

✻ **PALM BRANCH** ✻
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HO is not interested in the "lighting up" of the dark continent? There is great encouragement to faith and prayer, for progress, though slow is sure. We are interested in the work of two ladies, who for seven years have steadily labored among the women and children of North Africa, not without fruit. And it has not only been among the women and children. "A wealthy and well-educated Arab shows a sincere desire to know more about the Christian religion, saying again and again, 'I do want to believe, if you will only show me how.'" Sanguine hopes are entertained of this case. Another one is believed to be holding secretly the faith of Jesus Christ; his private testimony being, "I do believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and that He has saved me; but I dare not confess it, for my people would kill me." Just now it occurs to us what joy it would be to this Arab to have the privilege and opportunities that we have, every day we live, to confess Christ! Do you think he would let them slip by?

South Africa, however, is where the Gospel has won its greatest victories. "Cape Colony," of which you learn in your Field Study this month, "can fairly claim to be called Christian.

Yes, grand missionary work has been done in Africa, and noble lives have been laid upon the altar. When the news reached England of the sudden death of Bishop Hill, the mother of another missionary who gave his life for Africa, wrote: "You must know, even I know, what Africa means. It is literally the life laid down. At this moment I have two other sons in mission work in Africa, and I would not have them elsewhere. These words of Francis Xavier express most

happily what seems to justify the loss of precious lives. He says: 'While I can do anything to prove the contrary, it shall never be said that the love of Christ is less constraining than the love of gold.'" What but the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ could so nerve that mother's hand and heart?

We have just one little word of encouragement to give you to pray on for the Jews. It came last year from an English Jewish journal: "Never since that glorious day of Pentacost, nearly nineteen hundred years ago, in the far-off holy city of Jerusalem, when three thousand Jews acknowledged Christ and we baptized in one day, have the opportunities of preaching the gospel of glad tidings to our Jewish brethren, been so bright and promising as in the present year of our Lord." The writer goes on to say that so much sympathy has been shown by Christians for the Jews, so cruelly persecuted in Russia, that a responsive echo of love awakened in their hearts, has made them willing to listen to the story of Jesus and His love; and he calls on the Christian world not to let this great opportunity go by.

Both poems we publish to-day we heard sung not long ago by members of a native African choir. The beauty and the pathos still linger with us. They made one realize as never before that "God hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on the face of all the earth," and that these were indeed our brothers and our sisters.

All our young readers, we are sure, will be greatly interested in the sketch, given this month, of our esteemed missionary, Miss Morgan, and will pray that health and strength may speedily return to one so useful and beloved. We may add that before her departure for Japan, Miss Morgan's work as a teacher was most highly commended.

How about this summer outing of mine? Will it give me fresh spiritual as well as physical strength? Will it help some other one?

Any subscriber not receiving the paper, will please communicate with the Editor.

Black-board lesson next time. Thanks for Montreal communication received.

All communications must be in by the 8th of the preceding month. For September by 8th of August.

Sample copies still on hand.