

Muller's Orphanage.

(From a Brother at Bristol.)

"Muller's Orphanage" are almost household words throughout Great Britain, and in all parts of the civilized world this Institution is looked upon as a monument of the faithfulness of a prayer-hearing and prayer-answering God.

Mr. George Muller, whom God raised up, fitted and guided to start and continue this stupendous work, was born at Kroppenstaedt Prussia, on Sept. 1805, converted in 1825, and received the first orphan on the 3th of February, 1836.

The objects in view were, and are still: That God might be glorified in its being seen that it is no vain thing to trust in Him, and that thus the faith of His children might be strengthened by the spiritual welfare of fatherless and motherless children, and their temporal welfare.

The work was commenced, and has been carried on these 50 years, entirely by faith in God, until at the present time there are 2,000 children in the Orphan Houses, fed and clothed and spiritually cared for, without anyone but God being informed of their requirements. The girls received into the Orphanage, who are instructed in reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, etc., are kept till they are capable of taking situations. The boys, who receive the same instruction in their schools, have a free choice of the trade they wish to procure, and then apprenticed to it, and not a few of them have risen in the social scale above the ordinary working-man.

The Institution consists of five immense stone houses, with hundreds of glass windows in each, situated on Ashley Downs, one of the healthiest suburbs of Bristol, England. It well repays one to take a walk in that direction on a bright sunny day, to see the five long lines of continuous buildings, each approached by a long carriage drive, and attached to which are well-stocked vegetable gardens; to hear in otherwise surrounding stillness the voices of the hundreds of children repeating their lessons, or their shouting in the play-grounds, but best of all to join one of the groups of visitors which are shown through the various houses on different days. The older children may then be seen engaged in their various occupations, and the younger ones busily prosecuting their studies. There can be seen and felt, the reality, the faithfulness, and the unchangeableness of a loving heavenly father. For my own part I never look upon the buildings, or upon the long string of orphans, occasionally to be met with, without being led to praise, and to take a firmer hold on God, and to desire to trust in Him with a still more childlike trust.

Everything connected with the Orphanage seems the essence of order, clearness, and happiness.

During the fifty years of existence, although sometimes brought low, perhaps to test their faith, the Lord has never left them, nor forsaken them, but has come in to help in a most remarkable way at the right moment. Numbers of such instances are recorded in the "Narrative of some of the Lord's dealings with George Muller," written by himself, and published by J. Nisbet & Co, London, which also contains an account of his conversion, his remarkable orphan work from the commencement, and the

various other remarkable works in which he is engaged for the Master. Half-yearly Reports are also published by the same, at sixpence, containing information to encourage the child of God, and to silence the sceptic.

The conversions amongst the children have been numerous.

The Regions Beyond.



HAVE we, are we, as converted men and women doing our best to obey the Master's injunction and example; going about doing good, letting our light so shine that others may see our good works and as a result glorify our Father in heaven? Is the command to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature a living obligation which we recognise and endeavour, by our prayers, means and personal efforts, to fulfill? Have we been true to the trust he left us? To-day there are millions who have never heard the name of Jesus. What is the measure of our responsibility? Has not individual Christian apathy something to do with this? Are we not, all called upon at home and abroad to do missionary service? Dare we say we are not called?

In connection with the history of Christianity the progress of Christianity from the very beginning has really depended upon the action of the few, and that few gradually influenced an expanding few. In the 3rd century the Christians in Rome were less than one-twentieth of the population, and before and since then, a comparatively few have been winning a small number to Christianity, and this number has been gradually increasing. This is mysterious, and unquestionably as we look upon God's dealings with the world we find mysteries again and again. Although there has been a very great outpouring of the Spirit in the last three centuries, and particularly in the last ninety years, and there has been a very great impulse to foreign missions, let us remember there are even now 600,000,000 of mankind in utter darkness.

The fact that there are in this year 1886, such grand openings for the preaching of the Gospel as did not exist several years ago, and that God in His mercy had awakened in England, America and the Christian Church every where a measure of missionary spirit and zeal for obedience to God's command that had not hitherto been experienced to the same degree should lead Christians to think how they could be strengthened in the habit of giving regularly to missions up to the highest mark their circumstances would admit of, and so create a higher stimulus in the work.

And should we not rejoice that now the Gospel of the Grace of God shall have "free course" throughout the length and breadth of Burmah to "run and be glorified."

In Japan, which country used to be shut against missionaries, it had actually been proposed that Christianity should be adopted as the religion of the State. In Africa the country has been opened up. In China there is an Inland Mission, and missionaries are permitted to travel through the country.