

MISSION FIELD.

A Voice from Spain.

The following incident has been sent us by Mrs. Alice G. Gullok, of San Sebastian, Spain, illustrating the spirit of the Roman Catholic Church in reference to the Bible, and connecting the work of a converted priest in the Philippine Islands with the work of our American Board mission in Spain:—

"Some years ago the Committee of the Trinitarian Bible Society was approached by a Spaniard, Alonso Lallave. He had been a friar in the Philippine Islands for many years, and a copy of the New Testament given him by a sea captain led to his conversion. He suffered great persecutions and was thrown into a dungeon for six months, then handcuffed and sent to Spain for trial. He arrived to find the Republic proclaimed and himself a free man. For some years he acted as the Protes of a Protestant Church at Seville. Lallave translated the Gospel of Luke into Panagasian, the language used in the Philippine Islands, and he begged the Trinitarian Bible Society to publish it, as it had then been lying in the strong room of the British and Foreign Bible Society for ten years. The Committee of the Trinitarian Bible Society made searching inquiries into the possibility of getting the Scriptures into these Islands, but they found that it was completely in the hands of the Romish Church, the Archbishop of Manila having the power to veto any orders made by the Spanish Government. Much, therefore, as the Committee desired to take up the work, they were compelled to yield to the force of the facts which had for so long prevented the British and Foreign Bible Society from carrying out the work. However, in 1889, Lallave was led to offer to go out himself and introduce the Scriptures into this stronghold of Rome. He completed the rest of the New Testament, and the Gospels and the Acts being printed by the British and Foreign Bible Society, Lallave set out to join his fellow-countryman, Mr. Castells, at Singapore, and these two entered the Philippines. The press at Manila had got news of their mission, and warned the authorities. The books were seized as contraband goods, and the two men were taken seriously ill with the same symptoms, which led to the belief that they were poisoned by the Jesuits. For days their lives were in danger, and Lallave died on June 6th., 1889. His companions recovered, but only to go to prison. After many sufferings and trials the Seville Governor was persuaded to allow Castells to leave the Island. Thus ended the tragic effort to introduce the light into that dark place.

"This account, taken from 'The Quarterly Record of the Trinitarian Bible Society,' has been of special interest to us at San Sebastian. A short time before Lallave left Spain, he wrote to us asking us to receive his three daughters into the Institute. These were children of his first wife. He planned to leave his wife and her five little boys in Seville, until he could make a home for them in Manila. The three girls came to us; Esther, Mathilde, and Raquel. The two younger girls were very delicate, and we had some fears that they would not be able to take a complete course of study. Esther had studied somewhat with her father, and was prepared to go into the advanced classes. She is one of the class of four who took their B.A., degree last year, and one of the two who took high honors in the University this last June. Raquel and Mathilde with care became stronger and proved to be bright students. Raquel her took B.A., degree in September, and Mathilde will take her degree next year. The mother is at present a teacher in the mines of Rio Tinto, Heulva. The three girls will devote themselves to Christian work.

"The story is interesting from several points of view, and the Christian influence which is to go out from this whole family is entirely due, under God, to the act of a sea captain who, far away from home, and in a hostile country, witnessed for Christ."

Items.

The Presbyterians of the world maintain one-fourth of the evangelical foreign missionaries of the world.

Dr. Eliza Leonard, of Tacoma, Wash., a member of the First Presbyterian Society, sailed a few weeks ago as a missionary to China. Her medical outfit was furnished by the Society.

Dean Farrar, of Canterbury, thinks it "perfectly erroneous to talk of the failure of missions, when they started with 120 despised Galileans; and when now there are 120,000,000 Protestants, and they have in their power almost all the resources of the world."

The natives of the Island of Anstytum, in the New Hebrides, raise money for church work by the sale of arrow root. By this means they have paid entirely for the publication of the Bible in their language, and are now giving the proceeds of the industry to the Free Church of Scotland.

