

THE MISSIONARY'S MOTHER.—A godly woman, who felt deeply for the poor heathen who are perishing without the gospel, consecrated her son to God as a missionary, from the very period of his birth. She was one of the collectors for the missionary society in the town where she resided, and as soon as he was old enough, she used to take him by the hand and lead him about with her, on her collecting tours. This she did in order to familiarize his mind with the subject, and if possible give it an inclination towards the foreign missionary enterprise. He became pious, and went through a regular course of classical and theological study; and at length entered the foreign missionary field, under the direction of the American Board,—to the great joy and delight of his devoted mother. His health however failed him, and he was obliged to revisit his native land. On landing in Boston, he wrote to his mother announcing his safe arrival, that his health was so far recruited by the voyage, that he hoped by and by to return to his field. She promptly replied to his letter, saying that she was thankful to be informed of his safe arrival, and was relieved to hear that he expected soon to go out again as a missionary. Can any one suppose that this mother was any the less happy for having so cheerfully and entirely relinquished her claims upon her beloved son, in favor of Christ and his kingdom? Will her enjoyment be less when she sits down with that son and the heathen he has been the instrument of saving, in the house "with many mansions?" Christian mother, Christian father, go thou and do likewise.—16.

LOOKING BACK.—The rules of Christ's kingdom allow of no retrograde movement in religious duty, either in individuals or churches. On the contrary, the obligation to aim at constant spiritual growth, is every where enjoined in the word of God, and the heaviest curses are denounced against all those who, having joined themselves to Christ's people, turn back again to their former associations and pursuits. What then shall be said of those Christians whose interest in the spread of the Redeemer's kingdom flags, and who can satisfy their con-

sciences with offering less prayer, and giving less of their substance, for the salvation of the heathen now, than they did a year ago? Is not this "looking back?" and are not such persons in a fair way voluntarily to exclude themselves from all title to a name and a place in the kingdom of heaven?

Dr. Duff, Scotch missionary in Calcutta, forcibly exclaims, "Woe be to the man—woe be to the church, that, through want of self-denial, or any other Christian grace, will calmly and deliberately make up its mind to do less for God and his holy name than heretofore!" And a wiser than Dr. Duff has said, in a more authoritative voice, "*He that putteth his hand to the plough, and looketh back, is unfit for the kingdom of heaven.*"

DEACON GUERGIS' SWORD.—Deacon Guergis, the mountain evangelist, while on a tour recently in the Nestorian mountains, fell in with a Turk, who seized him, on supposition that he was a Koord, and would have put him in confinement. The deacon was unable to speak in Turkish, so that he could not explain his true character; but he showed the Turk his New Testament, which immediately procured his release; for it was plain that no Koord could be found in possession of that book, they being Mahomedans, and also using another language. Guergis remarks: "Had I been armed with a sword, I should have been detained; but the *sword of the Spirit* was the means of my release."

TESTIMONY OF THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW.—In a review of the able work of Gamell—the History of Baptist Missions—in the January number of the North American, we find some general remarks on the utility of missions to the heathen, and the certainty of their ultimate success, which are well worthy of attention. In answering the objection sometimes brought by opponents, on the ground of the imperfect success of Protestant missions thus far, the Reviewer very forcibly remarks:

"When we contemplate the agency, through a thousand channels of benignant influence, of a single christianized pagan, the house hallowed by prayer and made radiant by the offices of love,