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Poeth's Corner.

THE RAVEN'S FEATHER.

One beautiful afternoon in May, in the year 1780, a boy, fifteen years of age, was standing on Blackfriar's bridge in London, gazing intently on the dome of St. Paul's Cathedral.

Just at this moment a raven's feather fell at his feet. It appeared to him as if it had come from heaven in answer to his prayer.

"From whence do you come?" "I am a German." "That I perceive," answered the stranger; "but have you no parents here?"

"If it is really so," said the stranger, "then you may come with me." Severin willingly did so; they went up one street, and then turning to the left, came to the stranger's house.

That a great deal has been done is as much a source of wonder as of gratitude. On this head, however, I shall not enlarge, after the high terms in which your Excellency was pleased to speak to me in reference to our labours.

And the pen was well taken care of; for after many years, it came into the possession of a German Clergyman, with the particulars of its history; he made a pen of the Raven's Feather, and with that very pen he wrote the history of poor Severin, which has since been translated into English, and published by the Religious Tract Society.

All the Stations, except two, are occupied but by one Missionary, and the average size of his sphere of labour is larger than an English diocese. On him alone rests every kind of duty connected with the Station, secular and spiritual; and more than a third of his time is occupied in visiting the different Native Settlements.

With so many distracting cares, it is clear that he cannot pay steady attention to any one locality, or to any School on that locality. The Native Teachers, it is true, are useful; but their characters are too unstable, and their knowledge too scanty, to enable us to look for any thing that is permanent or solid from them.

The number of Israelites admitted into Christ's Church by baptism during the past year, has been eight. One of these was the wife of Mr. Laurin, one of the two rabbies, who in the year 1813, professed their faith in Christianity, under circumstances of great trial, and who have both been appointed to occupy the station at Cairo, recently entered upon by your Committee.

share of the produce of the land sales, they are also bound to provide that the Native should get a fair benefit from this disposal of his properties. What should be the nature of the good thus derived to the Native is the question on which I desire now to offer a few remarks. I admit that the making roads, and carrying out other such useful works for the benefit of the country, is, in a certain sense, a good rendered to those of the Aborigines who are owners of property in the neighbourhood of those improvements, or who are employed in work connected with them.

It is needed for the sake of the island at large; for who cannot see how intimately connected it is with the interests of a country, whether nine-tenths of its population be wild, lawless, roving warriors, disturbed themselves, and disturbing others, or whether they be induced to settle down as useful members of society, fearing God and respecting lawful authority.

The field of labour of this Society may be described as being all that portion of this island, excepting a few places occupied by the Roman Catholics, which lies to the eastward of a line drawn from Cape Maria Van Diemen down by Kaitiaki on to Waitemate, thence nearly direct to Auckland; from thence to the mouth of the Waikato River; up to the Waikato; on to Taupo; down the Wanganui to its mouth; and along the Western Coast to Port Nicholson.

On the Mission, £10,000 is spent annually by the Home Society, and this sum is appropriated to the providing and maintaining residence for the Missionaries, to the salaries of the Missionaries, to their travelling and all such contingent expenses; to the building, repairing, and maintaining Places of Worship; and to the keeping in operation a press for printing the Scriptures, and other useful books, in the Maori tongue. More than £300 also of this sum is devoted to the maintenance of Schools.

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It is a lesson which we all learn with great difficulty, that the contrary of wrong is not

always right, and that an escape from the influence of a dangerous error does not always imply the adoption of truth. We may fall from one error to another, and while we avoid one danger, involve ourselves in still greater peril. We fear that these obvious remarks describe too truly the religious condition of too many of our Jewish brethren in Berlin; we mourn over the coldness of speculation which marks their inquiries, and their want of discrimination between that which is holy and eternal, and that which is human and erroneous.

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some points of peculiar interest, inasmuch as they are the first-fruits of the Jerusalem Mission from among the rabbies of that city, and of those educated at the College there. Their proceeding into the missionary field, was therefore deeply felt by the members of the mission, and especially by the Rev. W. D. Veitch, the Principal of the College in which they have been trained for their present duties,—"to be an occasion for them to thank God and take courage."

From the Report of the London Society for Promoting Christianity among the Jews, 1848.

THE CHOLERA. From a Notification by the General Board of Health, dated October 5, 1848. Experience having shown that the establishment of cholera hospitals was not successful, the best provision practicable must be made for affording assistance to the individuals who may need it at their own houses; and one of the best modes of effecting this object will probably be the selection of proper persons who may be instructed as nurses in the special services required on this occasion, and paid for devoting their whole time to attendance on the sick at their own habitations, under the direction of the medical officers.

It will also be necessary to engage a sufficient number of medical officers at a suitable remuneration, some to devote their whole time by day and night to the services of the dispensaries, and others to attend the sick at their own dwellings.

