

Love me now! Shadows hover in the distance!
Cold winds are coming; green leaves must
turn red.

Frownest thou, my Love, at this sad insistence?
Even this moment may the dart be sped!

Love me now!

It will be too late when I am dead!

SUSAN COOLIDGE.

"UNDYING LOVE IN DYING PAIN."

OH, my friends, behold your SAVIOUR
Hanging on the accursed tree;
Ah, what agony He suffers!
Tasting death for you and me.

See the cruel soldiers standing
By the Cross they nailed Him to;
Yet He says, "Forgive them, FATHER,
For they know not what they do."

See His sinking head droops lower;
From His side the heart drops flow;
What a cloud of sin is hanging
O'er that Cross of shame and woe!

Yet, in midst of all His sufferings,
He regards the sinner's prayer;
And, to one in deep contrition,
Pardon freely doth declare.

With what deep despairing sorrow
All His followers grieve and pray!
Even the sun was veiled in darkness
On that drear and awful day.

But His woe at last is ended,
And our ransom fully paid:
"It is finished!" all accomplished;
CHRIST was numbered with the dead!

Can it be that Death has conquered?
Can the grave our LORD retain?
No, ye faithful Christian followers,
CHRIST our LORD has risen again!

Risen from the earth to Heaven,
To JEROMAN'S Unity;
Thence to save all who obey Him,
And provide for you and me!

Blessed thought for true believers,
That a Home awaits us there!
Then to dwell with Him forever.
O let us to-day prepare!

Tatungyouché, N.S.

C. F. MACKAY.

A CENTURY OF MISSIONS.

THE new and able pamphlet, "*A Century of Protestant Missions*," by the Rev. James Johnston, states the following facts,—3000 ordained missionaries, 730 laymen, and 2500 women have been sent out by the Protestant churches of Britain, America, and the continent of Europe into all parts of the heathen and Mohammedan world. These 6230 messengers of the Churches are now preaching the ever-

lasting Gospel in twenty times as many languages as were spoken on the day of Pentecost. 27,000 native converts are now employed and paid as evangelists to their own countrymen, and 2,500 are ordained pastors of native congregations. The money raised for carrying on Protestant Missions in all parts of the world now amounts to £2,450,000 annually. 870,000 adults, converts from among the heathen, are now in full communion with the Church of Christ as the result of Protestant Missionary labour. These with their families and dependents form Christian communities over almost every portion of the habitable globe, numbering in the aggregate at least 2,800,000 souls. These are facts which can be tabulated; but there are others of vast importance which cannot be so expressed,—the influence of Christian teaching and Christian life of Missionaries and their converts, the creation of written language with the gift of the Word of God to more than 200 tribes and nations, and the like. This is most encouraging. But there is a sad offset to it all. Not only has the heathen and Mohammedan population increased by two hundred millions, while the three millions have been added to the Church; three generations of men, women, and children have passed into eternity during that century of Missions. That means the death of more than two thousand millions without the consolations of our Christian hope and without the knowledge of the love of God. Still our author sees ground for the hope of ultimate victory.

THE CHINESE.—Great inconvenience has been experienced by missionaries in China on account of the lack of a suitable version of the Scriptures. Although since the year 1818, the Chinese have not been destitute of the Bible in their own tongue, the trouble has been that the scholarly version was unintelligible to the masses, while the colloquial versions were literary absurdities in the eyes of educated Chinese. This has been an important consideration, from the fact that hundreds of thousands of copies of parts of the Scriptures have been circulated each year as the most effectual means of opening the door to the Christian faith. In 1889 a circular was issued to the English missionaries with regard to the advisability of bringing out an easy Wenli version, half way in style between the classic and various dialect translations. Nothing practical came of it, however, till 1892, when Rev. Griffith John of Hankow began the experiment of translating the four Gospels into easy Wenli. In the end, cheered by the encouragement of his friends, he