

contributing to funds, but personally seeks out in homes of wretchedness those whom she aids.

An "all-day meeting," for prayer and exhortation in reference to foreign missions, is announced to be held in the Conference Hall, Mildmay-park, on Friday, April 13. The leading missionary societies approve of the design of the meeting, and it is intended as preliminary to a conference to be convened in 1878—similar in character to the great Missionary Conference held in Liverpool in 1860.

As a representative man, the death of Mr. George Odger claims a record in our "Note-book." His illness was long and painful, and terminated in death on Sunday, March 4. His funeral was attended by many thousands of mourners, amongst whom were several M.P.'s, who followed in procession, led by several brass bands, which played the "Dead March in Saul." As far as the eye could reach along Broad-street, Bloomsbury, was a dense mass of people, cabs, and conveyances of various kinds. He was interred at Brompton Cemetery—the Rev. G. M. Murphy, Professor Beesly, and Mr. Fawcett, M.P., taking part in the proceedings at the grave. With his politics we have nothing to do, but his general conduct often elicited the respect of his opponents. Born in 1820, in humble life, his education was severely neglected, but, like many others of his craft (that of shoemaker), he imbibed a taste for reading and reflection; and with good natural abilities, made good use of his scanty opportunities, and became a fair sample of self-culture. He successfully contested the boroughs of Chelsea, Stafford, and Southwark.

The presentation of "Uncle Tom" (the Rev. Josiah Henson) to Her Majesty, at Windsor Castle on Monday, March 5, was a source of much gratification to the old hero, as it also afforded much pleasure to the Queen, who presented him with a photograph, signed, "Victoria, Reg., 1877," and mounted in a handsome ormolu frame. Mr. Henson was accompanied by his wife and Mr. J. Lobb, editor of the *Christian Age*. He will shortly return to Canada, the object of his visit to this country having been accomplished, about £1,400 having been raised to release his property and school from their heavy mortgage.

The following is the most recent table of the numerical strength of the various religions into which mankind is at present divided:—Protestants, 89,000,000; Romanists, 70,000,000; Greek Church, 76,000,000; Jews, 5,000,000; Mohammedans, 160,000,000; Heathen, 798,000,000—Total, 288,000,000.

The introduction of the art of printing into England, 400 years ago, by William Caxton, will be celebrated this year. A loan exhibition will be held in Stationers' Hall. It will be opened on Monday, June 11, and will close on Saturday, June 23. Caxton's works, together with numerous antiquities and appliances connected with the art of printing, ancient and modern, books, periodicals, newspapers, etc., etc., will be exhibited. Caxton was buried in St. Margaret's, Westminster, near by the Abbey and the Houses of Parliament, in the neighbourhood of which—probably the Almonry—the first press was established.

## OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

WHY will publishers persist in issuing books with all the edges uncut? We have just been reading a volume by the Rev. J. H. Thomson, of Eaglesham, and as the size is small and the type large, we have been compelled to cut the paper-knife every few minutes, thereby spoiling the text and our appreciation of it. "A word to the wise," etc. Mr. Thomson tells very pleasantly and instructively his reminiscences of visits to the graves of many of Scotland's noblest of martyrs, and he brings to his task the zeal and search of the antiquary, the precision and care of the historian, and the Christian patriotism and devotion of a Scotch minister who loves the country of his birth, and reveres the memory of her noble defenders of the faith. The result is a book we would advise all to read.

Mr. Beanland's geological treatise (b) is worthy of a careful read. It contains a handsome frontispiece, showing the geological periods, with the strata and forms of life belonging thereto, and exhaustive explanation and copious indices. The author has made the subject of which he writes a special

study for many years, and the book is calculated to dispel the doubts of timid Christians, who fear that in this scientific age the foundations of Bible truth are insecure; and to silence the objections of irreverent scientists who allege that there are discrepancies between God's Word-Book and Word-Book. Mr. Beanland shows that while the Bible speaks on some subjects on which science does not, and *vice versa*, yet whenever they both speak on one subject, they agree. The volume is well got up, and we heartily recommend it.

One of the most novel mementoes (though not an inappropriate one), of the visit of Messrs. Moody and Sankey to this country is a little book (c) just published, entitled, "Helen Gray." We have been more than pleased with it; the author is a thoroughly experimental Christian, and writes what he feels, and this little narrative is a perfect gem.

Ruth Elliott is a prolific and discursive writer, and her latest book (d) is very different to "James Daryll." An imaginary waif and his quondam sweetheart are the hero and heroine of this prettily-told story, and of course everything ends happily. We happen to know that the book is printed at, and sold for the benefit of, Mr. Stephenson's Children's Home, a fact which will, we trust, ensure many purchasers.

Happy must be the experience of Mr. Fleming when he can write such books as the one recently issued (e), treating of conversions which have for the most part come under his own special notice. We have been greatly cheered by the perusal of this precious volume; may many more good servants of the Lord be constrained by it to work yet more earnestly and untiringly for His service.

The Book Society, whose penny edition of "The Pilgrim's Progress everyone has seen, has just issued a popular "Life of Luther," which should be read by the million. When we say that ninety-six pages, with four illustrations and a coloured wrapper, with "A. L. O. E." for the writer, and Lord Shaftesbury for the introducer, may all be had for twopence, surely nothing more is necessary to be said in regard to this wonderfully cheap and complete book.

The Strand Art Union has sent us an engraving of "The Deathbed of the Rev. John Wesley," one of Claxton's masterpieces. The varied expressions on the countenances of the persons round the bed are exceedingly lifelike, and one can almost see the heartrending anguish of the venerable John Horton, the calm resignation of Esther Ann Rogers, the overwhelming grief of Charles Wesley's wife, and the quiet, patient, trustfulness of the dying saint. As a memento this picture is invaluable, and as a work of art it is all that can be wished for.

The London Fine Art Association has also sent us copies of the three pictures mentioned in their advertisement on our back page, *The True Vine*, *The Shepherd's Chief Mourner*, and *Blind Man's Buff*. They are the cheapest we have seen, and many cottage parlors will, we doubt not, be brightened by the trifling outlay required.

## MISCELLANEA.

If we would have God be careful of us, we must be careful of the things He has committed to our trust.

Do you wish men to speak well of you? Then never speak of yourself.

Every fool can find faults that a great many wise men cannot remedy.

A LESSON FROM A CHILD.—I remember hearing of a little girl who went to her Sabbath-school, and when she came home her mother asked her what she had done at school; and she, in the simplicity of her little soul, said, "O, dear mother, I am afraid I have done nothing; for you know there was little Mary Curtis, whose baby brother was buried this week, and she was so sorry, and she cried so that I cried with her; and I took her hands in mine and kissed her; but it quite took all the lessons out of my head; and poor Sarah Miles, who is always behind with her lessons, had them this morning quite perfect, and she was so happy that, although she got more tickets than I did, I was quite glad, and I told her so, and kissed her too." "My dear," said the happy mother, "you have not said so many lessons, perhaps, but you have fulfilled the Apostle's injunction; you have wept with those

(a) *The Martyr Graves of Scotland*. By the Rev. J. H. Thomson. Edinburgh: Johnstone and Hunter.

(b) *The World Before Adam*. By the Rev. A. Beanland, F.G.S. London: Bemrose. 2s. 6d.

(c) *Helen Gray*. By J. W. M. (Edinburgh: Johnstone and Hunter).

(d) *Little Ray and Her Friends*. By Ruth Elliott. (London: Wesleyan Conference Office).

(e) *Remarkable Conversions*. By the Rev James Fleming. (London: Houghton).