

least, it is customary to worship the ancestors of the family, which ceremony was performed on the occasion referred to. But among those present was a little girl who was seen not to bow in worship with the rest, and when asked the reason, she said that she was a Christian, and, therefore, could not worship any but the true God. If I mistake not, she was only a servant in the family; but, be that as it may, she was turned out of the house on account of her refusal to deny her Lord. Who knows but the humble faithfulness of this little maid may have been instrumental in leading this young man to the truth, for he, too, has now taken upon him the service of Christ.

But to return to my subject, after the Sabbath referred to above, the attendance at our English Bible-class gradually dwindled, until now there is not one left who gives any hope of better things. Perhaps I failed to present the truth in the right light; and yet, I must say, I tried prayerfully to say what I thought would please the Master, and I tried to say it kindly.

Now, I must confess I find myself at the end of this letter very far from where I expected to be when I started, and so I will have to postpone the telling of a brighter story to my next letter, trusting, however, that there may be something in this rambling one which will not be altogether unprofitable.

Facts and Illustrations.

PRAYER is not the conquering of God's reluctance, but the taking hold of God's willingness.—*Phillips Brooks.*

INDIA is ten times larger than Japan; China nearly three times as large as India, and Africa twice as large as India and China combined.

AT Lucknow, where so many were murdered during the Sepoy rebellion thirty years ago, 2,000 children, nearly all of Hindoo Mohammedan parentage, recently marched in a Sunday-school procession.

A HOLY life spent in the service of God and in communion with Him is, without doubt, the most pleasant and comfortable life that any man can live in this world.—*Melancthon.*

MEASURE by man desires, he cannot live long enough; measure by his good deeds, and he has not lived long enough; measure by his evil deeds, and he has lived too long.—*Zimmerman.*

THE superintendent of papal missions in Brazil recently said, in private, that there is very little true Christianity in Brazil, and that after Rome has had undisputed sway three hundred years. So it is wherever she has had such sway.

DR. MACKAY, missionary on the island of Formosa, writes:—"Fourteen years ago I arrived here. All was dark around. Idolatry was rampant. The people were bitter toward any foreigner. There were no churches, no hospitals, no students, no friends. Fourteen years of toil have passed away. Yesterday, 1,273 rejoiced in singing praises to the Lord God Almighty."

THERE are twenty asylums for lepers in India, most of them maintained by different missions, and some by the Government.

SAYS Dr. Talmage:—"The world is going on toward six o'clock in the morning instead of six o'clock at night. Instead of listening to the night-hawk and the whip-poor-will on the edge of the darkening wood, let us be watching for the getting up of the lark. Stand out of our way with your soporifics, and give us a few drops of double-distilled exhilaration. We pitch our tents toward the sunrising."

THE Bishop of Exeter has made a rule that hereafter all candidates for orders shall pass an examination in the history of some foreign mission. If lack of interest results, as it often does, from ignorance of missionary work, the remedy will be sufficient, and we hope some day to see the bishop's example followed in many other dioceses.

IN all the Buddhist temples a tall and broad-leaved lily stands directly on the front of the altar. Its idea is as beautiful as its workmanship. It represents that just as the pure white flower may grow out of mire and filth, and blossom into loveliness, so may the heart of man raise itself above the wickedness and corruption of the world into a state of spotless purity.

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