

## THE PLACE OF REST.

Clouds that gather round my head  
Seem the wings of God outspread ;  
Hours of thought and worldly care  
Full of sweetest comfort are ;  
Words of bitterness and sneer  
Fall like music on my ear.

Once I could not thus partake  
Of each cup for Jesus' sake ;  
But I learned one bitter day,  
To look up and meekly say,  
"Thy sweet will, dear Lord, not mine ;  
Thy sweet will, and only Thine."

As the dear Christ on the sea  
Hushed the billows, so to me  
Did he speak, and gently say,  
"Peace, be still ; my peace alway ;  
And upon my soul he breathed,  
I the peace of heaven received.

Like a quiet little child,  
With Him to be meek and mild,  
Day by day I love to take  
All that comes for Jesus' sake.  
On this thought my soul doth rest,  
"God for me will do the best."

Oh, how easy now to see  
All things are for good to me !  
Pain or loss, or smile and cheer,  
Christ in all is very dear ;  
For my heart is whispering still,  
"Thy sweet will, Lord, Thy sweet will."  
—*King's Highway.*

## THREE STAGES OF MISSION WORK.

Speaking generally, a mission-period falls into three stages, which, it is true, are neither sharply distinguished from each other nor have everywhere the same length of duration. The first stage is that of sending forth, strictly speaking, of the slow foundation work of the foreign missionaries, of individual conversion, of the initiation of a process of fermentation, of the impregnation of the intellectual and moral atmosphere with new views and elements of life. The second stage is that of the erection of a first story on the foundation laid, of the extended co-operation of the natives, of the organization of the growing congregation, of the leavening of the popular life with the forces of the gospel. The third stage is that of national Christianization in the stricter sense, the collapse of a heathenism already undermined, the winning of the masses. This mostly comes to pass as a result of important historical events, e.g., the acceptance of Christianity by reigning personages, etc.—*Allgemeine Missions Zeitschrift*, September, 1889.

## TOWN OR COUNTRY.

It is a common belief that youths reared in the cities are at a great disadvantage, compared with those brought up in the country, especially in the matter of morals. The reasoning is that the city is so full of temptation and of so seductive a sort, and that children are so idle, that it is almost impossible for them to escape degradation. The good mother living in a quiet village or in the open country is thankful for nothing so much as that her boys are at a safe distance from the theatres and other places of questionable amusement, and a feeling of pity possesses her as she thinks of mothers, acquaintances, perhaps, of hers, whose boys are exposed to the metropolitan temptations. Her thought is not wholly incorrect, though she has an exaggerated notion of her sister's misfortune. The temptations, it is true, are many, and the victims of them form lists that make sad reading, but among people of average positions it is doubtful if the evil is greater than among corresponding classes in other situations. A larger percentage of young men is likely to be found in the city church than is the village one. Part of this is due to the fact that many from the latter have gone to the city, but even without these the statement is a true one. As many noble youths, also, grow up to take the fathers' places in homes of the city as away from it, and they carry into their mature lives as keen a sense of honor and as devout a religious spirit as their brothers who have had a rural training. Environment is very important, but there are boys who will be bad everywhere, whether city or country, and others who, with reasonable home culture and the nurture of right influences, can hardly fail to be of good habits and character. The young man who is being reared in a well ordered Christian home in the city is not an object of commiseration ; he at least lives on a level of advantage with his brother of the country town and hillside.—*United Presbyterian.*

"The public speaker who is sure of a cordial reception from his audience may consider half the battle won, but he who is either received with coolness or compelled to bear ruthless comment on his intentions may be excused for stage fright."

The drowning of girl-babies has at last been made penal in China. A cable dispatch says that the penalty of 60 blows of the bamboo will be enforced.