

"CURSES COME HOME TO ROOST."

The London *Daily News* says: "Indian opium, which the Chinese in other days fought so hard to keep out of their country, is now reported to have become a very small and still diminishing article of import at the Chinese port; but, unhappily, this is only because the Chinese have taken to growing this pernicious drug themselves. Mr. Holland, Acting Consul at New-chwang, a Chinese port in the extreme north of the Gulf of Pechili, states that the cultivation of the native opium appears to be a profitable labour among the poorer classes, and pays as well again as millet, their chief staple of food, or any other grain. It was the extra tax of eighty teals per chest on foreign opium that gave to the native drug such an impetus. Mr. Holland thinks it may safely be prophesied that not only will the foreign drug cease ere long to figure as an import, but the native drug will soon appear as an export."

Upon which the *London Christian* remarks as follows: "Thus the poisonous plant which we forced upon China degrades and ruins the Chinese who use it; we derive no permanent advantage, even in money; and China will export to other nations, including England, her dependences and colonies, that mischievous drug with which England obliged China to curse herself. Can we for a moment doubt that, under the righteous government of God, a terrible penalty will fall to the lot of England?"

CHRIST'S CALL.

In the courts of law if a man be called as a witness, no sooner is his name mentioned, though he may be at the end of the court, then he begins to force his way up to the witness box. Nobody says, "Why is this man pushing here?" Or, if they should say, "Who are you?" it would be a sufficient answer to say, "My name was called." "But you are not rich, you have no gold ring on your finger." "No, but that is not my right of way; but I was called." "Sir you are not a man of repute, or rank, or character." "It matters not, I was called. Make way!" So make way, ye doubts and fears, Christ calls the sinner. Sinner, come; for though thou hast not to recommend thee, yet it is written, "Him that cometh unto Me I will in no wise cast out."—*Sel.*

CHINA ISLAND MISSION.

Mr. George Williams presided in the Conference Hall, Mildmay Park, at the twenty-second annual meeting of this mission.

The report, presented by Mr. B. Broomhall, the secretary, was very encouraging. One hundred new missionaries had sailed for China last year, making in all 286 now employed, including 53 wives of missionaries, most of whom were missionaries before marriage. The income was £33,717, an increase of nearly £11,000 over the previous year. The Rev. J. Hudson Taylor, the founder of the mission, stated that the expenditure had been more than the receipts, but the year had commenced with £2,390 in hand. The mission had 15 occupied provinces, 65 stations, 65 out-stations, 110 chapels, 294 missionaries, wives and associates, and 132 native helpers; 2,105 communicants, 66 organized churches, 8 boarding schools, with 88 native pupils; 10 day-schools, with 80 pupils; 3 hospitals, 5 dispensaries, and 16 refuges for the cure of opium smoking.—*M. W.*

LOOKING AT JESUS.

Take a good look at Jesus as often as you can. You expect soon to behold him in open vision, but they who look most to him here will see most glory in him hereafter. In heaven some will see far deeper into Christ than others. The deeper you see into his grace now, the deeper you will see into his glory then, for glory is measured by grace. Linger at the place of secret prayer. If you do not know just what to pray about, look to Jesus for him to give you a prayer. Look to him for your prayer and your faith. After you have opened all your heart to him, take time to linger for his answer; to listen for marching orders; and should he choose not to speak, trust him just the same, and take time to adore him. Go away from your closet with the clear image of Jesus hanging in your mind.—*Dr. G. D. Watson.*

THE COST OF SIN.

"No commodity ever in the market costs like sin; it requires the surrender of conscience in the beginning; it costs money for gratification; costs in penalties, and keeps on costing everlastingly, after men are bankrupt, dunning them in the end for unsettled bills."