

or even unsanctified heart? How much of the distortion of truth has to do with the imperfection of the reflecting surface! He who reflects as in a mirror the glory of the Lord must be in close spiritual fellowship with the Lord in order to be true to the glory he reflects. Francis Bacon said there are three rays—the *radius directus*, *radius reflectus*, and *radius refractus*. How many rays are bent out of their true direction by the medium through which they are transmitted!

TEXTS AND THEMES.

THE following is the programme for the Grand Mildmay Conference, June 27-29. We print it as a model programme for a missionary meeting:

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27.

Speak unto the children of Israel that they go forward.

PROGRESS THE LAW OF THE KINGDOM.—I. In Life. Grow in grace. Be no more children. Grow up into him in all things. They shall mount up. Still upward—still upward—still upward. From strength to strength. From glory to glory. More and more unto the perfect day. Like him. Conformed to the image of his son. 2 Pet. iii. 18; Eph. iv. 14, 15; Is. xl. 31; Ez. xli. 7; Ps. lxxxiv. 7; 2 Cor. iii. 18; Prov. iv. 18; 1 John iii. 2; Rom. viii. 29.

II. In Labor. Replenish the earth, and subdue it. Divide for an inheritance the land. Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you. And the man waxed great, and went forward. And received in the same year an hundred-fold. And the Lord blessed him. So built we the wall. So we labored. So the wall was finished. Preach the

gospel to every creature. Always abounding in the work of the Lord. Gen. i. 28; Josh. i. 6, 3; Gen. xxvii. 13, 14; Neh. iv. 6-21; vi. 15; Mark xvi. 15; 1 Cor. xv. 58.

THURSDAY, JUNE 28.

When ye blow an alarm, then the camps shall go forward.

HINDRANCES TO PROGRESS.—I. In Walk. He lingered. His wife looked back. He saw that rest was good. At ease from his youth—settled on his lees. A little sleep. A little slumber. A lion in the way. His heart was not perfect. He pitched his tent before the city. Is there any secret thing with thee? Thou restrainest prayer. Gen. xix. 16-26; xlix. 15; Jer. xlviii. 11; Prov. xxiv. 33; xxvi. 13; 1 Kings xi. 4; Gen. xxxiii. 18; Job xv. 11. 4.

II. In Work. Strength decayed. Much rubbish. Hands hang down. Feeble knees. The wind was contrary unto them. We sailed slowly, the wind not suffering us. Being armed, they turned back. He went not with them to the work. Slack to possess the land. Cannot see afar off. Neh. iv. 10; Heb. xii. 12; Mark vi. 48; Acts xxvii. 7; Ps. lxxxviii. 9; Acts xv. 38; Josh. xviii. 3; 2 Pet. i. 9.

FRIDAY, JUNE 29.

They went every one straight forward.

HELPS TO PROGRESS.—I. In Sanctification. Laying aside every weight. They lightened the ship. Be filled with the Spirit. Looking unto Jesus. Beholding, as in a glass, the glory of the Lord. The sincere milk of the Word. Holding the head. By joints and bands having nourishment ministered. Let us go on. Let us cleanse ourselves. Heb. xii. 1; Acts xxvii. 18; Eph. v. 18; Heb. xii. 2; 2 Cor. iii. 18; 1 Pet. ii. 2; Col. ii. 19; Heb. vi. 1; 2 Cor. vii. 1.

II. In Service. Zeal as a cloke. Loins girt about with truth. Feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace. The love of Christ constraineth us. Moved with compassion. The voice of his world. Exceeding great and precious promises. That blessed hope. Is. lix. 17; Eph. vi. 14, 15; 2 Cor. v. 14; Matt. ix. 36; Ps. cxi. 20; 2 Pet. i. 4; Tit. ii. 13.

VI.—PROGRESS AND RESULTS OF MISSIONS—MONTHLY BULLETIN.

Africa.—Trouble with the Arabs at the North End of Lake Nyassa. The daily papers have informed us of this, notably the *Manchester Guardian* of Feb. 25, which had several columns of detailed narrative and a leader on it. Finding themselves menaced with the competition of European commerce, and seeing the danger of a collapse of their nefarious traffic in human flesh, the Arabs in East Central Africa are growing insolent and aggressive. For the past two or three years symptoms of coming difficulties have been noted. Now the storm-cloud has burst. A station

at the northwest side of Lake Nyassa has been besieged for five days, and with difficulty held by a small band of Scotchmen, Englishmen, and natives, the Arabs erecting platforms upon neighboring trees, and attacking with great persistence and determination. The arrival of a strong body of friendly natives, who came to the rescue of the beleaguered party, caused the Arabs to beat a hasty retreat, but probably only to gather reinforcements and return to the charge. Our alternative route to Tanganyika, via Quillimane, the Shire River and Lake Nyassa, is thus