

who is the Son of Man. And so no lie for God, no doubtful policy, could ever prosper. And it was that sense of justice that made them, side by side with all their love, so stern at times. They knew what it was to resist the Holy Ghost. They knew what St. John expressed by "the wrath of the Lamb." And so they have a profound horror of sin—willful, deliberate resistance to the Holy Ghost. Their song is of mercy and judgment. They speak tremendous things about Judaism and about Ananias and Sapphira. We marvel how, with all their gentleness, they do not seem to shrink before that tremendous punishment that came on Ananias and Sapphira before their eyes. They accepted the judgment of God. They speak strong words to Simon and to the Jews at the end in Paul's prison at Rome. All their life is lived in the light based on the truth, whether the truth be agreeable or disagreeable. There is that supreme sincerity colouring it all.

THE MISSIONARY FIELD.

Some Christians need conversion to Foreign Missions as really as a sinner needs conversion to Christ.

A heathen magistrate bore testimony to the spirit of the converts in China: "That is always the way with you Christians; you plead for your enemies."

£10,000 a year is contributed in India towards the maintenance of the missions of the Church Missionary Society there, by English officers and civilians, who, being on the spot, can rightly estimate the value of the work.

A poor Chinese woman, who had been kindly treated by a missionary, said to him, "I am too poor to repay you in this life, but in my next life I expect to be born a dog; and if I am, I will serve you faithfully as the house-dog of your fine residence."

In letters from Bishop Tucker we learn that Kasagama, the King of Toro, a country bordering on Uganda, has been baptized. He had been at Mengo, the capital of Uganda, and had there received instruction. The Bishop says, "He is a remarkably able and intelligent man, and appears to be full of zeal and energy." Do pray for this Christian king, and ask that very many of his subjects may be won for Christ.

The Rev. Dr. Imad-ud-din, the most distinguished of the natives of India who are converts from Islam, says: "There was a time when the conversion of a Mohammedan to Christianity was looked upon as a wonder. Now they have come, and are coming, in their thousands." He gives a list of 117 clergy and men of standing in North India, known to himself, who were converts from Islam.

The *Bible Reporter* tells us of the distribution of the Scriptures in Cyprus. The population of the island was 209,000 in 1891, of whom 48,000 were Mohammedans, and the rest belonged to the Greek Church. Of these, in 1878, when England occupied Cyprus, not more than 2 per cent. could read, and even now, in spite of the encouragement given to education by the British Government, not more than half the people in the towns can read. In view of these facts it is plain that the 43,502 copies of Scriptures, or portions which had been distributed up to the end of 1894, represent a sufficient supply. In future, colportage is to be restricted. One does not hear of missionary work in the island.

These are weighty words from the pen of the late Dr. Gordon, addressed to many a too comfortable Christian money gatherer: "I warn you that it will go hard with you when your Lord comes to reckon with you, if He finds your wealth hoarded up in needless accumulations, instead of being sacredly devoted to giving the Gospel to the

lost. But remember that consecrated giving will be impossible unless there be first a consecrated giver. Therefore I counsel you to seek the special grace and anointing of the Holy Spirit, that He may work in you that consecration of heart and life on which so much depends."

The Elswick Works, Newcastle, give employment to about 19,000 people, the total number of persons dependent on the works being estimated at 80,000, which is more than one-third of the total population of Newcastle. Armstrongs are greater employers of labor than Woolwich Arsenal itself. Their Elswick Works extend for a mile and a half on the north bank of the Tyne, and the Northeastern Railway forms the northern boundary, the space between the line and the river, about 250 yards in depth, being entirely covered with furnaces, engine-houses, and shops, and with the ship-building yard, which numbers nine launching berths. At the present time work is so plentiful that wages are being paid at the rate of £30,000 a week, or £1,500,000 per annum. The main occupation is the construction of war-ships and guns. And yet we sometimes hear reflections on the expenditure of our missionary societies engaged in furthering the spread of the Gospel of Peace—"Peace on earth, good will to men." The wages at Elswick alone exceed the entire sum devoted to all our missionary societies. We are quite sure the mission work of Christian men is far more conducive to the peace of the world than all the war-ships we can construct at the expenditure of a million each. The reign of force is always a costly matter, but the influence of love has far greater power in the home, the community, the nation, the world.—*English Church Paper*.

REVIEWS.

FRIENDLY LETTERS TO GIRL FRIENDS.—By Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney. Price \$1.25. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1896. Toronto: Rowsell & Hutchison.

