

✦ PALM BRANCH ✦

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AUGUST 1897.



ONE of the finest men of our age, we think—indeed one who reflects glory on the age itself is Bishop Taylor, the pioneer of mission work in Africa. After a whole lifetime spent in the most laborious foreign work, amid the burning heat and innumerable perils of Africa and, just when his brethren think it wise, in view of his advancing years and the grand work that he has accomplished, to relieve him from his arduous duties that he may enjoy a well-earned and necessary rest, what does he do but declare his intention to go back to Africa to work there, he hopes for twenty years, to live, and if needs be to die there! Surely the age of heroism has not gone by—none so valiant as those who work and fight for God.

“One of the most pathetic instances in modern Christian history is the appeal of the African King Khama to the English parliament, that on placing necessary stations on the railroad that passes through his territory no spirits of any kind shall be supplied at the refreshment room. And yet it is a heathen request to a Christian government, or rather a Christian request to a government with some heathen notions still.” What wonder that we blush for our home government!

“With regard to the Jews what we need is more love, affection, brotherliness and kindness. We must not treat each individual Hebrew as if he personally and of his own deliberate device had rejected Him whom we believe to be the Messiah. Nineteen centuries of un-Christ-like treatment have made it almost impossible for him to share our faith. He has been

thrown back upon himself, and has not thought of Christianity as even a possibility. Many Hebrews in our country know absolutely nothing about Christians except that they pass their lives amongst large populations who bear the name of Christians but are no recommendation to any faith whatever. We must try to persuade the Hebrews that it is worth their while to enquire about this strong inalienable belief of ours that the Messiah did come nineteen hundred years ago.” It is encouraging to know that out of a Hebrew population in the world of eight millions there are no less than three hundred and ninety-three thousands who believe that Jesus of Nazareth was the true Messiah.

There are, it is said, three hundred thousand Jews in New York City. Workers among them hope, in the near future, to erect a ‘Christ’s Synagogue and Jewish Missionary Training School.’ Funds are being raised for this purpose. The house, when finished, will be the first of its kind in the world.

QUESTION DRAWER.

Ques—Did you mean to say in your last that one could send an order for May or August and receive the next May or August? Where does the quarterly subscription come in?

Ans—No, that was a mistake. Twelve copies are received; but a subscription coming in May will begin in April—coming in August will begin with July and end with the next July; because April and July begin two of the quarters.

GOOD CHEER CORNER.

In many countries, men and women are trained to carry heavy loads on the shoulders or the head, not only without loss of physical activity, but with increased agility, and with a beautiful poise and erectness of carriage which seem to be the direct result of their burden-bearing. There is a lesson in this for those of us who carry heavy loads. The Oriental woman with the water-jar has the air of a queen. If her burden is irksome, she gets from it a noble carriage. It is as easy to get strength out of things that are hard as to get oppression and sadness from them; everything depends upon our point of view. If we take up a burden with courage, cease to struggle against it, resolve to carry it as a part of our lives, and to gain poise, dignity and increased strength from it, that which seemed a limitation may become a new source of power. Our burden may not only contribute to our strength, to the firmness with which we stand on the ground, but also to the joy and freshness with which we take and use whatever life brings us of variety, entertainment, and delight.—*Christian Union.*