

sacrifices, to some extent, their temporal interests as well as his own. It is an evil which they who send him forth should seek to mitigate.

The Board celebrated lately the fiftieth anniversary of its establishment. The jubilee of a missionary society is an occasion very full of encouragement. Protestant missions are the only human means by which the perishing millions of the heathen world can be brought back to God. Their foundations have now been laid in all parts of the world. The obstacles interposed by heathen, or worse than heathen governments, have been, to a large extent removed. The experience needful for the effective conduct of the enterprise has been gained. Obstructing prejudices have been dispelled. Many individuals have received the truth into their hearts. Within many communities still heathen, its influence extends and exercises increasing authority over the opinions and lives of the people. Should the Church use faithfully the advantages she has won, the next half century may be distinguished by triumphs more glorious than our feeble faith is able to expect. The first half century of the missionary enterprise has seen the conversion of small communities. May not the second be the birth-time, to civilization, and to Christianity, of many of the larger communities? If so, our century will be crowned for the admiration of all coming ages as the Missionary Century. It has been fruitful in human progress beyond most. There are many crowns upon its head, but none so bright as that.—*Free Church Record.*

THE UNIVERSITIES MISSION TO CENTRAL AFRICA.

This Mission, as our readers are aware, was inaugurated with great eclat, and under the highest auspices. Dr. Livingstone was the pioneer; he was accompanied by a bishop and half a score of clergymen, and very high expectations were entertained of the success that would crown so noble an effort! Disaster has followed disaster till the Mission has now to be wholly abandoned!

Dr. Livingstone traces the non-success of the Mission greatly to the tremendous increase of the slave trade upon that part of Africa, which unawares, no doubt, to those who had planned the undertaking, sprung up in consequence of that contract for exporting, as it was proposed, free African labourers to the French colonies. It was, in point of fact, a tremendous renewal of the slave-trade. It was stopped on the remonstrances of Britain to the Emperor of the French; but it has already done its work of evil. The missionaries, on going to that part of Africa, found a new and unheard of

vigour in that inhuman and detestable traffic. It was really that only that stood in the way. The natives were ready to listen; they were glad to flock around the missionaries; many of the chiefs began to perceive that they could gain more by the honorable labour of the people, than by selling them into captivity; the upland hills of that country did not greatly disagree with European constitutions; and everything went as predicted, with this one exception; that this horrible increase of the slave-trade threw the whole country into a state of insecurity, war, death, famine, and misery, which made it impossible for the missionaries to maintain their posts and spread the Gospel round about them, as they desired to do. In this depressing state of things, however, their hearts did not fail them, although they were obliged to relinquish their position on the river Shire. Led by Mr. Seudamore, they were driven into a low situation, the unhealthiness of which soon brought Mr. Seudamore down to the grave which had opened so shortly before for Bishop Mackenzie. Then, just as their spirits must have been most struck down, there broke out a tremendous drought. Dr. Livingstone says:—"I have got up the river, and the dead bodies of the starving people float by me in such numbers that even the alligators which abound in this region, are so gorged with human food that they can take no more; these dead bodies float by unattacked by these monsters of the river.

Famine, war, drought, disease, have each dealt destruction to the poor people and the missionaries. In view of these calamities, Dr. Krapf the eminent German Missionary traveller, writes as follows to the Bishop of Oxford:—"My great and growing desire is that my dear brethren who have made this noble venture for Christ should not be dismayed and abandon the work because of these troubles. It happened to me, in my first mission, to have such an entire failure as this; and I tell you how I took it. I said within myself, This is a trial from the enemy permitted to come against me by my Lord, and shall I be beaten down by him? No! He has beaten me out of this particular place, but I see the reason. God means me to go to another where I shall have great success. And so I retired from that place, and planted my mission in this; and from the time that I so planted it, I have had all the success that my heart thirsted for. I would urge you to suggest to your Mission that if it is driven from the Shire, it should establish itself near the Zanibar; and, from my own knowledge of Africa, I have every hope that all you have intended and desired will be accomplished from that new basis."

Dr. Livingstone testifies to the good results of the policy pursued by the British