

OUR Oliver correspondent says : A very suitable altar, re-table and cross, made to order, has been given and placed in St. James' Church, Oliver. The re-table has a beautiful carving, "Holy, Holy, Holy." Mrs. John Like, of Port Arthur, who is well known in Thunder Bay for her liberality to the Church, made the gift.

THE progress of Christianity in Central Africa continues to be rapid. Kamswaga, the king of Koki, a large district to the south-west of Uganda, is now under instruction for baptism. The Rev. H. Clayton says the king has abandoned polygamy and other heathen practices, and shows every sign of earnestness and sincerity.

The Kanwar of Kaparthala, Sir Harnam Singh, K.C.S.I., who has lately been appointed to a seat on the Viceregal Council of India, is a leading Indian Christian, who would have been Rajah of Kaparthala but for the fact of his having embraced Christianity. The Kanwarani is the daughter of an esteemed Indian pastor, the Rev. Golak Nath, and was for some time connected with the Church of England Zenana Missionary Society. The Kanwar and Kanwarani visited England in the Jubilee of 1887, and were received by the Queen.

THE Scottish Church, through the Home Mission Board, now ministers to about 29,000 souls, or to fully a quarter of her whole membership. When the Church Council in Scotland began its work about twenty years ago, this fund amounted only to £457, and the number of missions was 31. Last year the number of missions, including summer mission stations, was 152, and the fund reached the sum of £4,161. Twenty-eight new missions have been opened in the last four years. To meet the constant applications for the efficient working of existing missions and to aid a few fresh ones the Church Council needs three times the present amount.

THE treatment of aborigines in this continent (South Australia) is (says *The Church News*, Adelaide), being undoubtedly bettered by the increased missionary zeal of Churchmen. The latest departure is in Queensland, where, for some years past, the Government have been trying to settle the difficulty on non-religious lines. The attempt to keep the black

in his natural state on Fraser Island has been crowned with disastrous results. Better counsels now prevail. The Church has been asked to take over the management of the island, sending a man to teach and arrange for the employment of the natives. The Government will subsidise to the extent of £500 per annum, and will build a church and dormitory.

THE work of the Sower is given to each of us in this world. A late writer says : "This is a generation in which parents are permitting their children to grow up as moral and religious feeblings. The theory of millions of parents is, 'Let the child wait until he has grown, and then choose his own religion.' More than two generations ago an English statesman uttered this sentiment in the presence of Coleridge. Leading his friend into the garden, Coleridge said : 'I have decided not to put in any vegetables this spring, but to wait till August and let the garden decide for itself whether it prefers weeds or vegetables.'"

ACTION and re-action are always going on between popular thought and its expression in speech. Erroneous or careless ideas are the cause of the use of like language. Inaccurate phrases from the lips of one man bring about mistakes in the mind of another. They pass from mouth to mouth, become part of the vernacular, and have an immense influence in producing the mental atmosphere in which we live. No class of the community has greater need to realise this than Churchmen. No department of our national life is more misrepresented in popular speech and more the victim of the shibboleths of the ignorant and the careless than the Church.

WHEN our eyes are turned to South Africa, we should not forget the leper missions there. On a little island in Table Bay, barely six miles in circumference, rising but forty or fifty feet above the sea, upon which many, who first see it from the deck of the mail boat, hardly believe that there are any inhabitants, there, on little Robben island, so small and so barren, are some 600 lepers, among whom our Church is working by the hands and hearts and lips of two most faithful priests—the chaplain, the Rev. W. W. Watkins, who has been there some nine years, and the Rev. C. Engleheart, who joined him in 1898. The chaplain's work is among the lepers,

among the lunatics, of which there are about 200 sent there, and among a smaller number of convicts. It is missionary work.

ON Good Friday the offerings of the faithful are asked on behalf of the Jews. Remembering that it was of the Jews that our Blessed Lord came according to the flesh ; that He prayed for the forgiveness of the Jews who crucified Him ; that the Gospel record we have, as well as the other books of our New Testament, were written for our instruction, under the guidance of God's Spirit, by Jews, let us give willingly, eagerly, liberally to help onward the missionary efforts of the Church to Christianize Jews. English Christians have a worthy representative in Jerusalem in the person of Bishop Blyth, who is surely, if alas ! too slowly, making headway there. If you send your offerings to the Bishop Blyth Fund there is the assurance that it will be devoted to work under Episcopal direction. And pray that the means employed will be much blessed.

REV. J. S. MOFFAT, son of the celebrated Dr. Moffat, writing from Cape Town to the *Mission World* says : "The war now going on between white men is being watched by the natives with intense concern. As one of them put it to me the other day : 'If the English win, then we black men can breathe and live ; if the Boers win, then we may as well die, for we shall be no more looked upon as men, but as cattle ; so we shall all go home and pray to God to make the arms of the English strong.' And this is really the question of the day in South Africa : 'Are we to have all men—British, Boer and aboriginal—dwelling together with equal rights as men under the British flag, or are we to have the domination of a Boer oligarchy over British and blacks alike ?' In the Transvaal a black man is not a human being." We can echo the opinion that incidentally "many blessings will result from this war."

Less than forty years ago Oxford and Cambridge joined in the establishment of what is known as the Universities' Mission to Central Africa. In that time the mission has lost, by death, chiefly from disease, though often by violence, six bishops, twenty seven clergymen and forty-six lay workers. Fifty thousand dollars are now being raised in England for a large mission steamer, to be used on