

go was not at first revealed to him. It was simply described as "a land that I will show thee" (Gen. xii. 1). But even had it been otherwise, and had Canaan been named as his destination, the statement would still be true that he went forth "not knowing whether he went." For it must be remembered that in those days geographical knowledge was very imperfect, and the means of intercommunication between one land and another exceedingly difficult. The name of a country several hundred miles distant would convey no definite idea of the country itself, nor of the particular part of the country referred to. Even to-day there are cases in which it would be quite correct to say of a man travelling in a foreign land that he did not know whither he was going—that is, he knew nothing of the country nor of the particular part of it which would be his place of abode, nor the special work in which he would be engaged when reaching his destination. There is surely no difficulty here.

HEALING BY PETER'S SHADOW.

Question 125.—I shall be glad if you will give an explanation of Acts v. 15. Was Peter's shadow used as an instrument for healing the sick, or producing miraculous results? By answering my query you will greatly oblige yours, etc. * * *

Answer.—Clearly the impression conveyed by the words is that the cures were effected through the agency of the shadow. It has been said by some that it was only a superstitious idea of the people that Peter's shadow possessed such miraculous virtue, and that the writer of the book does not assert that the cures were so effected. But this view is certainly not borne out by the language employed. Besides, there are other instances in Scripture history of a somewhat analogous character, as when the woman was healed by simply touching the Lord's garment (Matt. ix. 21, 22), and when cures were wrought by handkerchiefs and aprons belonging to Paul (Acts xix. 12). Lange observes on this text: "To the shadow of Peter a healing virtue is plainly ascribed for all the sick on whom it rested. But it is evident, first, that here only those are spoken of who had faith in the miraculous powers of the Apostles; secondly, it is only mentioned as the