

best year in Africa for Jesus.

Much love to you all from us both.

Lovingly,

ALICE F. STERRITT.

Dear Brother Trafton:

You will be encouraged to learn that there were thirteen converts baptized last Sunday and received into church membership. A goodly number were present and much blessing attended the services.

Next day we had the Christmas feast for the natives. Over five hundred present, enjoying the twenty-one goats cooked with the usual cracked corn.

Showers of rain came on just as we were about to have our preaching service, driving us to the shelter of the church and hospital buildings. We had two separate services and believe that more good will result than would have from an open air service, because inside there was less distraction. There was more than the usual blessing in these services.

The rain ceased after our meetings, permitting the people to eat out of doors.

Some men who could not find room in the church during the preaching sought shelter from the rain in a thatched roof cattle shed. Many climbed to the loft, where their weight proved too much, for there was a sudden giving way and down came the whole structure. It seemed a miracle that none were injured by the tremendous weight of big logs. Many were the ejaculations of wonder when it was known that all had escaped. They seemed unanimous in their belief that the Lord had saved them.

This happened just as our meetings were

This happened just as our meetings went out, so all came rushing to the scene of the disaster. When I heard different men protesting that the power of the Lord had saved them from a sudden death, I put it to them that they at once decide and give themselves to him as seekers. It was evident that they were deeply moved but they were not ready to make any vows. So, on the whole, it seemed that they had a lesson even though not attending the preaching services.

We are very grateful to God for the good we feel sure was accomplished at the native Christmas feast.

Yours in His service,

H. C. SANDERS.

HISTORY OF A BOOK.

A lady on her way from New York to Boston, several years ago, in one of our New England steamers, took pains to make the acquaintance of a strange lady. Her object in doing this was the hope of doing some good, religiously, to one who she judged might be a disciple of the Lord Jesus, but seemed to bear in her countenance traces of care or sorrow.

On ascertaining the case of the stranger, she was found to be the widow of a dear missionary, who had died at his post in a far-off land and this lovely widow, with her little fatherless children, was now thus far on her way towards her New England home. The lady who had, by loving attentions, made the acquaintance of the interesting widow, took much interest in spreading out before her newly acquired

friend the delight of the land of rest from inbred sin, and told her the way by which it was obtained—through appropriating faith in the blood of the everlasting covenant. Ere she separated from the widow, to meet no more on earth, she presented a copy of "The Way of Holiness, with Notes by the Way."

Years passed on, and memory had made such a gulf between the past and present, that the recollection would have been quite lost, but for the extensive travels and remarkable work that the little volume in the meanwhile had accomplished. The widow to whom it had been presented, having found it helpful in leading her own soul towards the cleansing fountain, and being no more able to mingle with the beloved missionaries on the far-distant continent where the remains of her dear one were sleeping in the dust, unknown to the one who had presented the little volume, sent it on its mission of some thousands of miles.

The next thing heard of the volume was that it had been used by the Holy Spirit, in inducing the two devoted missionaries laboring in that field to investigate, prayerfully, the subject of Christian holiness. They saw by the light of Scripture, through the simple teaching of the little volume, that holiness was a state clearly set forth in the Bible, as a blessing to be received now, and to be received by faith. True to their convictions, these self-sacrificing missionaries resolved that their experience should be in accordance with their views of Christian privilege.

Having embraced the truth of Christ, as a Saviour able to save to the uttermost, they dared not hide the righteousness of God within their heart. As the result of their declaring Christ as a present Saviour their declaring Christ as a present Saviour from all sin, some of their fellow-missionaries, disposed to repudiate the doctrine of Christian holiness, opposed. On being reported to the large influential society at home by which they had been sent to their foreign field of labor that they were suspected of heresy, one of these dear missionaries was called home to answer to the charge. Was it not a remarkable coincidence that he should be directed to the house of the identical lady who had presented the "Way of Holiness" to that lonely widow on board the steamer? And it was here, for the first time, she was made acquainted with the far-distant mission that the forgotten gift had been performing.

But the mission of these consecrated spirit-baptized missionaries was not done. Though accounted guilty of heresy by the Church organization under whose auspices they had at first gone abroad, another society was now formed, whose originators, under God, were not only sound in the faith according to the Bible standard, on the doctrine of Christian holiness, but whose utter abhorrence of the vile system of slavery caused them to rally under the then persecuted banner of abolitionism. And now, behold what God hath wrought by that society! It has since sustained scores of missionaries, whose motto has been, "Holiness to the Lord;" thousands of freedom under its auspices are being cared for, clothed, fed, and

taught to read God's Word, and know the gospel of their salvation.—Guide to Holiness, 1865.

CONSCIENCE.

By conscience is meant "that faculty by which we discern the moral quality of actions." But few, if any, of the human race have degenerated so far as to lose all moral sense. Conscience is the monitor that stands guard at the bar of the will. If the choices and decisions of the will are right, conscience approves, if wrong, conscience admonishes. He who contemplates a wrong act may regard or disregard this silent monitor, just as he chooses. But its faithful warnings will be heard.—B. R. J.

AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA.

A wild, dissipated fellow at Plymouth, who was in the habit of diving to the bottom of the sea in search of what could be got there, said to himself one day when he was on one of these diving expeditions, "They tell me God is everywhere. I do not believe He can be here at the bottom of the sea!" No sooner had these words passed through his mind than his eye lighted on something white lying at the bottom; and on diving close to it he saw that it was a tract in the mouth of an oyster, and this text was written on it, "Thou God seest me!" The rough diver seized hold of this little messenger from heaven, which indeed convinced him that God did see him wherever he was, and heard the very thoughts of his inmost heart. From that time he became a changed man, forsook his sins, and sought and found his Saviour. And now if any one cares to see the means used by God for the diver's conversion, he will be able to do so should he go to Plymouth; for there the tract stands on his mantle-piece, in the mouth of the oyster.—Sel.

WONDERFUL PRAYER ANSWERED.

In the year 1887 the China Inland Mission, under the leadership of J. Hudson Taylor, asked the Lord to send to China, under their auspices, at least one hundred new missionaries. To meet the increased expenses they also asked for £10,000 more money, and, knowing that if it came in small sums it would necessitate a larger office force, they asked that it would be sent to them on large payments. At a meeting for prayer held early in the year, these earnest workers poured out their hearts in petition to God for these special things. As they rose from their knees, and tarried a few minutes before separating, Hudson Taylor said: "Don't you think before we go, it would be well to thank the Lord for these things. He has surely heard us, and we may not be able to meet together for prayer again." Once more they knelt, and this time offered up glad praises and thanksgiving to God for what He was going to do. Such sublime faith was abundantly rewarded, for ere the close of 1887 one hundred new missionaries were on the field, and the £10,000 was paid in, having been received in eleven months.—Sel.