

AN APPRECIATION OF THE LATE  
DR. AGNES TURNBULL.

Rev. Dr. John Wilkie, of the Gwalior Presbyterian Mission, sends us the following letter for which we gladly make room. The late Dr. Turnbull was known to many of our readers; and to know her was to love and respect her.

Editor Dominion Presbyterian:—In case you may not have heard, I write to let you know of the death of Dr. Agnes Turnbull of the Canadian Mission Hospital at Indore, from paralysis, almost certainly the direct result of over strain in the plague work. Three times Indore has been severely tried by this terrible disease, and in each of these Dr. Turnbull most unsparringly sought to relieve all classes in their homes, in the plague-camp, or in the Mission Hospital, without realizing that her strength was not equal to her unselfish devotion till too late. Last August the Government conferred on her the Kais-i-Hand Medal for her faithful work, but she has not long enjoyed the honor then conferred. In November feeling she must get a rest, she came to Jhansi, but on the way the paralysis so developed that she was compelled to at once take to her bed and Dr. McKellar came to look after her, and most devotedly nursed her to the end. Three weeks later she was moved to Neemuch and gradually grew worse till on Sunday she passed into her well-earned rest.

It was my privilege to be associated with her for many years, and so to know and appreciate her earnest, devoted efforts. Her heart was larger than her strength, and the nervous strain sometimes resulted in a somewhat excited manner, but a more true, guileless, kind heart that rejoiced in self-sacrificing efforts to assist all who needed help, it would be hard to find. She was a doctor, but always sunk the Doctor in the Missionary, using her excellent medical skill for the cause of the Saviour, whom she loved; never professional to the injury of the natural, and always able to socially meet with all classes to their benefit, even though a faithful missionary. Though to some she seemed exacting to her native assistants, she was devotedly loved by them all. An assistant begged permission in Jhansi to see her old Miss Sabib, and so deeply was she moved to see one always so active lying low, that she fainted away, and then later begged permission to sit up with her at night as long as she stayed in Jhansi. The Indians, Christians and others, all loved her as they knew how genuine was her heart's devotion for them. And probably no one of the Canadian mission had a larger circle of friends amongst the Europeans, who today so keenly feel their loss.

During her illness the Viceroy and Lady Minto in a very kind letter inquired for her and expressed their sympathy. Their kind interest was very warmly appreciated and will be still more so by her aged parents in Canada to whom this blow will be such a heavy one. Her loss to the mission is very great. Would that there were more of the same natural, wholehearted, devoted Christian spirit amongst missionaries. We would hear less of failure and ill-feeling.

Jhansi, India, 7th Jan., 1907.

## PREACHING WITH EFFECT.

A Chicago gentleman tells a story of the influence of Gipsy Smith's preaching. A man appeared in an insurance office and surrendered a policy which had just been issued for a large amount on his life. He said that one of Gipsy Smith's sermons had made it impossible for him to keep it. It appeared that in order to get the policy the man had made several false statements in the health examination. The mis-statements had not been detected, and he had the policy safely in his possession. But he gave it up on conscience.

## NOT SO LIMITED.

By C. H. Wetherbe.

It is a most fortunate thing for mankind in all of the world that the plan of salvation is not such a scheme as some Christian people suppose that it is, for if it were what they say it is, a vast number of sinners could not obtain salvation from death. One class of religious people declare that God's promise of eternal life to sinners is limited to those who are "baptised for the remission of sins."

An editor of a religious paper recently stated that Christ's promise to save people was strictly confined to such ones, and hence He is not bound to forgive anyone who is not immersed. That editor imagines that he is supported by the Bible in his contention, for he places great emphasis upon one's adhering closely to Bible teaching and divine authority. It seems to be scarcely necessary to say that this editor, with all of his professed loyalty to Bible authority, is seriously blinded by an unsound theory. It is absolutely certain that Christ never even intimated that only those sinners who submit to baptism have the promise of receiving eternal life. On the contrary, He held out the great encouragement to all classes of sinners to come to God through Him by repentance and trust, entirely regardless of any religious ceremony or rite.

The invitation is as broad as the human race. The way of approach to the Saviour of sinners has been made so simple, so easy to comprehend, so adaptable to all cases and conditions, that the most illiterate, the most ordinary person may pass through it at any time and in any place, and find in Christ the grace which saves to the uttermost.

