## Sunday Reading.

AFRICAN FUNERAL RITES.

The Need of Spiritual Truth to Rescue the Heathen in their Blindness.

One pleasant evening after tea, my hus. band suggested that we walk to the village about a quarter of a mile from our home, as he had a letter to send by a man who had been engaged to take it to a neighboring station the next day. As we approached the village we heard a great uproar; voices of women talking loudly and children crying. My husband suggested that it might be a woman's quarrel, as such things are not infrequent among these people.

On entering the village, a man came running to meet us asking us to come quickly as a woman was dying. He, as well as others, seemed to look to us instinctively for help, seeing their own efforts were in

We hastened to the house, a little hut a put ten feet square withou tany apening but the door, entered, an as it was dusk we could but dimly see the dying woman on the bare ground floor, held in a sitting posture by another woman sitting at her back. There were some six or eight other persons in the house. In the centre there was a smouldering, smoky fire which made it still more difficult to discern the true state of affairs. On examination we saw there was little hope for h r. The husband of the woman, who was the very man we had come to see, begged us to give her medicine. I hastened home to on. get a lamp and restortatives, while my husband had the woman placed in a tetter position and cleared the house of all persons not needed. One old woman thought it quiet necessary to keep clapping her hands near the face of the dying woman calling her by name and muttering something which I did not understand. The poer woman was meacitully unconscious of all that was going on about her. Our efforts were of no avail. Our efforts were of no avail. She passed away in a short time. This is one of the many cases of death among these people from hem in rhage.

watch the proceedings. The women first cleared the house of everything, pots, gourds, and even the old hen with her brood that was roosting in a corner. It may be upon some woman who is sup- needs the song. Steadfast foot or everwas by this time quite dark in the house, but by burning wisps of dry grass (until we gave them the use of our tallow candle) they attended the body. When all was done I saw the body wrapped in cloth lying on the floor close up to the wall on one side of the room. This was done to is then set on fire. In another case the give room. This was to give room for the person is tied and thrown into the river relatives and friends who remained in the house day and night as long as the corpse remained. The husband, according to the custom, must stay close to the corpse casionally the person escapes if some without eating or drinking, unless the burial is delayed to long. In this case some days elapsed as relatives in Bihe had to be sent for. Friends arrived and the funeral took place on the sixth day favored home land, who are tenderly atter death.

I felt very sorry for the husband as he seemed really fond of his wife. This was his only wife, which is rather an exception for men of his standing. "What will my poor children do? Who will feed them now?" was his constant lament. The old grandmother, whom I visited a few days afterwards and found caring for the babe, spoke of her trouble. She said, "Does not my heart hurt? Have I not had trouble and affliction? My son was killed by lightning only a short time ago and his wife has gone home to her people and I have had their field and mine to cultivate | ready for martyrdom; but to suffer steadily and now my other son's wife is dead. Can I take another field and feed these five children ?" I tried to tell her of the life to come free from all sorrow and care for all ward. who will accept God's word and become His pecple. It was decided later on that the children were to be cared for by the other grandmother and aunts from Bihe.

Usually when a death occurs there follows a great wailing by those present, which is continued for a long time. And when at a subsequent time a friend or relative comes in it is renewed. Every evening a drum- trip to preach the gospel. ming and dancing is kept up until very late at night. I cannot here describe the dance does not mean that the missionary rode. except to say that it is nothing at all like | He ran behind the sledge, for the dogs had the dance which you know. It is a spirit | enough to do to draw the food, clothing | worship, and night after night we are oblig- and blankets without an additional load of ed to go to sleep, if we can, with that din human beings. sounding in our ears. There is also a firing of guns mornings and evenings and a great

