

dry meat, some tobacco, and a knife, with some other articles; telling her we should return in two days, and stop the night, when she would be able to go with us; only she must keep up a good fire at night, as the lions would smell the dried flesh, if they did not scent her. We then pursued our course; and after a long ride, passing a rocky ridge of hills, we came to a stagnant pool, into which men and oxen rushed precipitately, though the water was almost too muddy to go down our throats.

On our return to the spot, according to promise, we found the old woman and every thing gone, but, on examination, discovered the footmarks of two men, from the hills referred to, who appeared to have taken her away. Several months afterwards I learned, from an individual who visited the station, that the sons, seeing from a distance the wagon halt at the spot, where they had so unnaturally left their mother to perish, came to see, supposing the travellers had been viewing the mangled remains of their mother. Finding her alive, and supplied with food, and on her telling the story of the strangers' kindness, they were alarmed, and, dreading the vengeance of the great chief, whom they supposed me to be, took her home, and were providing for her with more than usual care. I have often reasoned with the natives on this cruel practice; in reply to which, they would only laugh. It may be imagined, that people might devote their friends, and nobles their first-born, like the Carthaginians, to appease some offended deity; and that mothers, too, should smile on the infants their own hands had murdered, from similar motives; but it appears an awful exhibition of human depravity, when children compel their parents to perish for want, or to be devoured by beasts of prey in a desert, from no other motive than sheer laziness, or to get quit of those on whose breast they hung in helpless infancy, whose lips first directed their vocal powers, whose hand led them through many a weary waste, and who often suffered the most pinching want, that the babes whom nature taught them to love might be supplied. I have more than once handed food to a hungry mother, who appeared to have fasted for a month, when she would just taste it, and give it to her child, when, perhaps, that very child, instead of returning grateful service to the infancy of old age, leaves that mother to perish from hunger.

"TWO GREAT RELIGIOUS SCANDALS."

Such is the title of an article in last week's number of the *Semeur*, referring to two "outrages" upon the Christian religion recently committed; the one by a British Protestant holding a high official station, the other by the Priests of Rome.

The Proclamation of Lord Ellenborough directing the restoration of the Gates of the

Temple of Somnauth, is pointed at in the first instance; and its ridiculous as well as scandalous character is fairly exposed. Yet, it is added, "it must be admitted that the Governor-General is not the only offender. For how many years has the English Government, paying no attention to the numberless remonstrances of the religious men in the country, flattered, honoured, patronized idolatrous worship in its Indian possessions? The car of Juggernaut, which was drawn under an escort of British troops, ought to render it indulgent in respect to the gates of Ghuznee. It is well known that the officers of the English army in India have in vain protested, more than once, against being compelled to pay military honours to the priests of idols and to the idols themselves."

There is but too much truth in this statement, though it will avail nothing in extenuation of Lord Ellenborough's conduct. But now for the other offence against religion, of which our contemporary speaks in the following terms:—

"But here is another scandalous offence, which certainly does not in any respect come behind that which we have just exposed. Conversions and cures by means of the *Medal* (of the Virgin) "are not enough: the success of these juggleries renders parties more enterprising. They are no longer content with little miracles, but must have great ones; and it will be seen whether there is wanting audacity to affirm them.

"China, so long shut up, at length opens her portals. Unexpected events have put an end to the isolation which she had maintained in regard to the rest of the world. That country, which has had its martyrs, will perhaps soon have its apostles. It is no longer the hour for prayer only, but the hour for action. But affairs are not carried on quite so simply at Rome, when the conversion of three hundred millions of souls is in question. Here is what is set forth in the clerical papers: 'According to news which has come from a certain source, from the Apostolic Vicariate of China, a great multitude of Christians and of heathens belonging to that nation, have seen appear in the air, and on a day calm and clear, the image of *Jesus Christ*.'

"This apparition, destined to serve, next to the *Cross of Migné*, as a *pendant* to the Cross of Constantine, is affirmed to have taken place, we are told, in letters written from Rome by persons of the greatest weight: the conclusion is, that the Emperor of China is about to embrace the Catholic faith; and it is added, that the Propaganda has ordered the departure of *forty Missionaries for the Celestial Empire*.

"If in England, indignation has been awakened by the Proclamation of Lord Ellenborough as an outrage upon the religion of Jesus Christ, will not some little indignation be kindled in France by this mummary with