

"But why do you talk so much of Egbalus, dear Hiram?" she asked, as she drew him to her side upon the divan. Egbalus is only a priest, not even a prince. And you have often said you did not even believe in the priests. Why care for what you do not believe in?"

(To be continued.)

THE MISSIONARY WORLD.

THE MISSIONARY CHURCH OF BELGIUM.

No one who has been in Belgium can fail to have been struck with the great work which is being done there by its brave little Protestant Church. In no other country in the world probably are more decided inroads being made on the Church of Rome, and in no other country are the converts more satisfactory. We commend to our readers the following abstract of the annual report which has been made for us by a friend:—

"Strangers coming to Belgium must be struck with the fact that our work is not spread over the country, but confined only to the large centres of the population. This is explained by the inadequate resources of the Society, which is dependent solely on the generosity of Christian brethren. A great loss has been felt by the withdrawal of the annual grant of 2,500 francs by the Presbyterian Committee in New York, who finds it impossible to continue the gift. In spite of commercial disadvantages, strikes, etc., the Churches in Belgium have contributed more than usual; nevertheless the deficit is considerable and threatens to paralyze activity.

"The field of labour is growing. We have now twenty-five pastors, who are not equal to their amount of work.

"Our first station is at Namur. For thirty-three years work has been carried on with small results. Now, however, as there is a resident pastor, reports are more encouraging. Round about Charleroi, chiefly a mining district, the Gospel is favourably received. The Church there will celebrate next year its fiftieth anniversary. It has fourteen hundred members and eleven out-stations. Results would be much more considerable were there a sufficient number of workers in this vast and promising field; until last year only one pastor; a few months ago came a second to help him. The respect which the miners show for the Gospel is most encouraging. Funerals afford us the best opportunity for addressing the people. Last winter, on one occasion, over a thousand Roman Catholics followed the procession to the cemetery, and listened with deep interest to the pastor. The chief element of prosperity in the Churches of the Charleroi district is the missionary activity displayed by young men and women of the Christian Associations. In Mons our pastor has open-air meetings, which have been most successful. In Brussels work is carried on in the Flemish and French languages. Anvers and Gand, the two large industrial cities, are as inaccessible as Brussels. Popery and incredulity still have the upper hand there. At Ostend things are more encouraging. Many a time we are tempted to give up the work in the Flemish provinces, where our labours produce so few results. However, many remarkable instances of conversion, caused by the sole reading of the Bible, encourage us to persevere. At Spa there is a pretty church endowed by foreigners, which seems to make us feel the urgent needs of other districts all the more. Still this station promises to become the basis of evangelization round about. In this part of the country missionary activity is the principal feature of our work. We make excursions round about, and seek to spread the Gospel, assisted largely by our young men.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

"The number of them is now fifty-eight. We have twenty-one missionary schools, attended by 597 scholars, chiefly Roman Catholics. We have five Thursday schools held in winter, having chiefly the character of missionary schools. Our Sunday schools are a great source of blessing to our Churches—through the children many parents are brought to accept the Gospel. The annual Christmas treat is also an important institution, attended by great numbers of outsiders.

"Two of our pastors have informed us that our tracts take the place of books among the lower classes, who are too poor to procure such. We are specially anxious that those who distribute tracts should do so in a spirit of wisdom and love, preparing those who receive them by words of advice and instruction. Two members of one of our Churches went out regularly to hold meetings, and made a point of distributing each time a hundred tracts. Whilst the one was thus engaged the other prayed fervently that each tract might be accompanied by a blessing, and took this turn about. We think this an example worthy of imitation. We are specially obliged to the London Tract Society for supplying our depot whose provisions were exhausted.

"Our principal reader is fixed at Brussels. He assists the pastor in visiting the members in the suburbs. Thirty-eight Catholic families are his special care.

"Our colporteurs are continually hearing, 'The priest forbids us to read the Bible; he has burned it.' Nevertheless the forbidden book is bought. 'The priest has given me a mass-book,' says a woman, 'which is beautiful outside, but contains nothing for my soul,' and she buys another copy. Elsewhere a priest goes up to the pulpit, and, holding one of our tracts in his hands, says: 'This man has poisoned the whole village with these books, which must be burned.' What can become of a people surrounded by incredulity on the one side and the mortal enemies of the Bible on the other?"

