

a blessed thing it would be if every Christian were so accustomed to work that whenever he ceased from any duty he would suddenly awake as from a bad dream! It is possible for everyone to be thus sensitive to every call of duty. And if anyone is not so warned it is probable that he has become so accustomed to the warning and has so many times neglected it that he hears it no more. Even a good alarm-clock put beside the bed fails to awaken some people, simply because they have neglected to heed it.—Selected.

Religious Notes.

The University of Havana, Cuba, enrolls nearly 700 students. Those who are in a position to know report that there is not a single earnest Christian among them. About twenty belong to the Young Men's Christian Association of the city, but apparently these as well as the others are quite indifferent to religion. As yet no leader has been found in the University who can awaken religious interest among his fellow students. The secretary of the City Association requests prayer that a leader may be found.—The 'Student World.'

'Medical Missions at Home and Abroad' for January gives the names and locations of all medical missionaries in the foreign field who hold British degrees or diplomas. In 1890 these numbered but 125, but since have more than trebled, and include 257 men and 138 women, or a total of 395. The Church Missionary Society heads the list with 72, the United Free Church comes next with 61, the London Society with 38, Church of Scotland 23, etc.

The American Bible Society has appointed Rev. F. G. Penzotti, who is well known in South American countries, for his heroism in Christian work, as its agent for the La Plata Agency, with headquarters in Buenos Ayres, Argentina. This agency includes most of the republics of South America, with the exception of Brazil. Mr. Penzotti takes the places made vacant by the death of Rev. Andrew M. Milne, and will have charge of a work of distribution that last year exceeded 50,000 volumes of Scriptures. Mr. Penzotti has had a varied experience in the service of the Society and has been for many years past the agent in charge of its work in Central America and Panama.

Brazil is by far the largest of the South American republics, having an area of 3,218,130 square miles, with a population of (1880) 14,333,915. The Roman Catholic population numbers about 14,000,000, and the Protestant population about 144,000. Nine missionary boards are reported as operating in Brazil, with a total number of stations and outstations of 356, missionaries 126, and native workers 112. There are 53 reported schools and two publishing houses. Brazil is a country greatly needing a large force of missionary workers. There is a vast native population among the Indians hitherto untouched.

Our Labrador Work.

THE LANDING OF THE DEER.

St. Anthony, Jan. 20, 1908.

'Reindeer's come.' This official announcement was made by Rube, one of the mainstays of the Mission, to a group of volunteer workers who had just returned from church, Sunday, January 6. We all hustled out-doors to confirm glad tidings, and saw a steamer's smoke away off behind a neck of land which shuts in the harbor. Then the men watching on the hill came down with the news that the steamer, after coming to the edge of the ice and delaying a short time to send out a boat, had turned south, evidently intending to put into the next harbor, about two miles distant by land. Following this announcement, which spread like wildfire, the whole population turned toward the little settlement of Gremeliere, travelling over high hills by a poor and little used path. Obstacles like

this, however, had no deterring effect on the crowd, for, driven on by wild excitement and enthusiasm, they made record breaking time. The procession filed down the hill, out over the ice, and aboard the steamer. She was a Norwegian vessel, the 'Anita,' 2,000 tons.

The deer were stowed fore and after, just below decks, in temporary pens. The does, of which there are 250, seemed small, about the size of yearling red deer as nearly as one could judge in the poor light. There are 25 bucks, from four to ten years, broken to harness. The latter are about the size of an average horse, but not as high. Besides there are 25 oxen, or unbroken young bucks, of three years old, for breeding later or breaking. All had their horns cut off before starting, to prevent fighting on the crowded ship.

The Lapps, of whom there are ten in all, three couples and a fourth couple with two boys, were, after the deer, the centre of interest. They are very short, about shoulder high to the average man, and have small, wizened faces, especially the women. The men wear moustaches, and brush them straight up, which add to their queer appearance. Both sexes wear deer-skin breeches and knee-length coats, with the hair outside. The only difference in costume is the cap, the women wearing a close-fitting hood, and the men a cap with four stuffed cloth horns. Their clothes seem to be made of innumerable scraps sewed together; some have red cloth strips sewed into the seams. A murderous sheath-knife, and a tobacco pouch, hung from the belt complete each costume. All the men chew, and both men and women smoke.

The captain told us that the Lapps had given the deer the most constant care all during the voyage, even when both Lapps and deer were so sea-sick that they could hardly stand up. The excellent condition of the deer, in spite of the 22 days' voyage, confirmed his testimony.

