

When shall we reach that soft blue shore,
O'er the dark strait whose billows foam and roar ?
When shall we come to thee,
Calm land beyond the Sea ?

The land beyond the Sea !
How close it often seems,
When flushed with evening's peaceful gleams ?
And the wistful heart looks over the strait and dreams !
It longs to fly to thee
Calm land beyond the Sea !

The land beyond the Sea !
Sometimes distinct and near
It grows upon the eye and ear.
And the gulf narrows to a threadlike mere ;
We seem half-way to thee,
Calm land beyond the Sea !

The land beyond the Sea !
Sometimes across the strait,
Like a drawbridge to a castle-gate,
The slanting sunbeams lie, and seem to wait
For us to pass to thee,
Calm land beyond the Sea !

The land beyond the Sea !
Oh how the lapsing year,
'Mid our not unsubmitive tears
Have borne, now singly, now in fleets, the biers
Of those we love, to thee
Calm land beyond the Sea !

The land beyond the Sea !
How dark our present home !
By the dull beach and sullen foam
How wearily, how drearily we roam.
With arms outstretched to thee,
Calm land beyond the Sea !

The land beyond the Sea !
When will our toil be done ?
Slow-footed years ! more swiftly run
Into the gold of that unsetting sun !
Homesick we are for thee,
Calm land beyond the Sea !

2. THE EMPRESS EUGENIE AT A PENITENTIARY.

A letter from Lisle gives the subjoined details :—When the Empress went to the prison of Loos her Majesty visited the Penitentiary in its most minute details, inquiring into everything—the sanitary state, dietary system, and the general spirit of the inmates ; nothing indeed escaped her investigations. The Empress excited astonishment at the precision and multiplicity of her questions on the most varied subjects, hygiene, discipline, and administration—discussing everything with equal competency and solicitude. The young prisoners, who, knowing her Majesty's kindness of heart and charity, had given her a most hearty welcome on her arrival, were astonished to see so high a personage descend to all those details ; they pressed around her and endeavoured to touch her dress, while their looks showed even better than any applause could do how grateful they were to see the Empress interesting herself in their welfare and recommended that nothing should be neglected for their improvement. The Imperial visitor in examining the dormitories turned down several of the beds to ascertain the state of the linen. One of them being badly made, the sheets being too short, her Majesty observed it, and joining example to precept, remade the bed with the precision of an accomplished housewife. The folding of the sheets would have done honour to a pupil at St. Cyr, where the dormitories are models of the kind. The Empress did not confine herself to receiving several petitions presented to her by inmates whose good conduct proved their repentance, and promising to mediate for them with the Emperor, but also conversed at length with some of them. "You were at La Roquette?" she said to one lad, laying her hand on his shoulder. "Yes, Madame." "How much longer have you yet to remain?" "Six months." "And where will you go when you leave this place?" "To Paris." "No, do not go to Paris, you will again meet with the bad acquaintances who led you astray ; if you promise not to return there, I will try

the week's school-work is finished, as a means of agreeable recreation to both pupil and teacher. Several teachers have followed this plan for several years with most gratifying success.

to obtain your release earlier." I have no need to add that the lad gave his word, and ran off shouting, "*Vive l'Impératrice !*" with all his might, to announce the news to his comrades. "And you," said the Empress to a boy of 15, "what have you done to be here!" The young delinquent blushed, looked down, and remained silent. "Come," said her Majesty, laughing and laying her arm on his shoulder, "come with me apart, I will confess you, and will not say a word to any one." The Empress then walked aside with the lad, and when she returned a minute or two later, her companion was in tears. Her Majesty shook him by the hand, and he went away with his head more erect, and no longer despairing of his own reformation.

3. MR. GEORGE MULLER'S "SCRIPTURAL KNOWLEDGE INSTITUTION."

Under this title, a work has been doing at Bristol, since 1834, which, we believe, is without a parallel in the history of Christian enterprise. Besides providing for 1,150 orphans, the institution aids or supports entirely a large number of missionaries, in every part of the world, and all without any reliance on regular subscriptions, the income being the gift of thousands of people at home and abroad, in answer to faith and prayer. In the report last issued, Mr. Muller says on this point : "We have very few regular donors, though there are some that give, at certain times ; but not one-fiftieth part of our current expenses are thus met. But even if these few regular donors, were now asked for money—may, more, suppose that any donations, being obtained or not, were to depend upon my reminding the donor, though by doing so, even thousands of pounds were thus to be had, it would never be done, *because it is not the money I seek*, but the money sent from you, through the willing, cheerful givers, unasked for, on which I depend. And have I been a loser in this way ? Verily not. The work has been wide and more enlarged ; and the Lord has laid it at the hearts of His stewards to send me more and more."

And most wonderful have been the amounts received this way. "From the commencement of the work in 1834," says Mr. Muller, "up to 1866, I have received altogether three hundred and twenty-six thousand pounds. By this amount nearly sixteen thousand children or grown persons have been taught in the various schools entirely supported by the institution. More than thirty-eight thousand Bibles, above twenty-nine thousand Testaments, and above four thousand Psalms, and other smaller portions of the holy Scriptures in several languages, have been circulated ; and nearly twenty-seven millions of tracts and books, likewise in several languages, have been circulated. There have been also from the commencement missionaries assisted out of the funds of the institution, about one hundred and twenty in number. On this object alone more than sixty-five thousand seven hundred pounds have been spent. Two thousand orphans have been under our care ; three large houses at an expense of £60,000 have been erected, fitted up, and furnished, with a considerable sum in hand towards the building of two more houses for eight hundred and fifty orphans. As to the spiritual good that has resulted, God alone can say how much has been accomplished, but so far as results have come to our own knowledge, we have most abundant cause of thanksgiving."—*Christian Times*.

4. CAUSES OF SUCCESS AND FAILURE IN LIFE.

A writer in the *Saturday Review* remarks :—"The essence of practical wisdom is to take the world as we find it and make the best of it. The man who never felt envy can hardly have felt emulation—that is to say, one of the most valuable antagonist forces to sloth and frivolity which we possess. A mind of any toughness of fibre soon selects, among its contemporaries and rivals, those who are likely to run it hard in the race of life. A few qualms of envy do not work much harm at the beginning ; they sting the languid energies into vigorous activity. But no wise man continues to harbor envy, under any pretence or provocation as a settled inmate of his bosom. It soon ceases to stimulate, and then its action is only to numb. Nothing but the most insensate vanity can lead a man to seek for triumphs in many, perhaps in more than one or two, provinces of genuine work. To accept your inferiority as your proper portion in all but your own domain is rapidly seen to be the merest common sense. But what, it may be asked, if you are beaten on your own ground ? The answer is that, if you are beaten shamefully and hopelessly, it is not your ground at all, and that vanity, not power ; aspiration, not inspiration, had led you to enter it. Your failures may be made your most precious instructors, if you are not too conceited to let them teach you. And the best way to look at your friends' successes and laurels is to consider them outward proof that these persons have, either by luck or good management, found their appropriate work, which you are sure to do if you are humble and courageous enough to unweariedly seek it. They