

It is of great importance that we should, from time to time, ascend some moral eminence, and cast our eyes over the map of our sin-stricken world. Were we more frequently to take such a survey, we should doubtless be better Christians. We are apt to dwell too much at home, thinking only of ourselves, and of those in our immediate vicinity. The consequence is that our sympathies are circumscribed, and our hearts are contracted. We have met together to-night for the purpose of having our sympathies enlarged, until they catch the spirit of the upper temple—for the purpose of having the strings which bind these contracted hearts of ours, burst in sundry, that they may be expanded to the four corners of heaven. There are many Christians whose sympathies have never been awakened in behalf of a dying world. The epithet, foreign missions, has no place in their vocabulary. We should rather pity, and pray for such, than to censure them. Their defect consists in this: they have gotten into some great hoghead, and are ever looking out at the bung-hole, instead of sitting upon the top of it, and viewing the whole of the landscape round them. And the best of us are too apt to resemble them. But let the past suffice. On the present occasion let us go upon the highest eminence we can find, that we may look over into yonder Eastern world, and other heathen lands, and view the darkness of that night, which has scarcely been penetrated by a single ray from the Sun of Righteousness. What mighty phalanx is that, a mile in width and a hundred miles in length, which is ever moving onward, to yonder awful precipice? It is a mass of immortal beings—beings who have been wreted from the authority of Heaven by that arch fiend, the devil, and who is leading them all to destruction. I wish that we may have something of a realizing, feeling sense of the extent of the great mass of our perishing fellow-men. Think of an oblong square, whose width extends from this house to the Battery, and whose length extends from this city of New York to the city of Philadelphia, and this square filled with human beings as thick as they could conveniently stand and move, and you will catch some little glimpse of the extent of that great mass of heathens who are on the road to the death which dieth not. Phalanx after phalanx of this kind has entered eternity since Christ lifted up his voice and cried "It is finished;" and the astounding cry comes up to us from the bottomless pit, that forty thousand millions—yes, forty thousand millions have since that period been added to the congregation of the lost. The phalanx now on the road to death, consists of six hundred millions. And what are we doing to arrest them in the downward course?—something, yes, blessed be God, something. We have met together to-night to take leave of one, whom we are about to send to tell the heathen of the misery of their condition, and to point out to them the road to Heaven. But what is one? What are a dozen to the great mass? To quote the words which I used on a former occasion—this is like sending one to storm a fort, two to conquer a province, or three to subjugate an empire. Those who have been sent can do nothing more than to make an attack, here and there, on the outer ranks of this great phalanx. The impression, of course, is a most feeble one. We need thousands of young men, who shall run into its very midst, who shall throw the whole of it in disorder, and get them to stand still till they can listen to the message sent to them from the King of Zion. About twenty-five years ago, in conjunction with several others, we left this land for the East. We commenced our spiritual warfare against them, and, with the blessing of God, a few heard our voices, escaped the ranks they were in, and turned their feet to the ways of Heaven. But the great mass are gone, irrecoverably gone. They have fallen from the precipice at the end of the road, to rise no more for ever.—And what is still more appalling, the great mass now on the stage, and those who are to follow them, will meet with the same doom, unless a mighty and vigorous onset be made on their ranks. And how, and by whom, should this onset be made? I answer by the young men of our churches. We must use our utmost exertions to make them give up their merchandise, their law, their medicine, their farms, and other secular pursuits. Those of us who have pious, and otherwise well qualified sons, must dedicate them to this work. We must leave no means untried to induce them to enter

upon it. We should faithfully warn them to beware how they put forth their hands to any secular work, while the vineyard of the Lord lies waste. And now the question comes up. Who that profess to love the Saviour will dedicate their children to this work? As I put the question, you will perhaps be ready to ask, what are my feelings on this point? I answer here is one son, whom I have dedicated to it, and who is about to leave for a foreign land. And here is another, who expects soon to follow him. It may be that I shall never see their faces again. I give them up cheerfully, thankfully, and cordially. It will be time enough for them, and me to meet, and rehearse our joys together, on that world where "adieux and farewells are a sound unknown," and where those parting sounds shall pass our lips no more. May the blessed Redeemer grant us but the privilege of meeting there, to unite with each other in saying, "Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, and has made us kings and priests unto God and his Father, to Him be glory and dominion, for ever and ever!" and it will be enough—enough. But do you ask me respecting my other two sons, who are hopefully pious? I have only to repeat what I have already said. I have dedicated them also to the missionary work, and they have their eyes fixed upon it, determined, if God will spare them, they will preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ. Through these sons I hope to be preaching the gospel when, through grace, my feet shall stand on the battlements of Heaven, and I shall look down to see how goeth the contest between hell and the Lord of Hosts. O, it may be that I shall be one of those ministering spirits, who shall be sent forth to guard those who are heirs of salvation—to guard their spirits, and, if they prove successful in their work, to bear the tidings from earth to Heaven, that another and another soul has been born into the kingdom of grace—tidings which shall bring a new revenue of hallelujahs to the Redeemer, while there is joy among the angels over sinners who have repented.

