

ease, as none of the people of the village could come at me, without passing through the house."

Other similar passages occur; but these are sufficient to shew the custom. Were public accommodations in Jordan like those in Persia or Turkey? If so, then there was nothing unusual or degrading in the parents of our Lord being lodged in a stable-room. On the contrary, as a place of quiet and privacy, it was well adapted to the circumstances of many at the time. Or, if the inn was so crowded as to render Mary's accommodation in a separate room impossible, which is the fact stated in the passage, no other remove seems practicable than from the stable-room into the stable itself.

ANECDOTE.

A few days ago when one of the Secretaries of the Belfast Auxiliary Bible Society and another gentleman were engaged in collecting the subscriptions for the present year, they had occasion to wait upon a lady who was in their district. They found her at home, and mentioned their business. She told them, she believed she had been acting wrong for some time, in giving so small a subscription to such an object [five shillings], and immediately gave them one pound. 'But,' said she, 'I have more to give you: it is not much; but the circumstances connected with it are not common. It was collected by a child six years old, to send the Bible to the Heathen.' When about five years of age, the family were sitting round the fire on a winter evening, the weather was tempestuous, and the rain beating against the window; the child was playing on the hearth rug. He suddenly looked up in his mother's face: 'Mamma this is a bad night for the poor.' 'She assented.' 'But, mamma, this is a bad night for the rich.' 'Why so, my dear?' 'If they

are like that rich man we were reading about to-day, who pulled down his barn to build larger ones, and that night his soul was required of him.' After a pause he again said: 'This is a worse night for the Heathen.' 'What makes you say so?' 'Oh! mamma, they have nobody to tell them about Jesus, and no Bibles to read about Jesus.' And running to his father, he said: 'Papa; will you give me a half-penny!' 'What for?' 'To help to buy Bibles for poor Heathens who have none of their own.' He got a little box next day. During a year of suffering, he kept his object constantly in view. Unable to go out but seldom, he pleaded with the friends who came to the house for something—anything—'to help to buy the Bibles for poor heathens who had nobody to tell them about Jesus.' He seldom pleaded in vain: he was in earnest. In about a year, his little collection amounted to ten shillings and four pence half-penny. At the age of six, it pleased the Lord to remove him from this world of sin and suffering. When near the close of his career, he one day said to his mother, 'Mamma, I love you very much, but I love Jesus a great deal more.' 'You have been very kind to me, and have done a great deal for me; but Jesus has been a great deal kinder, and has done a great deal more.' 'I like to be with you, Mamma; but I'd rather be with Jesus.' Into the presence of the Saviour whom he loved, he was early removed. Almost his last request was, that his little store should be given to 'buy bibles for the poor heathens, who had no books to read about Jesus.' His mother, who mentioned these circumstances, said she had kept the collection for some time past; but having been present at a Bible meeting in this town a short time since, she resolved, not only to increase her own subscription, but also, considering it the best means of carrying