

A NEW DAY.

Another page of life,
Is opened unto me;
O blessed Spirit, write thereon,
What seemeth best to Thee.

Write lovely acts of love;
Write holy thoughts of praise;
Yea, write a copy, bright and clear,
Of one of Jesus' days.

And every mark of mine,
O, wash it, wash it white;
Let nothing on the page appear,
But words that Thou dost write.

And then, lest some should miss
Whence all the sweetness came,
When Thou hast written all the rest,
Write underneath Thy name.
Times of Refreshing.

FIELD STUDY FOR JULY.

Our subjects for prayer are: The extinction of the Liquor and Opium traffics, and all covetous hindrances to Christianity.

The history of the liquor trade in Africa makes us blush with shame. Africans are weak in will power, ignorant, like grown up children, and owing to climatic influences alcohol has a most deadly effect on them.

That the duty of Christian nations to protect from evil this weaker brother is surely plain.

Some natives seeing how their people were being destroyed by rum, tried to shut it out, but British, German, Dutch, or American traders must be protected in their rights; in other words it is a very profitable source of income to the governments, which they decline to forgo.

The Queen of Madagascar tried to protect her people by a heavy import tax, but the British Consul enforced a reduction of the duty, as it interfered with British commerce.

The pictures of drunkenness, with its results in vice and degradation, in the Congo District, and in British Africa, given by eye witnesses, are too dreadful to reproduce here. In some of the mining districts it is said "Boys and girls of fourteen and fifteen receive their wages in rum, and there are parts of the country in which there is practically no other currency." In one year in Kimberly 580 natives were picked up dead from the effects of liquor."

In one week vessels entered at the port of Madeira with consignments of liquor for Africa valued at \$5,230,000. Compare these figures with the yearly income of the Missionary society of the great Methodist Episcopal church or any other large Missionary Society.

In India there is a distillery system by which the government owns and runs large distilleries.

Some idea may be gained of their own opinion of the product, by the fact that English soldiers were not allowed to touch it, and those who dare to supply them are heavily fined.

However, a large revenue is raised, and for the same reason the opium trade is encouraged and pushed, forced on unwilling China and working such evil that her great missionary Hudson Taylor says: "Opium does more harm in a week than all our Christian Missionaries are doing good in a year."

The pitiable state of the victims who have come under the care of our Missionaries in West China, bears out this statement.

In Canada when the prospects of prohibition are discussed it is said: "If people think it is going to cost them anything they won't vote for it." There is indeed need to pay to be "delivered from the sin of covetousness."
E. A. D.

For these facts we are indebted to Mrs. Thornley's leaflet.

QUESTIONS FOR JULY.

What is our prayer subject this month?

Why should we blush for the liquor trade in Africa?

Why do the Africans especially need protection from these evils?

Whose duty is it to protect them?

Tell who tried to shut rum out of the country; what governments prevented it and why?

How did the Queen of Madagascar try to protect her people and what prevented that?

What is said of the results of drunkenness in Africa. Give two illustrations?

What was the value of one week's consignment of liquor for Africa at the port of Madeira? Does that compare well with the yearly proceeds of our Missionary Societies?

What has the English government to do with the distillery system in India.

What remarkable fact shows the officials' opinion of it?

What does the great missionary, Hudson Taylor say in regard to China and the Opium trade?

Have our own Missionaries seen anything of this?

What is said in Canada when prohibition is discussed?

What should be our daily prayer for ourselves and for others?

At the opening of the century there were but few translations of the Bible in existence; now there are over three hundred. Its circulation is now permitted throughout the entire world. One hundred and fifty thousand copies of the New Testament were distributed to the soldiers in the China Japanese war. The Chinese version of the New Testament has been taken into the Imperial palace at Peking, and the Bible now heads the list of books sold in Italy.