a large family—What was God doing in that house? The father, if a Christian, had been buried in, and the seed all but choked by, the cares of this life, his soul then got a quickening; the old praying mother called it a *badian*, which she believed would remain in him even to the end. The eldest brother of the family had been hopeful-

ly converted, and the youngest daughter, and many acquaintances. Faithful is he that hath promised.

I lately paid a visit to *Chiohky*, the country church of the American brethren. Mr. Talmage was going for the communion season, and I accompanied him. The situation somewhat resembles that of Pechuia. It stands upon a river, with pretty high hills in various directions around it.

Six or eight of the believers had come over from Pechuia, and some from *Behph*, having walked on the Saturday twelve miles, from the latter place twenty.

The teacher from *Chungchow*, of whom you have already heard, was also present and gave proof of having advanced considerably in the knowledge of divine truth. Indeed some hoped that he had found the pardon of his sins. His countenance was changed, and he was like a man who had been relieved of the heaviest of all burdens—unforgiven guilt. But time alone can test the reality of the work in his soul. "I the Lord search the hearts." As a stranger coming among the brethren at *Chiohky* what had chiefly struck him was, "How these Christians love one another?"

On the opposite side of same table at evening worship sat a man who has for eight or nine years been hanging about the door of Christ's house, trying to enter in, but he has not been able. And why? Because he would serve God and Mammon, he would fain make a gain of godliness. How many at home thus strive to enter into the straight gate, and thus are *never able*.

May England beware, lest by her love of Mammon in sending her Indian grown opium to China, she has to answer to God for many, many bodies and souls ruined by her means.

Hoping and believing that the church at home will continue to plead on behalf of the brethren and of myself,

I remain,

Yours, very sincerely,

DAVID SANDEMAN.

AMERICAN MISSIONS.

MOSUL.—Mr. Williams at Mosul, writes discouragingly of the state of things there. He says: "Here matters never looked so discouragingly as now. Our average attendance is only thirty-four at sabbath service; and at week meetings from ten to fifteen. Very few call, compared with the number who did so three years ago.

Southern ARMEANIANS.—The annual meeting of the Southern Armenian mission was held at Aintab, commencing April 12: the sessions continuing from day to day until April 20. At the close of the meeting Dr. Pratt wrote: "The widening and deepening of the evangelical work in Northern Syria, was never more manifest than in the various station reports presented this year. Especially cheering and hopeful are the deep movements reported from Ourfa and its region; movements which are sure, as we learn from past experience, to bear good fruit." "The work is on every hand rapidly expanding, and the first and most important topic on our docket was Theological Instruction. We are already troubled to find laborers, and the communities are rapidly outgrowing the capacities of unaided or half-instructed teachers. This want is deeply felt, and plans for meeting it were freely discussed."

Northern ARMEANIANS.—The annual meeting of this mission was held at Constantinople, commencing May 25, and closing June 16. The brethren say: "Our work during the past year has been prosperous. There has been no

striking movement in any part of the field, no such general outpouring of the Holy Spirit as at some times in former years, yet the additions to our churches indicate a decided progress." The opinion is expressed, decidedly, that though much remains to be accomplished, the cause of civil and religious liberty has made great progress in Turkey, and is still gaining ground.

Respecting this meeting of the mission Mr. Trowbridge remarks: "It has been a very harmonious and delightful one. The devotional exercises were exceedingly interesting. I have never attended any meetings when the tide of religious feeling rose so high as at these. The Holy Spirit was manifestly present and with such power as to subdue every heart."

AN INTERESTING DISCOVERY.

We see it stated, upon what may be considered reliable authority, that thirty thousand Christians have recently been found upon an island north of Celebes. It has been rumored for a time that there was there a Christian people forgotten and forsaken, while, however, yet possessed their Bibles, and continued steadfast in the faith. When missionaries first landed on the island, they met with a school teacher and his pupils, who repeated in the Malayon tongue, "As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, Lord." No Bibles were found, but the most precious promises of the Bible were written upon the bark of trees. They knew the Apostle's Creed, and the Hiedelberg Catechism, and had Christian customs; twenty churches and schools yet existed. Through the instrumentality of Pastor Heldring, founder of the Magdalen Asylum at Steubek, and chief patron of Inner Mission in Holland, four missionaries, who had been educated under the venerable Gossner, were sent out, and three thousand persons baptized. This is certainly a most interesting discovery. The island on which these Christians were found belongs to the East Indian Archipelago. The Dutch have for years had political rule in this region. This may account for the original introduction of Christianity among this people, and for the fact that the Hiedelberg Catechism was still found in their possession.—*German Reformed Messenger*

Miscellaneous Articles.

STANZAS.

Written at the beginning of the Seventeenth Century.

We take from an *Exchange paper* the following beautiful lines. They are from the Landdowne Manuscripts in the British Museum, and were written over two hundred years ago.

Like to the damask rose you see,
Or like the blossom on yew tree,
Or like the dainty flowers in May,
Or like the morning to ye day,
Or like the sunne, or like the shade,
Or like the gourd which Jonah had;
Even such is man, whose welch is spunne,
Drawn out, and cutt, and soe is done.
The rose withers, the blossom blasteth,
The flower fades, the morning hasteth,
The sunne soon setteth, the shadow flieth,
The gourd consumes, and man—*lee dieth!*

Like to the grasse that's newlie sprung,
Or like a tale that's new begunne,
Or like the bird that's here to day,
Or like the genial dew of May,
Or like an hour, or like a spanne,
Or like the singing of a swanne;