

and the whole population, from the king (who is a local preacher) down to his meanest subject, attend the Wesleyan Ministry. These Islands sometimes go by the name of Tonga. They consist of upwards of a hundred and fifty, and lie in the Pacific Ocean between latitude 13 degrees and 25 degrees South, and longitude 172 degrees West and 177 degrees East. They were discovered by the navigator Tasman, 1643, but received their collective name, of Friendly Islands from Capt. James Cook.

From the Children's Paper.

I WISH I WERE RICH!

"And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprang up with it, and choked it."—LUKE viii. 6.

"I should like to be rich, very rich!" cried Louisa; "I should like to be as rich as the Queen!"

"Perhaps riches would rather make you better nor happier," quietly observed her uncle, who was busy at his employment as a watchmaker beside her.

"But they would, Uncle; I am quite certain that they would."

"You forget the words we read last night from the Bible, *They that will be rich fall into a snare.*"

"I cannot see how that should be."

"The pleasures and cares of this life, and the deceitfulness of richness, are apt to draw our hearts from God. In the parable, they are described as the thorns which spring up and choke the good seed. We are too much inclined to forget the Giver while enjoying His gifts; this is not the case with all, but it is the case with many."

"I would never forget the Lord because he loaded me with comforts," replied Louisa. "The more I received, the more grateful I would feel. How much good would I do; how many would I make happy! I would build a church one year, and a school-house another;—and—why—there—can it be!—yes,—there is mother herself coming along the lane! Oh! I never thought that she would be back from London till Monday!" and, with a cry of delight, the little girl sprang to the door, to meet and to welcome her mother.

The fond parent had hurried back from London, whither she had been obliged to go upon business. There had been much for her to see,—much to enjoy; friends had urged her to stay, she was weary and needed rest, but the thought of her darling whom she had left at home, drew her, like a magnet, back to Berkshire. She had never before been separated from Louisa, and her dear child had scarcely ever been absent from her thoughts. All that the tender mother saw that was wonderful or beautiful, was stored up in her memory to amuse her daughter. In the gay shops nothing had tempted the kind parent so much as what she thought might give pleasure to her child. And now she felt the dear arms clasped round her neck, she could press her little one close to her heart;—it was enough for her to see her darling,—and she thought of nothing else till Louisa eagerly cried, "and what have you brought me from London, dear mother?"

When the large travelling-bag was produced and opened, a number of books, a packet of clothes, and a few other things, were hastily pulled out by Louisa, impatient to find something more interesting to herself. It must have been a weary business to have carried that great bag from the station, three miles distant! Louisa's search was soon successful.—With repeated exclamations of delight she drew forth a little Dutch doll, with its gay gilt ear-rings; a lemon, enclosing a nest of others, box within box;

a book full of pictures; and two shining fish, with a magret to attract them when floating in water.

"Oh! how beautiful! how charming!" cried Louisa, turning from one thing to another, while her weary mother sat patiently looking on. "Another lemon! I think these funny little boxes never will end;—and oh! I must fetch water for my fish to swim in. Look, Uncle, look! they will turn any way;—just see, I am sure that it will please you!"

"I do see something, Louisa, that does not please me. I see another weary and faint with a long journey and the heat;—no one has even helped her off with her cloak;—no one has set her chair in its place. A cup of tea would refresh her,—no kettle is on the fire: her child has scarcely a word or look to give her!"

"Oh, mamma, mamma," said Louisa, colouring at the reproof; "I was wrong, very wrong; but the truth is, that I was so much taken up,—so much engaged with!"

"The gifts, that the giver was forgotten!" interrupted her uncle, gravely. "This is the case with but too many in this world,—children of a larger growth, playing with grander toys." We should know ourselves well before we dare to affirm that there would be no danger to hearts such as ours in the pleasures of this world and the deceitfulness of riches.

CHRIST AND CHRISTIANITY.

BY JUDGE NOAH—A JEW.

"The death of Jesus was the birth of Christianity; the Gentile Church sprang from the ruins which surrounded its primitive existence; its march was onward, beset with darkness and difficulties, with oppression and persecution, until the sun of the Reformation rose upon it, dissipating the clouds of darkness which had obscured its beauties, and it shone forth with a liberal and tolerant brightness, such as the Great Master had originally designed it.

Had not the event occurred, how would you have been saved from your sins? The Jews, in this, did nothing but what God himself ordained; for you will find it written in the Acts of the Apostles, 'And now, brethren, I know that through ignorance ye did it, as did also your rulers.'

It has been said, and with some commendation on what was called my liberality, that I did not in this discourse, on its first delivery, term Jesus of Nazareth an imposter. I have never considered him such. The imposter generally aims at temporal power, attempts to subsidise the rich and weak believer, and draws around him followers of influence whom he can control. Jesus was free from fanaticism; his was a quiet, subdued, retiring faith; he mingled with the poor, communed with the wretched, avoided the rich, and rebuked the vain-glorious. In the calm of the evening, he sought shelter in the secluded groves of Olivet, or wandered pensively on the shores of Galilee. He sincerely believed in his mission; he courted no one, flattered no one, in his political denunciations, he was pointed and severe; in his religion, calm and subdued. These are not the characteristics of an imposter. But admitting that we give a different interpretation to his mission, when 150,000-000 believe in his divinity, and we see around us abundant evidences of the happiness, good faith, mild government, and liberal feelings, which spring from his religion, what right has any one to call him an imposter? That religion which is calculated to make mankind great and happy cannot be a false one."