deal more of it at the funeral. A funeral here is generally an all-day the rear of the sled, and we can take hold affair. We did not attend until about of that in order to keep up with the dogs, eleven o'clock. When we arrived there which make about twenty-five miles a day. they were just bringing the corpse out of the house. The body is wrapped in cloth and then tied to a stick or palm pole. A Like the apostle, this missionary might truly say that he had not run in vain, for the Indians give proof of having heard him top is made over this and a curtain to hang all around the edge of the top to within a too to report two of the ground. The corpse too retwo of the ground. The corpse too rejoice, it is far stronger proof triennial festival of the Lichfield Diocesan attentively. On one occasion a party of Choral Association, Dr. Forrest, the Dean of Worcester, told the following anecdote. thus entirely hid from view is carried on order to bring to the mission station at He said: But do try above all things to nothing will be left undone which will the shoulders of two men. We notice Fort Adams the dead bodies of a woman- sing with the spirit and with the underseveral baskets of corn, beans and potatoes and child, that they might receive Christian standing also; sing and make melody in that had been gathered from the woman's burial. Other Indians have journeyed your hearts to the Lord. Long years field, also a pig and a goat tied and all four hundred miles in order to receive replaced near the door of the house. Some ligious instruction from Mr. Prevost. of all of this is an offering to her spirit, but most of it is eaten by the people. Follow- Indians to build houses and adopt some of ing the corpse came the husband. His the ways of civilized life. He has a printhands were placed on the shoulders of an ing press, sets his own type, and issues a old woman and his head rested on her back between the shoulders. A blanket was thrown over him, covering his head and eaching down to his feet. Another woman

followed behind steadying him. They went once around the corpse and then the man was taken off to another house which he does not leave, except at night, until his month of mourning is finished. Sometimes, if a man loves his wife very much, he may mourn for her two or even three months. He never goes back to the house where the woman died.

After a few questions are put to the corpse the procession is ready to leave. friends and the crowd. The near relatives have a strip of cloth tied around the neck as a sign or mark of mourning. As they leave the village there is a great firing o guns, and shouting and wailing. Several times en route to the burial ground they stop to drum and dance and fire guns.

On arriving at the burial ground they again drum and dance for a considerable time. Leaving the dance place they wander about more or less and finally come to the spot where the questioning of the

corpse as to who killed her takes place An old women took her place in front of the corpse and in a coaxing way asked the tollowing questions: "Come my child, don't you know where you are? Don't you know that you left little children? Come, here is something you like (holding out something in her hand). Now, will you tell us who killed you? Was it this one or that ore," mentioning over names of acquaintances She also reviewed m inviinstances in her life and best ught her was made; it in the negative the tipo a fell bacaward a few steps. This performance was con inued several hours.

In the mean time a shower of rain came tortunate sough the shelter of a tree. The rain doctors were on hand and were busy would blow, and also mutter something. The shower soon passed and they joined the crowd triumphantly. The questioning answer from the corpse.

posed to have been jealous or for some who has died and has come back for the need each other for mutual helpfulness. spirit of this woman.

The fate of the witch is sometimes very dreadful. A hut is built with plenty of dry grass and branches, the victim is securely tied and thrust into this hut and it or is carried to a cannibal tribe and there Again, ostracism or fr quently a heavy fine is all that is demanded. Octriend releases him, secretly, and he flees to another tribe or country. He may become a slave by i', but what is that

compared to such a horrible death? I wonder how many of the sisters of our cared for, ever try to realize the condition of their heathen sisters? My heart is often sad when I think how slowly the light comes. Only the first streaks of dawn are visible after ages of spiritual and mental darkness .- Emma D. Woodside, in the House keeper.

ALASKAN MISSIONARIES. The Dangers and Hardships they are Called

on to Eadure in their Work.

Many volumes could be written about the dangers, sufferings hardships of Christian missionaries. Sometimes the hardships are more difficult to bear than the dangers. It is thrilling and inspiring to be always from bitter hardships, without the spice of danger from human enemies, is hander and quite as deserving of the crown of re-

The missionary in the remoter parts of Alaska knows what these hardships are. Mr. Prevost, a missionary to the Tanama Indians, has perhaps the largest missionary 'parish' in the world. It covers more than one hundred thousand square miles; and Mr. Prevost has travelled, with dogs and sledges, fifteen hundred miles on one

With dogs and sledges we say; but this 'Of course,' said Mr. Prevost, in giving

an account of his work during a visit to the

State of Washington, 'there is a handle on

This missionary has induced these boreal ewspaper twice a year. This is twice as ften as he receives any news from the

utside world.

ships, he is not averse to using the re- with that searching expression that belongsources of civilization in the propagation ed characteristically to herself, and then of the gospel. There are two thousand slowly there gathered two large tears in miles of navigable water, in summer, in the Yukon river, in this 'parish,' and he said, "I don't remember ever to have sung has hopes of obtaining an electric I unch that song without prayer beforehand, and which will enable him to make more rapd' this is by no means the first time that I

NEED OF ONE ANOTHER.