The Lapps brought with them 10 Lapland dogs to help hold the deer. These are mostly black, and much like the Huskies or Eskimo dogs as regards heavy fur, short pointed ears, and tails curved over the back, but are smaller and less fierce. After the necessary business had been settled it was decided to begin landing the deer early the next morning.

Before light next morning, about eight o'clock, the path was alive with men on komatiks drawn by dog-teams ranging from three mongrel pups to the doctor's ten big Newfoundland and Eskimo dogs, on their way to help unload the reindeer.

When the Lapps had gone up on the hills to take the lie of the land, and examine the moss, though it was covered with ice and snow, they again pronounced it identical with that in their own country, and fairly easy for the deer to get at, so a start was made unloading the deer. A gang plank was built to the ship's hatches and battens, and run from the big forward port-hole to the ice. The pens were then taken down and the deer run out through the port-hole to the ice. This was an arduous task. Each deer had to be caught, and forcibly hauled from the mass of bucking, charging deer to the opening, where the two men, one on each side, grasped him and pushed him out on to the gang-planks. Often a deer would balk, and have to be led or pushed all the way down the plank. The Lapps did this trick very well by putting their arms around the deer's body just back of the shoulder; lifting his fore-legs just clear of the ground, and thus Spanish-walking him to the ice without resistance. One man tried to ride a big buck, but an inconvenient beam knocked him off sprawling.

Once on the ice, the majority of the deer made for the shore, and followed their predecessors up to the hills. A great many, however, seemed to have an irresistible desire to run around the ship's stern, and make off across the bay in exactly the opposite direction from St. Anthony. Any number of men had come from all the little coves for miles up and down the coast to see the deer and render any assistance which was needed. So we strung them out in a long line from the ship to the shore, to act as a barrier to the reindeer. In spite of shouting and waving of coats and arms, several of the deer, who are very fleet even on the 'cobby' ice, managed

to dodge through between the men, after which it was impossible to head them off, as several of the men found out by experiment. For the deer, frightened by the rough voyage, and strange conditions, seemed demented, and charged right at them.

The Lapps, however, manifested no concern about this scattering, and seemed confident that the deer would either drift back again to the main herd, if the wind was right; or be easily collected. Their dogs were unused to the ice, and consequently of no use to round them up in this case.

One of the Lapps went up on the hills with the leader, a buck chosen from among the whole herd for his age, sagacity and size, to lead the herd and gather in the stragglers. Every two or three minutes, until he was out of sight, the Lapp women on the deck would shout in a shrill voice, 'Schlug de bel-lo!' The Lapp responded by grasping the bell which hung from the deer's neck and ringing it.

One of the Lapp women had fallen during the voyage, from the ladder leading to the hald, and broken her knee-cap, and as she was rather heavy she had been made comfortable right there on and under a pile of deerskins and shawls, instead of being taken back to her regular second-class stateroom.

We explained through the interpreter that she had now come to a place where there was a hospital in which she would be kindly cared for and treated. She seemed willing to go, and so was strapped into one of their little boat-shaped sleds, hoisted up on deck, and lowered over the side, where she was dragged ashore and loaded on to a waiting komatik, and carried away to the hospital. The doctor thought her knee would best be healed by an operation, but her husband strenuously objected to this, saying, 'Oh, well, she's a pretty old woman and doesn't need a very good leg any more.' As she is fortunately only thirty-five the doctor thinks that careful treatment will do the business and fix up her leg nearly, though not quite as well as an operation would do.

The personal and household effects of the Lapps were landed next, consisting mainly of sleds filled with deerskins, etc., and a couple of bales of 'senegrass,' the sedge which the Lapps stuff into their deerskin boots and mitts, done up in nets, instead of socks, which they do not wear at all. This was piled on the shore and hauled over to St. Anthony next day by dog teams, for the Lapps decided not to use the deer for any purpose until they had recovered from the excitement of landing and been assembled in one herd.

A very busy and interesting day was ended by landing part of the remaining reindeer moss on the ice, after which we all adjourned to St. Anthony with all the Lapps except one, who stayed behind a while to hustle up some of the stray deer.

Acknowledgments.

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Address all subscriptions for Dr. Grenfell's work to 'Witness' Labrador Fund, John Dougall and Son, 'Witness' Office, Montreal, stating with the gift whether it is for launch, komatic, or cots.

L'envoi.

O love triumphant over guilt and sin,
My soul is soiled, but Thou shalt enter in;
My feet must stumble if I walk alone,
Lonely my heart, till beating by Thine own,
My will is weakness till it rest in Thine,
Cut off, I wither, thirsting for the Vine,
My deeds are dry leaves on a sapless tree,
My life is lifeless till it live in Thee!
—The Late Frederic Lawrence Knowles, in
'Love Triumphant.'