

charged to himself, as well as to Mr. Dyer, and remembering that you cannot withhold the forgiveness we all need sooner or later."

"How strange," said Tom, glancing at the dead face and compelling himself to be quiet, "that all this should be and I not know."

"And the strangest part is untold. Robert is in this house, and unconscious." I related how we had found him, and the account given by the conductor who brought him from New York, and that Agnes, gladly accepting her father's charge, was caring for him with a sister's tenderness.

Tom's eyes filled with tears, and turning to the dead man he said with emotion, "I will forgive him for his daughter's sake."

"And for his own?"

"Sooner or later—sooner or later—let us hope."

"He went in to see Robert, who still lay in a lethargic sleep, and would have taken him home, only I convinced him that it would be unsafe to move Robert in his present condition, and also that an added grief and trouble would be laid upon Miss Dyer, who had already enough to bear."

Tom could not refuse Miss Dyer's request that he should conduct the services at her father's funeral, a request she would not have made if she had known his relationship to Robert Lyon. That was the only pang I could spare her then.

It was remarked that the Rev. Mr. Peebles was strangely overcome more than once during the burial service. It was indeed a trying hour for Tom, and one that tested his Christian qualities to the utmost. But the battle was fought and the victory won, and all bitterness and resentment died out of Tom's heart as he saw Joel Dyer's body lowered to its last resting-place.

By this time Robert Lyon was dimly conscious, and it was apparent that he had sustained an attack of paralysis, rendering his speech unintelligible, and that he would be helpless for a long time, if not for the remainder of his life. Agnes had a long, weary task in store, which she accepted eagerly, not only as her father's legacy, but in the hope that somehow she might atone for the wrong her father had done. It was not only a work of love and mercy, and as such appealing to her Christian sympathies, but a peace-offering to Robert Lyon's Maker for the injury His creature had sustained. Then, too, I detected a fear, which was perhaps an inherited remnant of some ancient superstition, that somehow her father's suffering, if he still suffered, would be greatly augmented if Robert Lyon's soul was finally lost; and a hope that his happiness, if he was happy, would be increased in a corresponding ratio if Robert Lyon's soul was finally saved. All these feelings, like the rivulets that feed a lake, were merged in the one great desire to do all she could for him; and probably she was unconscious of their separate springs.

As soon as she understood that the Rev. Mr. Peebles was Robert's brother, she sent for him, and they had a long, earnest talk, resulting, as I expected, in Tom's willingness to let Robert remain in her care till the Lord should otherwise dispose of him.

"I think there is more hope for Robert now, than at any time for many years past," said Tom to me as we were talking the matter up one day. "The Lord has put upon him a restraining hand. He is laid aside from the temptations he was unable to withstand, and as he gradually recovers the use of his faculties he can but feel the influence of so pure and sweet a nature as Miss Dyer's. She can do him more good than I ever could, though God knows it has been the great desire of my heart for years to obey my mother's charge. I have tried and failed, and now if any one can win him to better ways, she can; and I must be content to leave him with her and with his Maker."

Tom and I saw this matter from two very different standpoints. Much as he admired and respected, nay almost revered Miss Dyer, Robert was his brother, and he could but feel, that although there was no law binding her to this work, there was, after all, a kind of justice in it that made him the more readily acquiesce in her expressed desire. If the sins of the parents descend to the third and fourth generation, why should she not, as far as possible, atone for her father's sin; for in so doing she benefited herself, as well as Robert, and perhaps, who knows? the dead.

To me, I must own it took on the appearance of a cruel sacrifice. That a pure young life like hers, already burdened by sorrow, should be held down to wait upon, to bear with, to suffer for a poor wreck like him, seemed monstrous. It was as if the selfishness that had governed her father's life reached from his grave a controlling hand bidding her suffer for him. And I questioned her wisdom in her willingness, nay even desire, to give herself to this hopeless task. I knew better than she or Tom could know, the long, weary hours in store for her. Already in imagination I saw her fair young face wan and worn by unremitting care, aged by a fruitless struggle. I knew the time would surely come when in the depths of her heart she would cry, "Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?"

If I had been Tom, I would not have allowed this sacrifice for an hour. But I was not Tom; and perhaps I, too, was selfish.

(To be continued.)

