



BERNARD MIZEKI.

spect was reached, and there on the river bank lay a dead ox, excellently typifying the old man, and the old heathendom, and the old life, which for the new convert were to be things of the dead past, and but dead bones in the new life he was entering.

"And so gathering round the priest, with faces towards the dark west the service was begun, and all the renunciation made. Then Shoniwha stepped into the swiftly flowing water, suggestive of the Holy Spirit which would flow into his heart; and being dipped in the stream, renamed, and baptized in the Name of the Blessed Trinity, John returned to the bank, and with face towards the brightening East, was received 'into the congregation of Christ's flock,' and so the little band stood (surrounded by exquisite tree ferns and tropical foliage, which, drawing their strength from the stream, seemed like types of the fruits of the Spirit which the Christian life should show) till the service was ended, and then with joyous hearts marched back along the hill side, thinking perhaps of the hills of difficulty which lay before the young Christian just beginning his course, but yet thankful to join in the glad Te Deum which they sang on their return in the village church; this made a fitting end to the morning's work, and was the only adequate way in which they could praise God for His gracious goodness in sending so blessed an encouragement to His workers in that heathen land."—*S.P.G. Mission News*.

God of Mercy, God of Grace,
Show the brightness of Thy face;
Shine upon us, Saviour, shine,
Fill Thy Church with light Divine;
And Thy saving grace extend
Unto earth's remotest end.

A STORY OF A SHOEMAKER.

GIBRALTAR, you know, is in Spain, but Spain has only of late years been permitted to possess an open Bible; for prior to 1868 it was almost an unknown book among the people, its circulation being forbidden by the authorities. During those dark times a Presbyterian minister from Scotland went for his health to Gibraltar, where, though in Spain, being under British rule, the Bible Society had a depot. While sojourning there for a considerable time, the good man used frequently to put some copies of God's Word into his pockets, and, crossing over into Spanish territory, would circulate them among the people, who received them joyfully.

On one of these excursions he visited the house of a shoemaker, with whom he had an interesting conversation, from which he found that the Spaniard had a meeting at his house every week to talk over public affairs and the state of the country. As the shoemaker, however, confessed that these discussions had never yielded much profit, his visitor said, "You should get the Bible, and read that; it would do you more good." "Ah!" was the reply, "I wish I could get it; but our priests won't let us have the Bible." Great was his joy when one was presented to him, with the intimation that, if his friends would like copies, on his coming to a certain house in Gibraltar, a further supply could be obtained.

A few weeks afterward, a Spaniard, in holiday dress, knocked at the door where the minister was staying, and asking earnestly to see him, was shown into his room. He made himself known as the shoemaker who had received the Bible, stated that it was regularly read at the weekly meetings, and that his friends were so anxious to have copies, he had come to beg a further supply. His request was readily granted, on which he pulled from under his arm a parcel, and said: "I have brought you a little mark of my gratitude, which I hope you will accept. I have made and brought you a pair of shoes." "It is very kind of you," said the good minister; "but I fear the shoes may not fit, and so will not be of any use to me." "Try them, sir," said the other, "for I think you will find them just your size."

The trial was made, the shoes were found an excellent fit, and on the maker being asked how he had guessed the size so exactly, he replied, "I knew after you left my house you had to pass over some soft clay; so I followed you, and from your footprints I took the size of your foot, and I was then able to make you the shoes, which I resolved to bring you. I hope you will wear them as a mark of gratitude