

## GRAND COLLECTIONS.

It is said that a New York pastor took a home missionary collection in his church one day, a few years ago, that amounted to fourteen thousand and some hundreds of dollars, and it was reported in the paper next morning as the largest plate-collection that was ever taken in New York or anywhere else, perhaps. The next Sunday he said to his people, "I am sorry the notice of that collection got into the papers. It may seem like boasting. And, lest there should be any boasting on the part of the congregation, I will tell you how it was. Ten thousand dollars were given by one man and two thousand by another, and five hundred each by four others, and two hundred each by two or three others, and that leaves only about three hundred dollars for all of this great congregation; and that, certainly, is nothing to be proud of." That is just about the style of giving in a very large part of our churches; the sums are smaller, but the proportions are the same. From four to ten persons give eighty per cent, or ninety per cent of what is contributed—not because they have eighty per cent or ninety per cent of the means for giving but because they have hearts to give. Examine your church collections, and see if it be not so. If all gave as few do, our good works would be largely increased.—*Standard of the Cross.*

## "COME HOME."

A poor woman lost her only daughter in the vicious whirlpool depth of London life. The girl left a pure home, to be drawn into the gulf of guilty misery and abandonment. The mother, with a breaking heart, went to Dr. Bernardo, and telling him the story asked if he could help to find the lost one. The genial Doctor said:

"Yes, I can; get your photograph taken, a good many copies, write under the picture 'Come home,' and send them to me."

The Doctor sent the photographs to the g n-palaces, music-halls, and other places which wretched outcasts are in the habit of frequenting, and got them hung in conspicuous places. One night the girl with some companions in sin, as she entered one of these dens of iniquity, saw her mother's *carte*. Struck with astonishment, she looked closely at it, and saw the invitation written beneath. To whom was it addressed? To her? Yes. She

saw by that token that she was forgiven, and that night she returned to her mother's arms just as she was. This is God's loving cry to every wanderer. "Come home!" and there is a loving welcome, full of sweetest forgiveness, for all who cheerfully respond to it.

## CHINA.

### PROFESSING CHRIST UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

The Rev. Grainer Hargreaves, of the W. M. S., reports the baptism of a young convert at Shun Kwan, Canton, and the persecution which has followed. He says:—

"We recently baptized a young man who so far has given us great encouragement and great solicitude. His parents have threatened him in all sorts of ways; his relatives have sworn they would kill him. He was an opium smoker before he became a member of our church, and had arranged to go into partnership with a man, who, upon hearing that he had become a Christian, would have nothing more to do with him. His mother has locked up his clothes and his shoes in order to prevent his coming to the chapel; she has told that she reckons him dead, and tells him to get out and never return. The other day she refused for a whole day to give him anything to eat; but neither threats, nakedness, nor hunger have prevailed. He still boldly testifies to Christ's saving power. At first persuasion was tried, and his mother said, "Well, you may believe if you like, but don't talk to other people." His mother says, when he reminds her that he is a more dutiful son now than he was before, that she would rather he smoked opium, gambled, went to houses of ill-fame, or did anything, rather than become a Christian. Such words from a mother to an only son, yea, her only child, make one's blood run cold. Can any imagine the devil going further than such a mother? It desecrates a sacred name to call such a being a mother. Young Wong (age about twenty-four) saw the temptation, and has boldly resisted and overcome. So far all is encouraging; but the untold influences that are brought to bear upon a professing Christian in China, and especially one moving in middleclass society, as Wong does, sometimes make us fear and tremble. We try in all ways to encourage and strengthen him, and then commit him into the hands of God. May God keep him!"