This is admirable talk; for although it is in the form of letters, it is the pleasantest chit-chat conceivable; and this is exactly what letters ought to be. These contain very little actual information, but they give stimulus, and their whole tone is refined and refining. For example, take the letters on the World of Books, the Books of Our Old Girlhood, and Outlooks of Literature, and we find no lists of books and very few allusions to particular works; yet we are made to feel how dear books may be, and what intimate fellowship we may have with their authors. In the letter about Poetry, again, we have some very charming criticisms showing fine insight and a very excellent essay on Wordsworth's Poetry. In the succeeding chapter Mrs. Whitney shows herself a devoted admirer of Browning, and predicts (somewhat rashly), that after the reading of Pippa Passes, Evelyn Hope, Prospice, and some other pieces of Browning, you will have become his disciple. These papers, the author tells us, were originally contributed to the *Ladies' Home Journal*, and in revising them for collective publication, they have been more or less filled out and extended; but even so are by no means offered now as exhaustive essays. We are very glad of this. If more had been attempted, they would have lost a great deal of their spontaneity, and so of their charm. They will, as they stand, make an admirable companion and a useful counsellor to a young lady.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THEOLOGY AND ITS LITERATURE.—By Rev. Alfred Cave, D.D. Price 12s. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark. Toronto: Revell Co. 1896.

About ten years ago we gave a cordial recommendation to this excellent work of Dr. Cave's, in its first edition, and we now recommend the second edition, if possible, with stronger emphasis. Some such book as this is indispensable to the student of theology who would not needlessly throw away a great deal of time; and although there are a good many German books on the subject, they do not quite meet the needs of English scholars, and there is no other English book of the kind which comes into competition with this

one. It will be noticed that this is not an introduction to the Bible, but to Theology and its literature; and naturally, a large portion of the volume is occupied by lists of works in the various departments of Divinity. The author's plan is an excellent one. First he takes up the theological sciences generally, pointing out the place of theology among the sciences, and offering some useful practical hints. He then turns to the specific theological sciences, and deals successively with Natural Theology; with Ethnic Theology—the study of the different religions of the world; with Biblical Theology, which, of late years, has become a vast subject, branching out into more sub-divisions than we can here enumerate, e.g., Biblical Canonics, Textual Criticism, Philology, Archaeology, Hermeneutics, Dogmatics, Ethics, etc. After that comes Ecclesiastical Theology; and then Comparative Theology, and finally Pastoral Theology. It might appear, at first sight, that the authors and treatises given under each department are so numerous as to be bewildering or crushing to the student; but this will not be found to be practically the case by those who follow Dr. Cave's guidance in the remarks which precede the various lists. There are two ways in which the value of a book of the kind may be tested; either by subjecting some particular section, with the subject matter of which the examiner happens to be well acquainted, to a careful scrutiny, or by looking in the lists generally for the mention of such books as the examiner knows or believes to be of special value. We have subjected this volume to both of these tests, and we have found it bears both of them perfectly well. We can also recommend Dr. Cave as a safe and impartial guide. His opinions on various points, as we know from his other works, are not our own; but he does not obtrude them here, and in regard to the literature of theology, he does what he ought to do, and bids us hear both sides.

Home & Foreign Church News

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.

NOVA SCOTIA.

FREDERICK COURTNEY, D.D., BISHOP, HALIFAX.

HALIFAX.—*St. Luke's Cathedral*.—The Christmas decorations and the music were attractive features at the Xmas services. There were four celebrations, the 8 a.m. being choral. At the morning service the Lord Bishop of the Diocese preached an eloquent sermon. There were over 300 communicants during the day. The offertories amounted to \$152, for the sick and poor. A number of dinners were also provided by the congregation for their poorer brethren. Christmas weather and Xmas joy appeared in full evidence.

MONTREAL.

WILLIAM B. BOND, D.D., BISHOP, MONTREAL.

MONTREAL.—The thirty-eighth annual session of the Synod of the Diocese of Montreal, will open in the Synod Hall, on Jan. 19th, at 2 p.m. In the morning at 10.30, there will be a public celebration of the Holy Communion in Christ Church Cathedral, at which the Bishop will deliver his charge to the Synod; and in the evening there will be service at 8 o'clock, the preacher being the Rev. G. Osborne Troop. On the following evening the annual diocesan missionary meeting will be held at 8 o'clock, and on the evening of Jan. 21, the annual meeting of the Diocesan Sunday-school Association will take place, beginning at 8 o'clock. The business to be dealt with by the members of the Synod includes the consideration of a motion by Mr. A. G. B. Craxton, of Montreal, in favour of all elections for the executive and other elective committees being by ballot, after nomination has been made in open Synod. There will also be the question of the partial division of the parish of St. James the Apostle to be settled, and a decision to be reached regarding the amended scheme for a general board of missions of the Church of England in Canada, which was adopted at the recent meeting of the General Assembly.

Trinity.—Last week the children of Trinity Sunday-school had a festival, which they thoroughly enjoyed. The rector, the Rev. F. H. Graham, presided. After partaking of lots of good things they were entertained by a series of very fine lime-light views, for which thanks are due to Mr. Arthur

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