#### THE VALUE OF CYPRUS.

Situated just on the coast of Syria, commanding the seaway to the Gulf of Sanderoun and the mouth of the Orontes, and, therefore, the Mediterranean entrance to the Valley of the Euphrates, Cyprus, with its deep harbors, offers singular advantages to a power interested in India, but unable for the moment to secure possession of its natural gateway, the Valley of the Nile. It would be impossible, if England were once seated there, for any power to attack Egypt or Syria by sea without her full consent, while the island itself, as a possession, offers some singular advantages. It is probably the one place in the world which could be easily turned into a storehouse of timber for the national dock-yards. Much of its mountain ranges is already clothed with forests which belong, we believe, to the State; the oak grows in profusion, and the cedar of Lebanon would be in a home where it would

need no acclimatization. The forests could be protected by the State with any needful care, without interfering with the people, who have been reduced by oppression and misgovernment to 100,000, perhaps a twelfth of their proper number, and who for years to come would be employed in re-peopleing and resubduing the beautiful valleys where every cereal and every known fruit will reach perfection. The tobacco plant and the apple will grown in Cyprus almost side by side. With a little care and energy in the formation of tanks, on the South India plan, to be formed by the torrents which now waste themselves down the hills, Cyprus would have all the natural advantages of Jamaica, a better climate, and a population now degraded indeed, but once among the most industrious and enterprising in the world. Within ten years, in Anglo-Indian hands, the island would pay all expenses, provide much of the wood needed for the dock-yards, and be in a fair way toward that prosperity, which is to be full must wait for the recovery of the population, now depressed by misgovernment, debased by want of freedom, and declining in number through want of the means of subsistence. It is useless to be industrious when if a man prospers his prosperity enriches a Pasha; but under British rule, Cyprus would supply half the cities of Eastern Europe with cut marbles, fine tobacco, fruit, and the liquors for which the sweet grapes of the island, now used to make abominable wine, are so well suited. The island might be a splendid garden, thrice the size of Suffolk, and from the extraordinary variety of its climates a sanitarium for the wealthy invalids of Europe, even if we could not succeed in the very interesting experiment it invites—the formation, for the first time in our history, of a European colony.—*London Spectator*.

#### LIFE'S WEST WINDOWS.

We stand at life's west windows,  
And think of the days that are gone;  
Remembering the coming sunset,  
We too, must remember the morn;  
But the sun will set, the day will close,  
And an end will come to all our woes.

As we watch from the western casements,  
Reviewing our happy youth,  
We mourn for its vanished promise  
Of honor, ambition and truth;  
But hopes will fail and pride decay,  
When we think how soon we must away.

We stand at life's west windows,  
And turn not sadly away,  
To watch on our children's faces  
The neontide of sparkling day;  
But our sun must set, our lips grow dumb,  
And to look from our windows our children come.

Still looking from life's west windows;  
And we know we would not again  
Look forth from the eastern lattice,  
And live over all life's pain;  
Though life's sunlight be brilliant, its sunset is sweet,  
Since it brings longed for rest to our weary feet.

—*The Household*.

#### RELIGIOUS LIBERTY.

The "Jewish Messenger" is more than pleased with the results of the Berlin Conference. It says, in the course of several references to the subject:

"Our leading newspapers are strangely silent concerning that most important point in the Treaty of Berlin which prescribes, as a condition to the recognition of Roumania's independence, religious liberty to all inhabitants. For the first time in the history of man, a nation's claim to existence as a state is made dependent upon its acceptance of the great principle of religious equality for all creeds. Thirty years ago, but one of the powers represented at Berlin accorded the Jew full civil rights; and successively in Great Britain, Austria, Germany, Italy, and Turkey, have the barriers been swept away that separated the Hebrew from his neighbour. Can Russia long delay the concession in her own dominions of civil and religious equality, which her veteran Chancellor sustained as the right of the Jews in Roumania, Bulgaria, and Serbia?"

"The world moves!" Religious liberty is now a principle of international law. Where it is denied, the great powers may intervene for its enforcement. No part of the triumph at Berlin is of such universal consequence as this declaration of human right. America was a century in advance of Europe.

"We cannot overestimate the importance of this Congress to the Israelites of the Old World. They have, for the first time since it became the European policy to treat them as an inferior race and class, demanded and obtained their rights as citizens and subjects of a land hostile to liberty. It is not toleration, but equality, that has been accorded them in the Danubian Principalities, which only yesterday taxed their ingenuity to devise legal and social tortures for their Jewish residents."

"Of D'Israeli's achievement in Asiatic Turkey, we can only say that it involves, as a logical result, progress whose possibilities the brilliant imagination of the great statesman pictured in story nearly forty years ago. Rarely is it given to a prophet to realize his dreams so completely as has been the fortune of Benjamin D'Israeli. The glorious imagery which delighted in oriental scenes, in the grandeur of the destiny reserved for the Jewish race, invested with more than ordinary significance the thoughts and schemes of the young writer, the clever philosopher, the spinted statesman, who had the courage of his convictions, the independence of a superior mind. D'Israeli has accomplished for his native land what no previous minister, save Pitt, had achieved. The responsibility of the Asiatic protectorate is none too great—the supremacy of the great maritime nation is confessed, but competing states may enjoy a friendly rivalry—England's conquests are in the interest of peace."

## BRITISH AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

It is said that the revised New Testament, which is nearly all printed, will be presented to Convocation next year.

