

This little Bible went with the young missionary to his work in Western Africa, the "White Man's Grave;" to Coomassie, the "City of Blood;" to our own North-West Territory, indeed a Great Lone Land, in the early fifties; then through many years of missionary work among the Indians of Ontario. In his journal I read, Dec. 24th, 1839: "Christmas Eve. To-day we passed to the westward quite close to the Canaries (on our way to Western Africa), and at night we saw the churches illuminated." On Christmas Eve, 1893, we laid the old and worn-out frame to rest under Canadian skies, and I love to think of the dear, dim eyes growing bright and COBOURG, Ont.

young again, when they sighted the lights of the Heavenly City!

Only the little Bible and heavy old journal remain as visible links to that noble band of men who lived and worked, and many of whom died, for West African missions.

As we read this simple story of quiet heroism, unutterable suffering patiently endured, and noble lives laid down without a murmur, let us rouse ourselves to truer faith and nobler courage. God is over all, and His heroes are not dead yet!

"He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

MEXICO IN TRANSITION.*

BY FRANCIS HUSTON WALLACE, M.A., D.D.,

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By his long, arduous, and eminently successful missionary labours in the land of Montezuma and Cortez, Juarez and Maximilian, Dr. Butler (so well known by his earlier missionary work in India) fairly earned the right to be heard on the interesting subject which he has chosen, namely, the long, slow process by which the land of the Aztecs has been set free from the blighting despotism of Spanish governors and inquisitors, and provided with free and stable institutions of her own.

Readers who cling tenaciously to popular misapprehensions, and are unwilling to revise their judgment of men and things, had better let this book alone, for the indisputable evidence here offered forever shatters those idols of popular admiration

and sympathy, Hernando Cortez and the "Emperor" Maximilian.

In the year 1494 Pope Alexander VI. assumed authority to assign to Spain every island, continent and sea on which her troops should plant her flag in the Western hemisphere. Thus, inspired by mingled motives of adventure, avarice, and religion, Cortez and his hardy companions advanced to the conquest of the land of the Aztecs.

From the brilliant pages of Prescott we have gained a somewhat exaggerated estimate of the heroism of the conquerors. Even Spanish writers are disposed to discount some of the extravagant stories which Cortez sent home. We are only beginning to look at the whole history from the Aztec side, and to

* "Mexico in Transition from the Power of Political Romanism to Civil and Religious Liberty." By William Butler, D.D. New York: Hunt & Eaton. Toronto: William Briggs.