

and the dead—between Paganism and Christianity. From one side of it you survey a great city of crowded thoroughfares, throbbing with impulses of new life: On the opposite side there is spread out before you a vast sea of ruins reaching out to the dreary Campagna. Continuing our ramble, we shall next go down into the Forum Romanum, and passing along the *Via Sacra*, we shall presently come on the footsteps of St. Paul on the Appian Way.

### Missionary Cabinet.

GEORGE MÜLLER OF BRISTOL. No. II.

MR. MÜLLER'S great undertaking began to assume definite shape in 1836-37. After much prayer and consultation with Mr. Craik, they resolved to embark in the enterprise. It was announced at a public meeting called for the purpose in Bristol. A report of that meeting went to the press, and very soon small donations began to come in. A house was rented. Offers of personal service were made by one and another to take part in the work and eventually applications for admission were made on behalf of forty-three children. In 1837 three houses were rented, in which were eighty-one children and nine assistants to care for them. About that time, entries of this kind are frequently met with in Mr. Müller's diary.—

"I have not one penny in hand for the Orphans. . . My eyes are to the Lord. . . Our hour of trial still continues. The Lord mercifully has given enough to supply our daily necessities; but He gives *by the day* now, almost by the hour, as we need it. . . I have besought the Lord again and again, both yesterday and to-day. It is as if the Lord had said,—'Mine hour is not yet come'; but I have faith in God. I believe that He will send help, though I know not when it is to come."

Again and again, while he was yet praying, answers came in cheques, small sums of money, books, clothing, and trinkets to be sold for what they would bring. And so days, weeks, months and years passed—a bare sufficiency coming in for daily requirements, and nothing more, until 1845, when a new departure became necessary.

The houses had not only become too small, they were felt to be an inconvenience to the neighbourhood. It was desirable that the establishment should be removed out of

town. That involved an outlay of about \$70,000 at least. Would it be forthcoming?

"Up to Dec. 9th, thirty-five days had passed, whilst I was, day by day, waiting upon God for means for this work, and not a single penny had been given to me. On the thirty-sixth day, after having begun to pray, I received one thousand pounds towards the building of the new house—the largest donation I had received up to this time. . . . On the 39th day, an architect offered to plan and superintend the building, gratuitously. . . . On the 50th day, the Lord sent me another thousand pounds, and thereafter small sums amounting to £710 3s. 5½d."

In July 1846 Mr. Müller received a gift of £2050. "I believe that God hears me," he exclaimed, as he threw himself down on his face and burst forth into thanksgiving to God. In April, 1847, he had received £11,062 4s. 11½d. "Six hundred and seven days I sought the help of God, day by day, before we came so far as to be able to commence the building. Yet, at last, He gave me the desire of my heart!" In July 1847, the new Orphanage to accommodate 300 was commenced, and in July 1849, "as the fruit of the prayers of three years and seven months, the children moved into it. . . . We have more than £500 to commence housekeeping with. How true that word,—'those who wait upon the Lord shall not be confounded!'" Up to May, 1850, the total receipts were £33,868 11s. 1½d, without any one having been personally applied to for assistance. Another favourite text was often in Müller's thoughts, "Open thy mouth wide and I will fill it." He did open his mouth, and it was filled.

Encouraged by this success, and seeing the need for extending the work in many distressing cases of children bereaved of both parents, Mr. Müller's mind became occupied with the idea of building another house for 750 more! Before speaking to any one about it, he besought the Lord earnestly for guidance, "that he might not allow him to be deluded." He was kept from all anxiety about it by meditating on Prov. 3; 5, 6, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not to thine own understanding." While he was working, waiting, and praying, he received a gift of £3000, which enabled him to make his new project known to the public. Soon after this he had the promise of £8,100, "the joint donation of several Christians. In the meantime sufficient money came in from many sources for the daily wants of the existing institutions. At length, when he had in hand some £23,000, he concluded to build two additional houses.