No sinner was ever turned away from Christ without salvation, if he would only confess his need of Him and believe that He was able to deliver him from the power and penalty of sin. And no man on earth, or angel in heaven has a right to say to an unsaved person that he has no promise from God of eternal life, outside of submission to baptism. God's promise to save people is unlimited, and this is one of the glorious features of His scheme of grace. All who want salvation are urged to take it.

## THE JAMAICAN EARTHQUAKE.

Scientific American—"From the meager details available at the time of this writing, it would appear that the recent earthquake which destroyed Kingston, Jamaica, was hardly less destructive in severity and extent than that which resulted in the destruction of San Francisco, or the subsequent one which effected such terrible devastation at Valparaiso. The past twelve months has been signalized by a series of natural phenomena which have been seldom equalled in any similar period within the history of mankind. Beginning with the terrible volcanic outburst of Vesuvius, various points of the earth's surface have been convulsed by volcanic outbursts or earth tremors, which have had the most disastrous effect, and have resulted in great loss of life and vast destruction of property. These various cataclysms have not occurred, furthermore, in a single so-called volcanic or earthquake belt. They have taken place in the most widely-separated localities, and our seismologists have not been able to ascribe their origin satisfactorily to a common cause. Whether or not it is merely coincidence that these happenings should all have taken place within a twelvemonth, or whether there is some great underlying action with which we are unfamiliar, and which has given rise to them, is still unexplained.

From the information at hand it seems that the earthquake which destroyed Kingston consisted of a great number of shocks, with a shock of maximum intensity near the beginning of the series of tremors. The light architecture prevalent

in the southern city was poorly adapted to resist a convulsion of this character, and even more substantially-built edifices collapsed under the exceptional severity of the earthquake. The usual accompaniment of tidal wave and Stygian darkness due to dust was present in this case too, and added to the general horror of the situation. It has been estimated that hundreds of lives were lost and that the damage to property will be found to reach many millions of dollars. The bottom of the harbor has sunk many feet, and there is danger, apparently, that the entire city—or rather what is left of it—may gradually sink into the sea.

While we are reluctant to ascribe a common origin to all these seismological phenomena, there may be some cause beyond our knowledge which has compelled vast internal changes in the structure of the earth, resulting in these alterations and readjustments upon the surface thereof. For instance, such cause might be found in the recent sunspot maximum. It must be remembered that a slip of a few inches only in rock strata which are poorly balanced or under heavy strain is sufficient to cause an earthquake of the greatest extent and intensity.

Prof. John Milne, the great English seismic authority, has advanced a theory to account for recent disturbances of this character manifested here and abroad in various parts of the world, which has been held tenable by Sir Norman Lockyer and Prof. Archenbold. Prof. Milne declares that the disturbances are due not to a merely normal readjustment of the earth's strata or to the shifting of the surface to meet a gradual contraction in the size of the globe, but are caused by displacement of the globe itself from its true axis and are really due to the jar incident to the subsequent swing back of the earth upon that true axis. It is conceivable that such a return movement to the axis as well as the original distortion would cause a tremendous strain upon the crust, and could easily account for the most terrific seismic convulsions imaginable. Sir Norman Lockyer, declares further that the deviation from the true axis, a fact which, by the way, can be scientifically proven, is due to the great sunspots which recently sent more energy to the earth than any other time during the thirty-five years sunspot period, and which through the great differences in the corresponding temperatures, caused the formation of vast ice-masses at one or the other of the poles, of such weight that the distortion takes place, to be subsequently remedied by other variations.

## - SUNDAY SCHOOL PAPERS.

Rev. Dr. Potts, President of the Lord's Day Alliance of Canada, writes: "In answer to many inquiries the statement was published, presumably by the authority of the Lord's Day Alliance of Canada, that Sunday School periodicals published outside of Canada could not lawfully be distributed in Sunday Schools in Canada on the Lord's Day after the new Lord's Day Act comes into force on the 1st of March next. This was based on the assumption that these periodicals are "classified as newspapers" by the Postal Regulations of Canada. It appears, however, upon mature consideration, that the ordinary Sunday School publications, including Leaflets, Children's or Young People's papers, Lesson Helps, Monthlies, Quarterlies, and such like, will not be in any way affected by the new Act, and Sunday School workers may continue to distribute these periodicals in Sunday Schools to the pupils and teachers on the Lord's Day, notwithstanding Section 9 of the Act respecting the Lord's Day.

All men have their frailties, and whoever looks for a friend without imperfection will never find what he seeks. We love ourselves notwithstanding our faults, and we ought to love our friends in like manner.