The Use of Great Gifts, Not the Possession of Them is Honorable.

"If the foot shall say, "Because I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, "Because I am not the eye I am not of the body,' is The corpse goes first followed by relatives | it not therefore of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearings?"-1. Cor. xiii., 15 17. In this part of the letter to the saints

at Corinth the apostle is in no mood to

feed the vanity, even of gifted men. We

are all touched more or less with this weakness of vanity. We never say the thing in downright earnest, but we do act very frequently as it we thought it would be very hard for God to get along without us. Even this very apostle needed "a thorn in the flesh" to keep him humble, The vanity that almost always accompanies great gifts does double harm, it spoils and mars the gifted man, and makes him acunhandsomely to his less gifted brethern. A man deserves no credit for the possession of great gifts, only for the use of them. He has lived to little purpose who, living long. to tell who "ate" her. If the answer was has not learned that for real practical in the affirmative a lunge forward was usefulness very gifted men have often proved sad dissapointments. The man with a thusand talents has often done less for his fellows and his age than The people huddled together in he who has only had five talents to use, groups, some under blankets held over but who has used them diligently and well. their heads and some under umbrellas, of But Paul has another lesson to teach, and which there were a few Others not so that was a lesson of our dependence one upon another The lordly brain can not I say, on the Lord." Palm 27: 14. get along without the aid of the lowly foot. driving off the rain. They would wave the | the strong right arm needs the tender sen-"umbandu" (charm). which consisted of sative eye. This parable of thought reaches the tail of some wild animal fitted to a far and wide and influences all our life. handle, in which was a whitle which they The strongest is dependent on the weakest. The boy who brings the newspaper to our door is needed as truly as the skillful editor. Unless the little hinge on the door be all to be the tight fitting, easily disarranged again went on as before, first one and then | right the door will not swing. The latchet another taking the place of question r. It on the shoe is as needful as the shoe for seemed very difficult to get a satisfactory comfortable walking. In the wonderful economy of our daily life we need one It grew late and the threatening clouds another so much that lite would not be portended a heavy shower, so they de- worth the living but for this helpfulness others also who have little leisure or money cided upon a precipitate burial, and ap- that comes from the right and the left, and to spare in keeping their clothing tidy and pointed another time to divine the cause of from all sources far and near. We are that evening we set down awhile outside to her death with the aid of the witch doctor. reeded by each other and we need each I have not yet learned the result of their other. The mother needs the child, and divinations. The charge is liable to fall | the child needs the mother. The rich need on her poor old mother, on the husband, the poor and the poor need the rich. The or some other member of the family; it singer needs the listner and the listner watchful eye, busy brain and busier handother cause unfriendly, or it may be one | they all have need of one another. So we

How the Moon Can Smite.

but only that we may use them well.

We may well follow the apostle's exborta-

tion, an! covet earnestly "the be-t gifts,"

The recent eclipse of the moon calls to mind an interesting bit of description given by the author of "Limnings for Teachers," sold. Sometimes the hands or legs are cut Referring to the Scriptural verse, "The sun shall not smite thee by day nor the moon by night." the writer says:

"Last night was full moon at the equator. With the sun standing directly overhead in December this means, not night, but a silver day of exceeding brightness, a blue sky, snow-white clouds, scarcely any stars visible. Upon such a night a stranger would wonder to see native people carrying an open umbrella. The fact is, such a radiant moon possesses be always fresh and clean in her attire, the the smiting power to which the composer of the Psalm refers. If one walk out bareheaded, soon an unpleasant sensation of fulness will be telt above the temples, and the next day there may be a fever and symptoms similiar to those of sunstroke. Many cases occur of people who have lain | The uncleanliness and discomfort of the out in the open air being smitten by moonlight with facal paralysis. Any of the features may become violently and permanently contorted The mouth especialy suffers, sometimes so distinctly as to give the unfortunate the veritable appearance of a lusus naturæ. This is the moon has been a lesson in good form to them. David knew, and after beholding its Obedient to fashion's dictates, the women beautiful yet dangerous brilliancy, this Psalm acquires a new force and sweetness.

'Died From Thin Shoes.'

