

Poetry.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

The following poem is said to have been written by King James I., though by some it is ascribed to Bishop Andrews.

If any be distressed, and this would gather

Saints together, let him have unto

Our Father,

For we of hope and help are quite bereaved

Except Thine never us;

Who art in heaven,

Thou shewest mercy, therefore for the same

We praise Thee, singe,

Hallowed be Thy name.

Of all our enemies cast us in the sun;

Show us Thy favor, and

Thy kingdom come.

We natural and other from our birth;

Thou constant art.

The will be done on earth,

As in heaven.

Nothing we have to use, or likes to pay,

Except Thou givest it to us,

Wherewith to clothe us, wherewith to be fed;

For without Thee we want

Our daily bread.

We want, but want no livings, for no day passes

But we in sin—

Pardon us our trespasses.

No man from sinning ever free did live,

Forgive us our sins;

As we forgive.

We repeat our faults, Then ne'er disdain us;

We pardon them.

That trespass against us;

Pardon us that is past, a new path tread us;

Direct us always in thy path,

And lead us—

We thin e're people and thy chosen nation;

Unto all men give us

No into temptation.

Then that of all graces set the gloom,

Suffer us not to wander,

But deliver

Us from the fierce assaults of mould and death,

And flesh, as shall That free us

From all evil.

To these petitions let both church and laymen,

With one consent of heart and voice, say

Amen.

Miscellany.

A REMARKABLE RACE.

We have been much interested by an article in a recent number of the *Friend of India*, respecting a tribe, of whom we had no previous knowledge, inhabiting a district named the Coleban, lying to the west of Calcutta, between Madrasapore and Chittagong, and covering about 1500 square miles. They are described as savages who still prevail through the Indian jungles, robs of the aborigines, and similar to the lowest sections of the city populations of modern Europe. Civilization seems only to drive them still further from the ranks of the community. They are found within a day's journey of the Indian metropolis, and present a promising field for missionary effort.

They number about seventy-five thousand, and seem to be the most degraded of all the tribes in India Proper. Divided into families or clans, they have no caste, no creed, no gods, no hope, and no fear of a future state of being. The only religious impulse affecting them, is an insidious term of evil spirits, or of witchcraft. Under this influence, men have murdered their own parents and children, and others, accounted rich, from the possession of a few cattle, reduced themselves to beggary, when attacked by sickness, by sacrifices, hoping thereby to avert the wrath of the evil spirits. And when this resource has failed, they steal the property of others to meet the instant demands on their herds. Naturally lazy, they only cultivate when they cannot rob, and they limit their agriculture to the production of the rice necessary for present subsistence. In their villages there are one or two weavers, who furnish the small quantity of cloth required by a people who go almost naked, a maker of pottery, and a few bardsmen to watch the cattle. Besides these, they have no artisans or tradesmen. All the rest are agriculturists and idlers. They are lazy and insatiable. The slightest provocation rouses a Cole to pugnacity; and if they cannot inflict immediate vengeance, they commit suicide. A government officer has been placed among them, whose presence has somewhat restrained their violence; but suicides have lamentably increased. This disposition, strange to tell, is particularly prevalent among the women.

Some efforts have been made to improve this singular race, and not without such success as to show, that though degraded, wretched, and cruel, they are not hopeless. In 1837 government sanctioned the establishment of a school in which English and Hindoo were taught. Not only did the boys crowd to acquire the latter language, but old men were seen gravely conning the alphabet. But unhappily the master persisted in teaching English, which these people no more wanted than the pupils in our ragged schools wish for Greek, and finding they could obtain nothing else abandoned the school in disgust.

A subsequent attempt was made. Three vernacular schools were established. But there was no inquiry as to the language of these people. Bengali was fixed upon, whereas there is an aboriginal dialect, and the language spoken around them being Hindoo, they will only attempt to acquire it. The schools, it is said, still exist, but they are useless to the people for whom they are intended.

They are moreover represented as perfectly willing to work, and to work hard, in their own way, for an adequate inducement. Possessed of great bodily strength and hardihood, they make admirable artisans, and excel particularly in masons' work and carpentry. They are fond of learning, and it is to be deeply regretted that, through mistake, the right sort of instruction is not provided.

Now it is very plain that in such a district, among such a people, there is a fine field for missionary effort. Its proximity to Calcutta renders the attempt possible, and we hope attention may be turned to it. The people are numerous enough to justify exertion. They have nothing to complain of, and they have no caste to break. They are ready for a particular form of instruction, and have shown, under favourable circumstances, an aptitude for civilization. If schools were established, and the Christian doctrines made known to them, a man, in many respects as low and debased as the negro, or the cannibals of the South Sea Islands, might be rescued from ruin, and raised to civilization and the fear and love of God.—*Baptist Magazine*.

PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES.

Mr. James Haughton of Dublin, relates in the *Westford Independent*, the following incident:

"I was this morning at the King's-bridge terminus of the Great Southern and Western Railway, seeing some friends take their departure for the south. A gentleman of considerable wealth, with whom I have been long acquainted, arrived, accompanied by his eldest son, an interesting young fellow, probably 16 to 18 years of age, whom he introduced to me, saying, if you meet this boy a teetotaler I will give you a hundred guineas. On taking their seats in the carriage he repeated his promise aloud—in the hearing of many persons—and said, moreover, I have another son, and if you make them both teetotalers I will give you two hundred guineas."