THE CONGO FREE STATE AND ITS MISSIONS.

There is ground for the statement in the English press that the King of the Belgians has informed the Pope that the Roman Catholic form of Christianity is to be the recognized religion of the Free State, and that His Majesty has placed his African dominions under the direct protection of the Virgin Mary, as the patron saint of the Free State. Gratifying as this will be to His Holiness, it is not supposed that it causes any anxiety to the English Protestant missionaries who have for many years had flourishing missions on the Congo. King Leopold is well disposed to these worthy men, a proof of which has been shown in asking one of the leaders in that region—Rev. George Grenfell—to become a member of the Belgian Commission for the delimitation of the boundary between the Free State and Portuguese territory in the Lunda country. Mr. Grenfell has accepted the invitation, and shortly leaves England for the Congo. The landmarks between the respective territories will doubtless be soon arranged. It is not intended that Mr. Grenfell should take the new missionary steamer, the *Goodwill*. This will follow the missionary in sections, and will be put together on the Congo, where it must become a valuable addition in assisting missionaries and carrying cargoes.

Though slavery is passing away for a considerable distance up the Congo, Mr. Grenfell speaks in sorrowful terms of the ravages of the "infamous drink traffic" caused by the white man. In reducing the natives to a wreck mentally, physically and morally, Mr. Grenfell said it was an open question whether the horrors of slavery were not less disastrous than the terrible consequences of the drinking habits. They now knew 6,000 miles of river, or a coast line of about 12,000 miles in Central Africa, which gave them access to scores of villages and towns on the banks and their vicinity. In combating the darkest mass of heathendom that the world knew, Mr. Grenfell believes the burden of it will have to be done by the native converts, of whom so many were bravely responding to the need. This was one of the most encouraging features of the work.

THE ANTI-FOREIGN RIOTS IN CHINA.

To help dispel the native misapprehensions regarding what is done in mission schools and hospitals, it is now stated that British and other missionary bodies are being urged to adopt rules for the guidance of their members in China. It is a common native belief that the eyes and other organs of the dead are taken by Europeans for the purpose of making certain medicines. For the same use children are supposed to be stolen and killed. The kernel of this rumour proceeds from the fact that missionary bodies, especially the French sisterhoods, take in the little waifs and strays of Chinese cities, and give them shelter and education. In order to overcome, if possible, the ignorance and prejudice of the Chinese mobs, there is a proposal on foot that all missionaries—principally those superintending hospitals, schools and founding institutions—should, on a death occurring, communicate with a local officer to make an enquiry, and likewise allow the institutions to be open at any time to the inspection of Chinese officials. When the scheme is submitted to the missionary societies there is no doubt that they will readily adopt it. Certain representative missionary committees have suggested the plan and discussed it with the consuls. When it is put into practical form it will tend to remove the fanatical notions that there is anything to screen in connection with the institutions which have rendered invaluable aid to thousands of dying Chinese orphans and homeless little ones.

CHINA INLAND MISSION.

Still leading the crusade in China in the modern revival of missions, this enterprising society bade farewell to a party of twenty-six outgoing missionaries in London on September 21. Some of these devoted servants formed a response to the appeal from the Shanghai Conference for a thousand missionaries to China during the next five years. The stations of the mission have been mercifully preserved from the recent outbreaks. Among the lady missionaries were Miss Mina Sundstrom, from Finland; Miss Sekina Storhang, from Norway; and Miss Eugenie C. Hilbold, from Strasburg. Four of the departing missionaries had been members of the Rev. Archibald G. Brown's Church, including his own daughter, Miss Eleanor M. Brown. Intense enthusiasm, the outcome of unceasing prayer, marked the whole proceedings.

DR. GLOVER ON MISSIONS IN CHINA.

Speaking of the "Needs and Claims of China" before the Baptist Union in Manchester, the Doctor gave some of the impressions which he had received from a recent visit to that great Eastern empire. He remarked that the creed of the Chinaman was in brief, "I believe in man"; meaning by that the existence and worship of man and in the claims of man on man. The success of missions in that country was real. It was greatest in the country districts, where family life was purest; less successful in the cities; still less in the ports; least of all in the treaty ports. In the north and south among every class it was visible, and its dimensions were very striking. There were nearly 40,000 converts in China, who have been gathered together in forty years, in spite of contempt, hatred and misconceptions at once awful, heart-breaking and heart-wearying. More men and more women were urgently required to spread the work.