Prof. Filippo de Lorenzi, of Rome has become a Protestant. He has been a priest and a Professor in Roman Catholic Colleges for many years. He has joined the Waldensians, and has published a letter in which he says that for years his heart has not been at rest. He finds peace in the Evangelical Church, "whose faith is based solely and alone on the Word of God."

"What is it," a Chinese woman asked, "that makes you Jesus people so different from us? We call you 'foreign devils'; our people have martyred two of your teachers who only did good to our people, and you show no revenge and receive me as a friend." She was told that this was the teaching of Jesus, who died for us when we were enemies. This lady, continued for two weeks with the missionaries to learn of their faith and doctrine, and then returned to her own city to tell her neighbors: "These Jesus people know how to love their enemies."

A Mohammedan convert in Persia has suffered the confiscation of his property and the loss of both his ears rather than surrender his faith. A year ago this convert was such a fanatical Moslem that every night he went to bathe to wash off the pollution of contact with Christians during the day.

Dr. and Mrs. Sandilands sailed from England last month for Melbourne en route for the New Hebrides. Dr. S. is one of the new missionaries secured by Dr. Paton in Britain and goes out qualified both to heal the sick and preach the gospel.

Dr. Paton has returned to Australia after six months busy work translating, teaching and preaching on Arriwa. He expresses himself highly satisfied with the progress made in his absence. He may return to the group with the fresh contingent of missionaries in March.

The Dayspring arrived safely at Melbourne on Dec. 21st. The voyage via the Cape occupied less than three months. She has doubtless ere this gone on to the Island with the prospect of making a second trip in March with a large addition to the mission staff, including the Rev. Messrs Thomson MacMillan, Frank Eaton and Dr. Sandilands. The first of these goes to replace the Rev. Mr. Gray on Tanna.

Twenty five years ago the Rev. Peter Milne began work on Nguna. The natives were then fierce cannibals. On this and the five adjoining islands under his care there are now 760 communicants. Four of these islands are now entirely Christian. On the remaining two there are only a few heathen and these are rapidly coming over to Christ. Not long since he baptized 80 (45 adults) one Sabbath morning. For ten years Nguna was the outpost of the New Hebrides mission. Before Mr. Milne broke ground there they were notorious even among their fellow islanders for their savage ferocity. On one of these islands they took up a collection for mission purpose on a recent Sabbath. It amounted to \$52.

The Teacher's Institute under our own missionary, the Rev. Dr. Armand is promising well. The teachers in training have settled down to earnest work and are making good progress. The Tagoans around the schools are still heathen and there is a dense mass of cannibals on Santo near at hand.

Cheering news comes from North Santo, the only point as yet occupied on that large island. The Rev. J. W. Mackenzie was settled there a few months ago in succession to the Rev. Mr. Macdonald. The station had been unoccupied for two years. In the face of opposition the work was carried on by the natives themselves. During the interval they sustained their school and Sabbath services. The field is now opening up rapidly. Six outstations are ready for teachers while there is only one to meet the demand. A simple operation performed on a man at the point of death saved his life, made the young missionary famous and has done much to break down opposition. Villages unreached before are now open to the preaching of the Gospel and parts of the interior have been explored than were unknown. The missionary had a narrow escape from a treacherous plot against his life.

The erection of the hospital on Ambrim is being pushed forward and will soon be ready to receive patients.

The Rev. O. Michelson of Tongoa baptized seventy after his return from Synod. They are proving themselves zealous disciples of Christ.

The last of the heathen on Efate are being gathered into the church by the Rev. Dr. Macdonald and the Rev. J. W. Mackenzie. As the result of twenty three years of faithful labor it is on the eve of taking rank as a Christian island.

Many people would be much better Christian workers if they could cease from thinking of results. That is God's affair, and not ours. When we have to give an account, we shall be asked, not "What have you reaped?" but "What have you sown?"