"This all passed hastily, and as the train soon started on its rapid journey, impelled by that mysterious force which man has made in so many ways subservient to the steady progress of civilization, I had but little opportunity of reply. I said, however, that I would engage to make the attempt for half the money, and that I felt satisfied I could succeed, on one condition, which was—that he himself should become a teetotaler—that example was the surest teacher. He shook his head, and said he was too old to change his habits; and when I appealed to my young friend, he said something about teetotalism not being suited to the 'habits of country gentlemen.'

Mr. Haughton turned his steps homeward, but reflecting as he walked upon this conversation, he determined to appeal to parents, on behalf of teetotalism. The father above referred to, knowing by experience the dangers to which young men are exposed, would gladly pay a large sum to save his sons from temptation, and yet lack moral courage to induce his son cheerfully to make the sacrifice of appetite. How many such parents are there to be found. Mr. H. concludes his appeal by observing "that the enactment of a law by our legislature prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating drinks would soon place the people of Great Britain and Ireland in a condition of abounding happiness."

FORTUNES OF A PIN.

In the year 1780 a boy, called Lefitte, first appeared in Paris. He was poor and greatly desired to obtain an inferior place in a banking-house. Furnished with a letter of introduction, he went to the house of a rich Swiss banker to ask for employment. He was friendless, timid, and cowards, and the banker, thinking him unfit for a clerk, told him that he had no room for him in his office.

The lad left the banker's richly gilded room with a sad heart. While crossing the court-yard, with drooping head, he saw a pin on the ground; he stooped down, took it up, and placed it carefully in the corner of his coat. He did not think at the time that this act, so trifling in itself, would be the turning-point in his life, and the means of his future splendid success.

The banker took him into his enclosure under the canopy, and getting a convenient seat, placed the child by his side. The little fellow looked around upon the crowd of spectators, and gazed upon the immense canary umbrella spread above him; and then turning to the gentleman, he inquired, "What is this?—Where am I?" The gentleman replied, "This is a circus." For a father says a circus is a bad place?" "Wait," said the gentleman, "and you will see some fine horses, and fine-dressed gentlemen and ladies, and you will be delighted with them." "No, no," said the child, "I cannot stay; I must go out, and go away from here; for father says a circus is a bad place, and not fit for little boys."

The gentleman tried in vain to satisfy the boy's conscience; but nothing would do, and he was compelled to take him out and carry him home. This was a noble boy. The little fellow did exactly right. He determined to obey his father. "Child, run over your parents in the Loto; for this is right."—*From the American Messenger*.

HAVE NO TIME TO PRAY.

Indeed, friend, "hastn't time?" What is time?—whose is it? Who made time? Is time yours, or God's?—which? Has God given you time to live, to breathe, to walk, to talk, to eat? Why not pray in it?—mind what God says? God commands you to pray—pray always—with all prayer and supplications in the spirit.

"But I have so much business!"—

"Business," indeed? What business? yours, or God's? Have you any separate business from God's business? If so, you are a rebel—attempting to thwart God, and set up a separate kingdom!

Does God tell you to do your business first, or his?

—which? Have you any business aside from God's? Have you?—we say again, a rebel, a false steward!—He that is not for me, is against me."

Your business should be God's business, and God's business yours—and your first and great business is to serve God with all the heart, soul, mind, strength—the through eternity.

The more business you have, the more you need prayer, grace, wisdom, righteousness, clemency, sanctification.

Some farmers, and some mechanics, and some merchants, run off, clasp the "muck rule," neglect the church, the family above.

Friends: will not God by and by take from you the watchfulness, and give it to others, more worthy, more faithful, more honorable? "Will a man rob God?"

"In all the ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths." "So small thy hours will be filled with plenty and thy pressing burst out with new wine."

IS THE BATTLE WON?

We ask you to put your hand to the work, and come to the help of the Lord against the mighty. Be not any more silent, but up and doing. The fashion of the world is rapidly passing away. Time will soon merge into Eternity. As yet it is day, but the dark night is approaching. The sky is becoming darker—the clouds are gathering fast. Make haste, prepare to meet the God. What hand, findeth to do, as it was poor might. It is related of a soldier of Mahomet, who had fought all day and been severely wounded; at evening his attendants observing him faint, carried him to his tent for repose, and removed his helmet to his head, and the rust of his exploits adorning his hair, and the rust of his sword at his side.

"How happens it my little girl, that you don't come to our house for cold stomachs now-a-days?"

"Ah!" said the little innocent, her bright blue eyes glistening with delight, as she spoke, "I have got a good law now: father can't get any longer now; he is as sober as a judge."

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TESTIMONY OF A CHILD IN FAVOUR OF THE MAINE LAW.

Mr. Dow informs us, that street-begging ceased soon after the enactment of the Maine law and that of the temperance men in Portland, upon meeting a little child who had formerly been a street-beggar, accosted her thus:

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