

CONFIRMATION,

CHRISM.

BISHOP COXE, says in the *Kalendar*: "Acts viii., 14. The Apostles heard that St. Philip, the deacon, had gone into Samaria and reaped a great harvest there. This was foreseen by the Master, and it is well worth while to compare the story of St. Philip's Mission with St. John iv., 35-42. But note, St. Philip, as a deacon, had baptized the Samaritans, he could not admit them to further privileges. Did the Apostles leave them in that condition? Did they say, 'St Philip is a good preacher, and if they repent and believe that is all they require,' language which is practically that of nearly all Sectarian religionists? By no means; they instantly took measures to carry them forward in the Covenant of Grace. Under the presidency of St James, at Jerusalem, two of the Apostles were sent on a mission to Samaria; 'who, when they were come down'—did what? Of course they preached powerful sermons and awakened a fresh interest in the Gospel; such would be the answer of Sectarian teachers in our day. And I doubt not it would be true, but, then this is not what the Scripture tell us. The history given us in the Bible goes right to the point of confirmation. Thus it reads: 'They sent unto them Peter and John, who, when they were come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Ghost.'

Then *laid they their hands upon them* and they received the Holy Ghost.

THE HEATHEN.

Rev. H. M. Scudder, D. D.; of Chicago, writes in the *Advance* as follows in regard to the heathen:—

"1. The heathen are conscious of sin.—Their religious works contain affecting confessions of sin and yearnings for deliverance.

"2. The heathen feel the need of some satisfaction to be made for their sins.—They have devised many penances, asceticism and self-tortures. These fail to break the bondage. They do not give the conscience peace.

"3. The heathen need a Divine Deliverer, one who can make the satisfaction and inspire the peace.

"4. There is a command in the New Testament to go and disciple all the heathen nations in the name of this Deliverer.

"5. This command emanates from the supreme authority. It is from the lips of Christ himself.

"6. This command is addressed to all Christians, in every age, until every human being is converted. He who said 'Go preach to every creature,' added; 'Lo! I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.' The command and the promise reach unto the end.

"7. The missionary spirit is the spirit of Christ. The soul or the Church that does not possess it is dead.

"8. If we love the truth of Christ, we shall desire that his glory shall fill all lands.

"9. If we love the truth of Christ, we shall be intent upon its proclamation till every false religion is vanquished by it.

"10. We are not jews, but Gentiles. Our lineage is heathen. The missionary enterprise rescued us