

them the priceless treasures of the cargo. The *Illustrated News* had another Patagonian picture, representing the presentation of a medal granted by the King of Italy to the chief for his services to the wrecked Italian vessel. I may seem to dwell too long on this subject, but I must add that when an English squadron touched at Banner Cove three years ago a distinguished naval officer reported "that a crew of six natives came out, the men as well dressed and as well trained as our own sailors." No wonder Darwin exclaimed on hearing this, "The missionary's lesson is an enchanter's wand." I have given the details of this Mission at some length as I wish to show the interest that can gather round such a distant and unattractive part of the Mission field; but this interest is multiplied tenfold when we think of the thickly peopled plains of India, the teeming millions of China, the recently awakened Japanese, the numerous tribes of Africa, the many islanders of the Pacific, the red men of our own broad Canada; for among all these tribes and tongues the pioneers of Church work are carrying on their self-sacrificing and self-denying labors.

(To be continued.)

### Books and Periodicals Dept.

"Robert Moffat, the Missionary Hero," By David J. Deane, Toronto, Willard Tract Depository. Price, 50 cents.

This is the second book of a missionary series of publications by the Willard Tract Society, Toronto. The first, *William Carey*, was noticed in our columns last December. The life of Robert Moffat affords abundant instances of the bravery, perseverance, patience and fidelity requisite for the missionary to a savage people. He arrived in Cape Town, Africa, on the 13th of January, 1817, and commenced work among the tribes of South Africa. Long and wearisome were the journeys which he took through deep sand and trackless deserts, only to encounter difficulties enough to discourage an army of men; but an unbounded faith and undaunted will upheld him in his work. His adventures with a native chief Africaner read like a leaf from a story book. In the year 1819 Mary Smith, to whom he had been affianced in England, joined him in Africa, and on the 27th of December was married to him and proved an able assistant to the zealous missionary. Their little girl Mary, born shortly afterwards, became in after years the wife of the famous Dr. Livingstone.

Difficulties are encountered in proclaiming the doctrines of Christianity amongst savage tribes that are scarcely thought of till attempted. For instance, the doctrine of the resurrection of the dead filled one African chief with dismay, because he thought of the numbers he himself had killed. It was no pleasant thought to him, till better instructed, to have to encounter all these again.

Long years of apparent failure greeted Moffat's

first attempts at missionary work, the cause of which was first suggested by his wife. He had not yet attempted to speak to the people in their own tongue, and he at once set about learning their language. This involved a lonely residence among the savages themselves, but in due time he was rewarded for his labors. His great life work was the translation of the entire Bible into Sechwana, a work prosecuted under great difficulties. "Many a time," he tells us, "I have sat down with pen in hand to write a verse, the correct rendering of which I had just arrived at with much labor, when one enters my study with some complaint he has to make, or counsel to ask, or medical advice and medicine to boot, a tooth to be extracted, a subscription to be measured or counted,"—and so on, with various other calls and interruptions; but at last he had the satisfaction of completing the whole work, and to him, indeed, it was a satisfaction almost beyond description.

This intrepid missionary continued his work till he was seventy-two years old and then, in 1870, returned with his wife to England, and was heartily welcomed by all, and especially by the London Missionary Society. When the unfortunate Zulu king, Cetewayo, was in England, Mr. Moffat was greatly interested in him. One of his attendants recognized the missionary and shewed unbounded delight at meeting him.

In 1883, having reached his eighty-eighth year, Mr. Moffat died, and was followed to the grave by many men of honored names.

"The Missionary Review of the World." Published by FUNK & WAGNALLS, 18 and 20 Astor Place, New York. \$2.00 per year; 25 cents per single number.

This Review is unsectarian, independent and world-wide in its scope. It presents the facts and results and operations of missions all over the world. It has editorial correspondents at every great centre and gives the latest information from every field. It makes a specialty of statistics, and aims at giving, classified and tabulated, the entire missionary statistics of the world from authentic sources, which will be invaluable to every pastor and friend of missions. "It is the grandest and most inspiring of all missionary publications," says *The Christian at Work*.

The *Mission Field*, published by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and the *Church Missionary Gleaser*, published by the Church Missionary Society, have both been enlarged and afford to their readers considerably more reading matter than of old. The new cover of the "Mission Field" is exceedingly handsome.

The "American Magazine" (130 and 132 Pearl street, New York) generally has some interesting article on Canadian affairs. The January Number gives a useful and attractive article on Cape Breton Island, and the February Number a similar description of the Hudson Bay, the "Inland Ocean of the North." It is a valuable periodical.