ACCORDING to Mr. Wilfred Lawson (in the House of Commons), 350,000 persons were taken up for drunkenness in England and Scotland last year.

UPWARDS of 1,200 churches in Great Britain now use unfermented wine, the true "fruit of the vine" and free from alcohol, for communion purposes.

ALESSANDRO GAVAZZI, the well-known and eloquent advocate of Italian liberty and evangelization, preached from three Dumfries pulpits on the 28th ult.

A MEMBER of the Church of Scotland offered \$5,000 to begin a mission in Ichang, China. The offer was promptly accepted, and a minister and three colporteurs have already sailed.

MR. GEORGE MULLER, on arriving at his home in Bristol, Eng., from his recent trip in the United States, stated that since he left there he had travelled over 19,000 miles, and had preached 229 times in over 200 churches.

THE "Jewish Messenger" says that one of the first to welcome the Earl of Beaconsfield on his return to London from Berlin was the venerable Jewish philanthropist, Sir Moses Montefiore, who greeted him for his influence in securing religious liberty.

AT the July communion of the Chinese Presbyterian Church at Oakland, Cal., thirteen united, six being on profession of their faith. Deputations of Christian Chinamen from San Francisco, Sacramento, San José, and San Leandro were present, and a Christian Chinamen played the organ. The church has now twenty-nine members.

THE next General Conference of the World's Evangelical Alliance is appointed for Basle, in Switzerland. The time is 1879. Already the provisional programme is drawn up, and is undergoing modifications. This early notice is given that ample time may be afforded for preparation of papers and arrangements by those who are disposed to attend.

THE Rev. Dr. Somerville, who has been making an extended evangelistic tour in Australia, has finished his labors there and returned to Scotland. He was everywhere warmly welcomed and received the cordial co-operation of Christian ministers. His services attracted large audiences, and the prejudice that existed against evangelists was broken down.

A GREAT temperance revival has begun at Round Lake, N.Y., August 6th, and its results will undoubtedly be felt throughout the land. Judge Gaffith, of Troy, signed the pledge and donned the blue ribbon amid the most unbounded excitement. An unparalleled rush ensued, and the secretaries were unable to record one-tenth of the names of those who signed the pledge. Prominent speakers arrive by every train.

THE seventh annual meeting of the Welsh Congregational Union, held August 6th-8th, devoted considerable attention to the doctrinal basis of the Congregational Union of England and Wales, in view of the action of the Leicester Conference. The Rev. J. Thomas, D.D., of Liverpool, who occupied the chair, delivered a long address on the "Theology of the Denomination," which was received with great demonstrations of approval.

THE Society of Friends has only 14,600 members in Great Britain, and has a very small annual increase. Last year only 160 new members were added. The Society is nevertheless very active and useful, sustaining efficient and foreign missionary societies, and carrying on important evangelistic enterprises. The body is most numerous in Yorkshire, then in London and Middlesex, Lancashire, Cheshire, and Durham, while Norfolk, Scotland, and Kent bring up the rear.

THE yellow fever pestilence in the Southern States shows no signs of abatement, but on the contrary is extending its ravages daily to districts before unaffected, while in the localities where it first appeared, it continues to rage with unabated virulence. Many towns are almost wholly deserted, the fugitives spreading the disease in their flight. In Grenada the condition of things is most deplorable. That any remain is due only to their inability to escape from the place, and these are in the apathy of despair.

THE London Congregational Union has lately collected statistics of the relative proportion of church sittings in London to the inhabitants. In London proper, which has a population of 3,500,000 persons, the Church of England provides accommodation for 578,958 persons, and the other churches for 508,868, or a total of 1,082,826 persons. In order to provide for 58 per cent. of the population, the estimated number who ought to attend church, nearly a million more of sittings is required.

A RICH bishop in Australia is about to give the bulk of his fortune to his diocese. Dr. Tynell, of the diocese of Newcastle, is a bachelor of seventy, and has announced his purpose to bequeath \$1,600,000 for charitable uses. He will devote \$150,000 to the bishopric; \$500,000 to increase the incomes of archdeacons and canons; \$300,000 for clerical stipends; \$50,000 for superannuated clergymen; 125,000 dollars for an additional supply of clergy; and 200,000 for education. This vast fortune has been accumulated in sheep and wool raising.

A CABLE dispatch from Rome gives the particulars of a conflict near Leghorn of a fanatical sect, lead by one called "David the Saint," with the civil authorities, resulting in the death of David, who represented himself as Christ come again. He had chosen twelve apostles, and drawn some 2,000 or 3,000 people together, who were well armed. On the morning of the 18th he started out, followed by his adherents, with what intention is not known. When met by the police and ordered to disperse, "David the Saint" commanded his followers to strike. After a second warning, the police opened fire, killing the leader instantly, when the rest dispersed.