

ing those 215 years there were but four generations of men,—taking the term generation in Gen. 15 : 16, in the ordinary sense of the word, as denoting the life of a man. And then he says: "From this it can be shown, beyond a doubt, that it was quite impossible there could have been such a number of the people of Israel in Egypt, at the time of the Exodus, as to have furnished 600,000 warriors in the prime of life, representing, at least, two millions of persons of all ages and sexes." The difficulty lies in putting a wrong construction on the passage in Gen. 15 : 16, and limiting the generations to four, instead of taking them as they are found represented in the Bible, amounting to seven and eight, and, in some cases, as we shall presently see, even nine. Others besides Colenso have erred here, and fallen into great confusion. But put a right construction on all parts of the word, and harmony will be restored; all will be natural, clear and consistent.

15. The great increase of the children of Israel in Egypt. Colenso professes to be greatly stumbled at all this. But there is no difficulty in it. He commits two errors in his calculations, hence his fallacious results. He starts with the position that there were only 51 productive persons in the first generation in Egypt. But we have a right to count Dinah and Serah, as well as all the known grandsons and great grandsons of Jacob, which will make 58, instead of 51. But to prevent objections, we may drop Dinah, as she was a little up in years. She might not have any children; but Serah was young. Second, Colenso represents the families of Israel as increasing in Egypt only at the rate of $4\frac{1}{2}$ for each generation. This is prodigiously incorrect. It is a shameful disregard of the account which the sacred historian gives of the great fruitfulness of that people in the land of Egypt. Ex. 1. 7, it is said, "They were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty, and the land was filled with them." This language compels us to suppose, that they increased at the rate of 8 or 10 for every generation, instead of $4\frac{1}{2}$. In Egypt they not only had the promise and blessing of God, but their physical

condition there was much more favourable for promoting a rapid increase in population. But I am disposed to rate it no higher than it is in our own day among ourselves, in a new country. In my own immediate neighbourhood, there are ten families including my own, in each of which there are not less than eight children; and in some of them eleven, twelve and thirteen, and in one as many as nineteen. I cannot then make the increase in Egypt less than eight to each family at an average. Third, Colenso assumes that there were but four generations in Egypt. This is not only grossly absurd, but in direct opposition to the plainest declarations. He multiplies his number 51 by $4\frac{1}{2}$ four times and it gives about 24,000 instead of 600,000 and he says behold the discrepancy! But take right data as above, that is multiply 57 by 8 seven times,—7 being a medium between the greatest and smallest number of known families,—and what do we get? upwards of 14 millions!! Seven times more than sufficient to furnish Colenso's 600,000 warriors.

Bishop Colenso presents two or three more more objections against the Pentateuch in as many separate chapters; but they are all virtually answered in the preceding remarks.

This is particularly the case with respect to "the priests and their duties at the Celebration of the Passover." And with respect to the "War in Midian," discussed in his last chapter, the only difficulty he finds in that is one of his own making.

SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENTS USED BY MISSIONARIES.

Nothing is more puzzling to the Hindu than the revelations of the Microscope and of the Telescope, Science in both cases conflicts so conclusively with false religion. The Missionaries often excite and gratify curiosity in order to pave the way for the truth. The Rev. Mr. Slobbrel relates the following instance in reference to the chief of Lamba, a district in Rajpootana:

'Next day, true to his appointment, he returned with a considerable following of his chief men, all on the *qui vive* to see the promised scientific wonders. First, Dr.