Tigers are sometimes caught in the following manner. A bait is put in a certain position, leaves with birdlime upon them are scattered about here and there. The tiger treads on one-it sticks to his paw. Being a great cat, he tries to lick it off; it gets on his eyelids and closes them up. He treads on another leaf, and gets the working woman a most kind y ser-his lips glued up, and so on, until after vice. It is a species of missionary work floundering about in a rage, he sinks down which is much more important than (by exhausted and is killed. And many an one strong, so far as natural strength is the mysteries of conventional costumes .concerned, is slain in body, but pre- Vogue. eminently in soul, by very small means. A microbe will infect a giant with a deadly disease, and destroy his life. A temptation very small also and very poor, will destroy a soul. It will blind the eyes—one small sin leads on to another, and ruin ends the scene. We suspect danger in great temptations, but often our worst peril lies in small ones. 'Died from thin shoes,' is the inscription on a young lady's tombstone—the cause seemed small, but it could produce death .- P. B. Power.

Singing With the Spirit.

Preaching on a recent Thursday at Lichfield Cathedral on the occasion of the concluded with the following puzzling nothave passed since, in conversation with one of the greatest, is not the very greatest singer of this century, I happened in-cidentally to mention that a young man in his very last hours told me that his first religious impressions, his first thoughts of his Saviour, were derived from hearing that ften as he receives any news from the utside world.

Although the missionary w omes hard
Handel's "Messiah." She looked at me

jou neys in his work. - Youth's Companion | have had a similar answer to my prayers.'

Salarles of Englis's Clargy.

English clergymen's salaries are not as high as is commonly believed. In Crockford's clerical directory for this year statements of the actual value of 8,636 benefices ont of 13,243 in England are given. Of these 638 are worth \$500 a year or less, 2.748 more \$1,000 or less. 4,219 less than \$2,000, 792 less than \$3 000, 173 less than \$4,000, 43 only \$5,000 or less, and 23 more than \$5,000, 6 being above \$7.500 and but 1 of these above \$10,000. The nominal value in the case of the other 4,807 benifices is for dearly 3'000 less than \$1.500, and for a thousand more less than \$2 500 In addition to his income, however, the incumbent has the use of a house, and in the country at least of a garden.

Bibles in the House of Commons.

It is not known outside the House of Commons that several different versions of the Bitle are in use for the swearing in of menbers. The revised version is used for Protestants the Douai version for Catholics, and a copy of the Bible in Hebrew for Jews. As they are all bound slike, it looks as if they are all identical. A whisper to the Clerk at the table, and the desired version is obtained.

A Book for the Needy.

The Bible is a book for the needy. If we go to it with a well defined want, we will have little difficulty in getting at its treasure. It we go to it for nothing in particular, we will get what we go for.

A Message From God.

"Wait on the Lord : be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait,

FAVORS THE SHIRT WAIST.

It Is Neat, Inexpensive and a Great

Boom to the Working Woman-So long as woman's costume continues complexity that it is to-day, anything which makes for simplicity and neatness in its construction is to be welcomed, in behalf not only of the very poor, but of all clean. Anything which reduces the cost and care of every-day apparel is a boon alike to wearer and observer. This wholesome mission does the shirt-waist fulfil but, as stated before, if, despite its merits, fashionable women should wholly discard it, the poor will give it up also, since to continue its use would be to proclaim or eself unfashionable and poor-a species of self-advertisement not common to the people in this country. Deprived of this nest and serviceable article, thousands of women would be thrown back upon the tight-fitting stuff bodice for summer use, since the wearing of lawn, @ cambric, gingham, or duck custumes is @ beyond the means of all but a comparatively small number of the women who live in industrial and commercial centres. The uncertain summer climate, of which the sudden downpour is a conspicuous featurethe heat and the dust quickly reduce wash costumes to soil and limpness, so that, to working woman must, on average, change her costume two or three times a week. This onerous necessity places the dainty lawn and kindred fabrics outside of daily possibilities for the operative and clerk. nonwashable bodice in hot summer weather can hardly be exaggerated.

To this class the inexpensive, easily laundried, tidy shirt-waist has been a blessing. The very severity of its cut and girls, who before the era of the sbirtwaist, flaunted tawdry bits of lace and ribbon on their shabby bodices have discarded all ornamentation save the severely neat tie-another lesson in fitness. There is no reason why so sensible, cleanly and comfortable a mode should not rival the popularity of the equally neat, it universally untecoming sailor hat; and the grand dame who by example encourages the fancy for shirt-waists is doing proxy) inducting contented savages into

Doubtful Arrangements.

