

**Kgou Karen.** An edition of the New Testament was printed in the language last year, but the tens of thousands of Karen Christians earnestly desire the whole word of God.

**MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCE.**—Rev. E. H. Sayre and wife have sailed for the Purrukhabad mission, India, of the Presbyterian Board. Rev. William Clemens of the Corisco mission, West Africa, of the same Board, died at sea June 24. Rev. C. Keith and wife, of the Episcopal mission to China have recently died—Mrs. Keith on reaching San Francisco, on their return home to restore failing health, and Mr. Keith being one of the victims who perished on the steamer Golden Gate, that was burnt on the Pacific ocean, July 27.

THE two following little articles taken from Good Words are said to be the composition of a Roman Catholic priest, whose writings are very widely read in Germany and Switzerland. Is there not something here breathing very like the great doctrine of justification by faith? At all events, such writing is very remarkable for a Catholic priest, and would make us believe that he sees, and is coming towards the light.

#### A WORD TO MINISTERS.

DAILY you offer up the petition, "Thy kingdom come." Now, it would be great insincerity and most injurious untruthfulness, to pronounce such a prayer every day, and yet to move neither hand nor foot in this great cause. Let me give a few hints as to what we are to do in order to bring about the fulfilment of this desire. But to do this I must classify people, in order to give separate counsel to men of different position.

And who deserves the first place, when we speak of the coming of Christ's kingdom? (Ex te perditio, Israel!) Evidently the minister of the gospel. True, such a gentleman knows himself what is his duty, but as he never hears a sermon except his own, he won't object to find here something which may serve him as a mirror. Were I to leave him out, the laymen might object to it as partial. And who knows, but some minister with a right aim and a modest heart may receive my word kindly, and, by the grace of God, it may lodge in his mind, and produce fruit? This would be extremely valuable, for what a pastor receives becomes a benefit to hundreds, to whom God has appointed him a light-bearer and shepherd. I shall try to avoid all offensive and prickly words, and all uncharitable thoughts.

When a servant is intrusted with the care of two horses, and he is careless, and allows them to drink when they are heated, or instead of giving them oats, sells the oats, or

instead of attending to them, runs about for his pleasure, such a rogue is hunted away with ignominy, and it is quite right it should be so. And yet it is only about horses, which sooner or later must find their way to the tanner. But you, O pastor, have been intrusted with the care of God's children, the precious souls of men. What an awful charge it is to have a single soul to watch, and guide and feed; and perhaps you have several hundreds, and every week some are added, and every week some leave and go to that other country, and may complain if they have been neglected or badly treated. Let me lay a few things before you, and urge them on your conscience and heart.

It is no trifle to have every Sunday a congregation before you, which comes to you waiting to be roused, fed, strengthened, and comforted by the word of God, according to their various and changing circumstances. The time of preaching is a precious seed-time, a sacred hour, in which one ought to give the very best thing one can possibly produce. Well, what is your way and practice in the pulpit? Have you a good memory and a sonorous voice, and are you able also to get on extempore, and do people say, especially when you preach as a visitor in some neighbouring congregation, He is a beautiful preacher? All this does not strike me or weigh much with me; and even though a few of the women-folk apply their pocket-handkerchiefs or aprons to their eyes, I don't care much about it. A few watery women's tears are easily brought out, and are often shed more as a pleasant way of filling up the time. The great, the first question, is: Who preaches; is it you, or the Spirit of God in and through you: is your sermon your own word, or the word of the Lord? See, my brother, thou oughtest to ask and pray our Lord from day to day in thine own room, "Lord, what am I to preach? Give me the right spirit, and provide me with the right word." Press and urge this prayer with all importunity, and then, like a spiritual miner, dig long and earnestly in the holy word of God, and in your own soul, and out of the Scriptures and meditation bring out gold and precious stones, and then enter your pulpit as a man who hath authority, and leave your own self at home, and seek nothing else but God's honour and God's kingdom. And when thus you stand there in the name of your Divine Master, and the power of the Spirit is upon you, and love to God and love to human souls beam in your eyes, like two heavenly stars, and when the word of God streams, and flows out of your mouth strong as fire, strong as a hammer, that breaks the rock in pieces, and, sharper than a two-edged sword, penetrates into the souls of your hearers—then people will not say, as they go out, "What a beautiful or eloquent sermon!" as they often said before, and just went home and remained unaltered; but fear comes upon