

heart continued hardened, and he knew not the hand that preserved him.

"Having been successful in his mercantile pursuits, he resolved to return to England, and sit down content. With this view he embarked in the same ship in which the excellent Mr. Thomas, one of the Baptist Missionaries, was returning to England. Mr. Wilson being still an infidel in principle, had frequent disputes with Mr. Thomas, who one day remarked to the chief officer of the vessel, that he should have much more hope of converting the Lascars to Christianity than Captain Wilson; so deeply mysterious, at times, are the ways of Providence. But things impossible to man are possible with God; for at length, by a series of most interesting incidents, he was induced to abandon his infidel principles, and became an eminent and devoted Christian.

"After some years of uninterrupted enjoyment of the comforts around him, a number of the Evangelical Magazine, communicating some embryo views of the Mission to the South Seas, fell into his hands, which immediately gave rise to the suggestion, that if his services were either needful or acceptable, he would sacrifice his comforts, and without any prospect of worldly advantage, would embark once more upon the stormy ocean. Thus was this wonderful man raised up, and thus prepared to take command of this novel and important undertaking."—(9—12.)

The Mission-ship was shortly afterward despatched with a reinforcement of thirty additional labourers; but she was captured by a privateer. "The property was entirely lost; and the Missionaries, with their families, after suffering many difficulties, returned to England."

Whilst disasters attended this enlarged effort on the part of the Society, formidable difficulties opposed themselves to the success of those Missionaries already engaged in the work:—

"The Marquesan mission failed; at Tongatabu, some of the Missionaries lost their lives, and that mission was, in consequence of a series of disastrous circumstances, abandoned; those settled at Tahiti under such favourable circumstances, had, from fear of their lives, nearly all fled to New South Wales; so that after a few years very little remained of this splendid embassy of Christian mercy to the South Seas. A few of the brethren, however, never abandoned their posts; and others returned, after having been a short time absent, some of whom are still labouring with unabated devotedness in the cause to which they consecrated their lives."—(12—13.)

The faithful exertions of the devoted Missionaries who laboured subsequently at Tahiti, were, for many years, apparently fruitless, which added greatly to the pangs of disappointment. But after 16 years of anxious toil some fruit of their labour began to appear, and under very singular circumstances, the "work of conversion" at Tahiti commenced. These circumstances are thus related:—

"The Missionaries, at the time the work commenced, were driven away from the island of Tahiti by war, and cut off from all communication with it. Two native servants, formerly in the families of the Missionaries, had received, unknown to them, some favourable impressions, and had united together for prayer. To these a number of persons had attached themselves, so that on the return of the Missionaries to Tahiti, at the termination of the war, they found a great number of "pure Atue," or praying people; and they had little else to do but to help forward the work which God had so unexpectedly and wonderfully commenced."—(13—14.)

Discouraged by long disappointment the Directors had "entertained serious thoughts of abandoning the

Mission altogether;" but this measure was opposed, and a season of prayer for Divine blessing was appointed. Whilst letters of encouragement to the Missionaries were traversing the ocean in one vessel, "another ship was conveying to England not only the news of the entire overthrow of idolatry in Tahiti, but also the rejected idols of the people." The subsequent success is thus sketched.

"From that time to this one continued series of successes has attended our labours, so that island after island, and group after group, have, in rapid succession, been brought under the influence of the Gospel: so much so, indeed, that at the present time we do not know of any group, or any single island of importance, within 2000 miles of Tahiti, in any direction, to which the glad tidings of salvation have not been conveyed."—(15)

[To be continued.]

THE CHRISTIAN CABINET.

CHINESE FEMALES.—Probably there are one hundred and fifty millions of females in the Chinese Empire, who are living without a knowledge of Jesus Christ and him crucified, immured in the walls of their houses, or doomed to work like slaves for a livelihood: they are moral and immortal beings, and as such are objects of commiseration to all Christian females who can reflect upon the high hopes which they themselves enjoy.

MANAGEMENT OF CHILDREN.—An authority, firm, but affectionate; decided, yet mild; imposing no unnecessary restraints; but encouraging every innocent freedom and gratification, exercised according to the dictates of judgment, and supported by rewards and punishments judiciously dispensed; is the best means of securing good temper in our children.

If a fault be glaring, it must be seriously taken up; but in the management of the temper, especially in early childhood, much may be effected by a system of prevention. A judicious attendant may avert many an impending naughty fit, by change of object, gentle amusement, and redoubled care to put up temptation in the way, if she observe any of her little ones weary, uncomfortable, or irritable. This, for instance, will generally be the case with children when they first awake. They should therefore, then be treated with more than common tenderness; never roused from sleep suddenly or violently; nor exposed to any little trials, till they have had time thoroughly to recover themselves. It is scarcely necessary to add how peculiarly this tender consideration is required, not only in illness, but under the various trifling indispositions so frequent in infancy.

Children ought not to be, unnecessarily, thwarted in their objects; which, at a very early age, they pursue with eagerness. Let them, if possible, complete their projects without interruption. A child, for example, before he can speak, is trotting after a ball; the nurse snatches him up at the moment, to be washed and dressed, and the poor child throws himself into a violent passion. Whereas, had she first entered into his views, kindly assisted him in gaining his object, and then gently taken him up, his trial would have been spared and his temper uninjured.