In his desire to use fine language the darkey sometimes allows his ideas and statements to become a trifle confused, as well as confusing.

Some years ago a handbill announcing a 'colored picnic, to be held in a grove near a Southern city was freely circulated. After various highly enticing announcements relative to the delights in store for the partakers in this entertainment, the bill

tend to mar the pleasure of the company.'- Youth's Companion.

The Reason For It.

It took place in a little overgrown town in the far West.

The man from the East had waited for two hours and seventeen minutes for an

lectric car. When it arrived at last, and he had

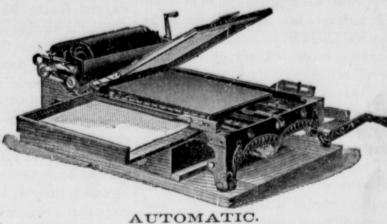
If You Wsh to be

**HAPPY** 

...KEEP YOUR EYE ...

## This Space.

-Modern Business Mcthods



R. quire ..... Modern Business Facilitics. ..... The .....



HAND

## **FDISONMIMEOGRAPH**

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THE ALBERT TOILET SOAP CO, Manufacturers, MONTREAL,

as he paid his fare: "No accidents this morning ?"

"None, sir," replied the official. "Running on schedule time?"

"We are."

"Nothing the matter with the generators ?"

"Not a thing." The questioner paused for a moment. Then he asked: "Well, would you mind telling me just how

far apart these dashed cars do run, then?" "Not at all, sir,' replied the man in blue; 'every seventeen miles.'

"Every seventeen miles?" repeated the Easterner. "How do you mean?" "Track seventeen miles long, and this

is the only car." Then the man from the East was satisfied .- Cincinnati Tribune.

SAVED MUCH SUFFERING.

REV. FATHER BUTLER'S INTEREST-ING EXPERIENCE.

suffered From an Abscess in the Side Which Dr. Williams' Pink Pills Cured After Other Medicines Fail,

(Caledonia, N. S., Gold Hunter). Faith leads many to believe, yet when

one has experienced anything and has reason to rejoice, it is far stronger proof Rev. T. J Butler, the parish priest of this district. Reports having come to the ears of our reporter about a wonderful cure ef- sallow complexions and are a specifi tected by Dr. Williams Pink Pills, he called on Mr. Butler to seek information on the subject. Mr. Butler spoke in very high terms of the Pink Pills, and said they had saved him untold suffering, and perhaps saved his life. The reverend gentleman felt a little hesitancy at giving a public testimonial at first, but after our reporter remarked that if one was really N. Y. Beware of imitations and substitutes. climbed aboard, he asked the conductor grateful for a remarkable cure, he thought alleged to be "just as good."

it was his duty to give it publicly for hum inity's sake, he cheerfully consentel. His story in his own words is as tollows :- "I was led to take Pink Pills through reading the testimonials in the papers. I was troubled with an abscess in my side and had tried many different medicines without avail. I took medical advice on the subject, and was told I would have to undergo an operation to cure it which would cost me about \$100. At last I determined to try Pink Pills but without a great feeling of faith of their curing me. One box helped me and I resolved to take a three months course and give them a fair trial. I did so, and today I am completely cured of the abscess in my side through using Pink Pills, and I always recommend friends of mine to use Pink Pills tor diseases of the blood. As Father Butler is well known throughout this county his statement is a clincher to the many wonderful testimonials that have appeared in the Gold Hunter from time to time. On enquiring at the stores of J. E. Cushing and N. F. Douglas, it was found that Pink Pills have a sale second to none. Mr. Cushing on being asked it he knew of any cures effected by them replied that he had heard a great many personally say Pink Pink Pills had helped them wonderfully. If given a fair and thorough trial Pink Pills are a certain care for all diseases of the blood and nerves, such as rheumatism. neuralgia, partial paralysis, locomotor ataxia, St. Vitus' dance, nervous heacache, such as scrofula, chronic erysipelas, etc. Pink Pills give a healthy glow to pale and the troubles peculiar to the female system. and in the case of men they effect a radical cure in all cases arising from mental worry overwork, or excesses of any nature. Sold by all dealers or sent by mail, postpaid, at 50ents a box or six boxes for \$2.50, or by