

the great High Priest would soon come, and that I should then have to lay down my priesthood and to give an account of all my deceptions. Go on in your good work. I have advised the people to go to your mothers' meeting, and I will write to you when I am safely away.' A letter did come to her with an American postmark, but, her name not being quite correctly written, it was refused by the porter in her absence, and could not be reclaimed.

Many of the mothers obeyed the injunction of Father —, and one of them said she had never heard anything like his parting prayer for pardon that he had not taught them in the word of God. It appears that he was educated at one of our own universities, had been two years an accredited minister of the Church of England, and for twenty years since that a Roman Catholic priest.

DEATHS OF LITTLE CHILDREN.

"Around the throne of God in Heaven
Thousands of children stand;
Children whose sins are all forgiven—
A holy, happy band,
Singing, glory—glory—
Glory be to God on high!"

Blessed be God for the teachings of the death of little children! Their ministry is accomplished; and how often is it one of reconciliation between an impenitent parent and a neglected Saviour! The vacant place at the table which was once filled by the child; the unoccupied crib in the chamber; the picture-books, well-worn by those dear little hands; the multitude of objects daily coming into sight, which were either the possessions of the absent one, or in some way connected with it,—are mutely, but most eloquently, pleading with the father and the mother who are left behind, to begin to walk in that path, if they are not already in it, which shall lead them where the family will be uplifted once more and forever.

How many might be found who date their first religious impressions from the death-bed of "our little girl," or "our little boy?" That father, whose thoughts and cares have been limited to this brief life, awakes from his worldliness as he wakes up through tears to see the pearly gates open for the admission of one of his idolized children. That mother, whose anxieties for the future of her offspring have been confined to the vain things of time and sense, is taught at last, by the removal of her loved babe from her sight, that there is a world for which preparation is of infinitely greater importance than this—a better country, even a heavenly. Thus is she taught a lesson which could have been impressed only upon a bleeding heart. The child of her love is safe—

"Gone to God!"

Be still my heart—what could a mother's prayer,
In all the wildest ecstasies of hope,
Ask for its darling like the bliss of heaven?"

The households are many of which it may be said—*One is in heaven.* Bereaved father, bereaved mother, is a child of yours there, and are you on the way thither?—Listen to the Divine voice which has spoken to you so tenderly and in so much mercy, and commit yourself and your all to Him who has already taken one of your treasures to himself.

"There, in the Shepherd's bosom,
White as the drifted snow,
Is the little lamb that we missed one morn
From the household flock below."

THE OPEN DOOR.

"The open door, then signifies a larger opportunity for evangelistic action, such as Paul found at Ephesus—'I will tarry at Ephesus until Pentecost. For a great and effectual door is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries.' Undoubtedly there is at the present moment an open door for the prosecution of the great missionary enterprise. If compared with the measure of opportunity afforded some fifty years back, how striking our superiority of position! Then geographical research was tardy in its movements, and large portions of the African and Asiatic continents remained unexplored. The embouchure of the Niger was unknown, and the facilities afforded by that great water-route for the introduction of Christianity into the very heart of Soudan were not as yet confided to us for improvement. The great lakes of Eastern Africa and the sources of the Nile were undiscovered, and we knew as little of those regions as though they were portions of another planet, with which we had no concernment. India, although the process of British conquest had considerably advanced, was closed against the missionary, whose desire to afford its heathen population the opportunities of Christian instruction was looked upon as a wild fanaticism, fraught with danger, and in the sternest way to be discouraged. China, also, was unapproachable. Amongst the emigrant Chinese of the Indian Archipelago, some few resolute missionaries had commenced to labor; but the barriers of the great empire itself were closed against us. How different the position in which we find ourselves at the present moment! The clouds of ignorance have been rolled away; the earth and its inhabitants stand revealed to our view. In every direction there are open doors. From every quarter the Macedonian cry is heard—'Come over and help us' Missionary enterprise is no longer an experiment. It has been tried and found successful, even amidst great difficulties. Missionaries are