PERSIA.

Missionary Horberg (Lutheran) writes that the pupils of his Bible class on Saturday afternoons and on Sundays visit the neighbouring villages and speak to the people about religious matters. About twenty villages have been visited. The missionary recently visited the poorer village near Tabriz, and preached to the unfortunate people, who begged him to come again. One of the most cheering signs reported is interest among laymen in volunteer effort. Two from Persia are physicians, good men, full of the Holy Ghost and of faith. They support their families by their profession, but find time to make tours and do the work of evangelists for whole weeks at their own charges. Four others own property in vineyards, and spend all their time beyond what is necessary to attend to their property in direct work for souls. A young Mussulman girl was brought into a missionary home in Hamadan, Persia, as a seamstress, and, becoming interested in seeing other girls read, applied for admission to the school. Her family and friends hearing of it, forced her to leave, but not until the Bible had become familiar to her. A young man, who had remained unmarried because he could not find a Christian wife, heard of her, and through friends, according to Persian custom, a marriage was arranged. The ceremony was first performed in Persian, but afterwards the couple came to the missionary's home and were married in Christian form.

AFRICA.

Missionaries who have gone to labour among the ten millions of the Balolos, on the Upper Congo, report the region to be healthy. A missionary at the Lolongo station writes: "Only one lady here has suffered from fever since our arrival, fourteen months ago, three of us have enjoyed wonderful good health. The combined fevers of all three of us may perhaps have lasted twenty-four hours."

ANY subscriber sending us \$4.00 for two new names can renew his own subscription for 1892 for one dollar. It is expected that many old friends will take advantage of this offer. Send us \$5.00 for two new names and the renewal of your own for 1892.

THERE are thousands of our present subscribers who can, without any trouble to themselves, secure two new names, thus extend the circulation of their favourite family journal, and at the same time get the above reduction for themselves.

THE Rev. J. F. W. Grant, M.A., of St. Stephens, Edinburgh, conducted divine service in Balraoral on a recent Sabbath, and was invited to dine with the Queen.

HEADACHES, dimness of vision, partial deafness, hawking and spitting invariably result from catarrh, which may be cured by the use of Nasal Balm. It has cured others, why not you?

THE Rev. William Lauder, of Port Glasgow, has attained his ministerial jubilee. Dr. Black, of Glasgow, was the preacher on a recent Sabbath at special services.

CATARRH

In the head,
Is a constitutional
Disease, and requires
A constitutional remedy
Like Hood's Sarsaparilla,
Which purifies the blood,
Makes the weak strong,
Restores health.
Try it now.

PLACE a guard on your lips, but in a penholder place one of Esterbrook's smooth writing pens.

MOULTON LADIES' COLLEGE.—This excellent Institution, at 24 Bloor Street East, Toronto, founded by Mrs. William McMaster some four years ago, is unequalled in the Province. Special attention is given to art, under the charge of Mrs. Digman, and superior advantages are afforded in music. Students are taken through full college and matriculation courses. Under the principalship of Miss Adelaide L. Smiley and an able staff of teachers the whole work is carried on under Christian influences and is veritably a "healthful Christian home."

INTELLIGENT PATRIOTISM

Is what *The Youth's Companion* is aiming at in its plan for a gigantic chain of debating clubs called the Lyceum League of America. This gives practical direction to the ardour of the school-flag movement, started by the same paper.

DR. T. A. SLOCUM'S

OXYGENIZED EMULSION of PURE COD LIVER OIL. If you have a Cough—Use it. For sale by all druggists. 35 cents per bottle.

C. C. RICHARDS & Co.

Gents.—We consider MINARD'S LINIMENT the best in the market, and cheerfully recommend its use.

J. H. HARRIS, M.D.,
Bellevue Hospital.

F. U. ANDERSON, M.D.,
L. R. C. S., Edinburgh.
M.R.C.S., England.

H. D. WILSON, M.D.,
Uni. of Penn.

FITS—All fits stopped free by Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. No fits after first day's use. Marvellous cures. Treatise and \$2.00 trial bottle free to fit cases. Send to Dr. Kline, 931 Arch St., Phila., Pa.