As, however, cases may occur of extreme destitution in neighborhoods and houses wholly unfit for the curative treatment of the sick, provision should be made for the reception of such cases, either in the common hospitals, in the union houses, or in separate apartments specially prepared for the purpose, and properly warmed and ventilated.

Medical authorities are agreed that the remedies for the premonitory symptoms are the same as those found efficacious in common diarrhoea; that the most simple remedies will suffice, if given on the first manifestation of this symptom; and that the following, which are within the reach and management of every one, may be regarded as among the most useful, namely, twenty grains of opiate confection, mixed with two table spoonsful of peppermint water, or with a little weak brandy and water, and repeated every three or four hours, or oftener, if the attack is severe, until the looseness of the bowels is stopped; or an ounce of the compound chalk mixture, with ten or fifteen grains of the aromatic confection, and from five to ten drops of laudanum, repeated in the same manner. From half a drachm to a drachm of tincture of catechu may be added to this last, if the attack is severe.

Next in importance to the immediate employment of such remedies is attention to proper diet and clothing. Whenever Asiatic cholera is epidemic, there is invariably found among great numbers of the inhabitants an extraordinary tendency to irritation of the bowels, and this fact suggests, that every article of food which is known to favour a relaxed state of the bowels should, as far as possible, be avoided—such as every variety of green vegetable, whether cooked or not, as cabbage, cucumber, and salad. It will be important also to abstain from fruits of all kinds, though ripe and even cooked, and whether dried or preserved. The most wholesome articles of vegetable diet are—well-baked, but not new bread, rice, oatmeal, and good potatoes. Pickles should be avoided. Articles of food and drink which, in ordinary seasons, are generally wholesome, and agree well with the individual constitution, may, under the unusual condition, prove highly dangerous. The diet should be solid rather than fluid; and those who have the means of choosing should live principally on animal food, as affording the most concentrated and invigorating diet; avoiding salted and smoked meats, pork, salted shell fish, cider, perry, ginger-beer, lemonade, acid liquors of all descriptions, and ardent spirits. Great moderation, both in food and drink, is absolutely essential to safety, during the whole duration of the epidemic period.

PRESENT STATE OF PARTIES IN FRANCE. In the ex-Chamber of Deputies care had been taken to avoid nomenclature, which would give either offence or approbation; the centre, the right and left, and the extreme right and left were most convenient designations, implying no particular approbation or disapprobation in their application; but this nomenclature is almost, if not altogether, effaced, in the present Assembly. On the left and the extreme left are found mingled together members of every party and every shade of opinion. M.M. Ledru Rollin, and Ficoon, and Lagrange, sit in immediate juxtaposition with M.M. Loon Faucher, Jurkowski, and others of the same party, as well as with legitimists and Bonapartists. Perhaps the most convenient designation might now be taken from the places of meeting of the different parliamentary clubs, and it may, therefore, be useful to notice these.

The most numerous and influential of these reunions is that of the Rue de Poitiers, presided over by General Bugey, M.M. Lion Faucher, and his vice-presidents M.M. Loon Faucher and De Falloux. This party

consists of somewhat more than one-third of the Assembly. It comprises all the leading members of the Chamber of Deputies who have been elected into the Assembly: M.M. Thiers, and O. Barrot, and their friends, also M.M. Berryer, Larochejaquequin, and the legitimists. It comprises all that party of the new members known as moderate republicans, especially all the republicans of the "landmann;" it comprises all those members of every shade who have accepted the republic as a political necessity, and not as the object of their free choice. Next in numbers comes the party of the "reunion" of the Palais Royal, now called the Palais National. The number of this party is variously stated, and indeed, is uncertain, as it has a number of out-liers, who float in somewhat doubtful relation with it. Perhaps, however, it may be stated to vary from 150 to 200, being a little more than half the number of the Rue de Poitiers. The principles of this party are what would be called ultra-democratic. It includes most of the extreme republicans of the "ville."

The next division is the "reunion" of the Institute, which may be counted, perhaps, at 100. To this reunion are attached the members of the late executive commission, and the moderate party of the original Provisional Government. They would fain have the elevation of De Lamartine to the Presidency. They are divided with regard to General Cavaignac. Most of them, however, detest him.

Finally, comes the party known by the title of Montagnards. This party consists of communists and red republicans; its numbers are about 50—40 red and 10 communist. The leader of the former is now decidedly M. Ledru Rollin, with whom M. de Lamartine and his friends have broken. The red republicans, though not entertaining sincerely the dogmas of communism, are content to confesse with that party, to gain numerical strength. The party of the Montagnards has so rapidly and frequently shifted its locale that we have not the same convenient mode of designation from its place of meeting as for the others. It has successively assembled in the Rue de Richelieu and other places, and has lately removed to the Rue Taibout.

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