I have yet four sons. Those also have I offered to the Lord for the same work, and prayed that the Head of the Church would accept of the offering. May they be spared to follow their elder brothers to a heathen land! But what shall I say about my two tender daughters; one of them is the child of my taper age—my little Benjamin? Can I give her up, and her sister also? Yes, through God's grace, I can give them up. The dear companion of my earlier and later years, and myself, are willing to be written childless, if our children, by leaving us, can be made instruments in promoting the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom. I have now, I trust, answered the query which I supposed you might make and would return to the question which I before asked, viz., Who of you will dedicate your children to the missionary work?—*Ibid.*

IRISH WESLEYAN CONFERENCE.—The Wesleyan-Methodist Conference for Ireland is this year held in the city of Dublin. The sittings were to commence June 25th. The preparatory Committees began their work Friday morning, June 21st, at ten o'clock when the Committee of Chairmen met to examine the Finances and Returns of Members. It appears that the funds are better than might have been expected from the state of affairs during the last year; and that the numbers in Society are about 400 more this year than last, besides nearly 600 emigrations. The School Committee met at one o'clock on Friday also, when a resolution was passed, to be brought before the Conference, respecting the adoption of means to extend the schools in Ireland, if possible. A long conversation ensued, in the prospect of establishing a school similar, in some respects, to the one at Sheffield or at Taunton.

CONVERSIONS TO PROTESTANTISM.—The Rev. John O'Brien, late Roman Catholic curate at Kilkeel, made his recantation on Sunday in the parish church of Kilrush, and embraced the Protestant faith. This is the third priest that has abjured the church of Rome, in Ireland, within the last three months—viz., the Rev. Mr. Frost, at Dublin; the Rev. Mr. Burke, at Kilkenny; and the Rev. Mr. O'Brien, at Kilrush. The Rev. Mr. Frost is now preparing at Achil to undertake the duties of a mission in the Protestant Church, into which he brings a name and character void of reproach. A Roman Catholic conformed to the Protestant faith at Newmarket-on-Fergus Church, last Sunday.

MISSIONARIES TO CHINA.—A meeting was held yesterday in the chapel of the brick church (Dr. Spring's) for the purpose of a farewell interview between the members of the Presbyterian Church, and Messrs. Culbertson, Loomis Lloyd, and Hopper, four young Ministers who are sent out by the Board as Missionaries to China. The ship Cohocac, with the Missionaries on board, went to sea this morning.—*N. Y. Express.*

CIVIL INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER CALEDONIA. FIFTEEN DAYS LATER FROM ENGLAND.

By the arrival of this steamship at Boston on the 1st instant, having left Liverpool on the 19th ult., London papers have been received to the 18th, and Liverpool to the 19th. The intelligence is of no special importance. We make the following extracts:—

The subject of the Slave Trade had been brought before the House of Commons by Lord Palmerston.

The House of Lords had not come to any result on the State Prisoners' Trial. Mr. O'Connell has no hopes that the appeal will be successful.

The Parliamentary election in Birmingham terminated in the return of Mr. Spooner, the Conservative candidate.

IRELAND.—The writs of error in which Mr. O'Connell and his six fellow prisoners are plaintiffs, came on for hearing before the House of Lords on the 4th instant. All the law lords, with the exception of Lord Lindsdale, were in the house.

The present military force in Ireland amounts to 26,000 men, independently of enrolled Chelsea out pensioners and armed police.

It is calculated that the O'Connell tribute this year will reach £30,000.

A letter, it is said, has been received by the Commander of the Forces from the Horse Guards, inquiring if it would be safe to withdraw some of the troops from Ireland. The reply was that it would be unsafe to do so until O'Connell's release from prison.

A few weeks ago, the singers and musicians at St. Michael's Church, at Touge, Middleton, near Manchester, turned out for an advance of wages.

The new charter of the Bank of England will be in full operation in the course of a few weeks from the present time.

Her Majesty's ship Childers has arrived at Portsmouth, with a million and a half of dollars, being part of an instalment of the Chinese indemnity money.

The Duke of Norfolk will not permit a bee-house keeper to have employment on his estates. His eldest son, the Earl of Arundel, is a tetter-taller.

Mr. Warner, a watchmaker and jeweller, of London, has completed a working-model of a high-pressure steam-engine, so small that it stands upon a fourpenny piece, with ground to spare.

The Court left Buckingham Palace, for Windsor, on the 10th instant, preparatory to the accouchment of Her Majesty at the Castle.

The King of Saxony was still in England, but was to leave for his Colonies on the 31st of July. He had been on a visit to Liverpool.

STATE OF TRADE IN ENGLAND.—Leeds.—In goods of almost every description, there is not quite so much doing, arising principally from the reduced state of the stocks in the cloth halls, consequent upon the brisk markets of the last week or two, and the thin supply of goods brought to the halls, in consequence of many of the manufacturers being engaged in delivering to order. Prices of low qualities are a shade higher, but fine goods remain steady in price. The demand for shawls and fancy cloakings is on the increase, and scarcely any stock on hand. The foreign houses continue busy, but the last week being the fair week, the houses connected with the home trade were, as is usual, rather slack, but on the whole there is a fair amount of business doing in the ware-houses.

Manchester.—Commercial news not being very favourable, at least as regards this district, either for India or China, it has had the effect of making the manufacturers anxious sellers for some kinds of cloth; indeed prices have not been maintained for fabrics usually shipped for those parts.