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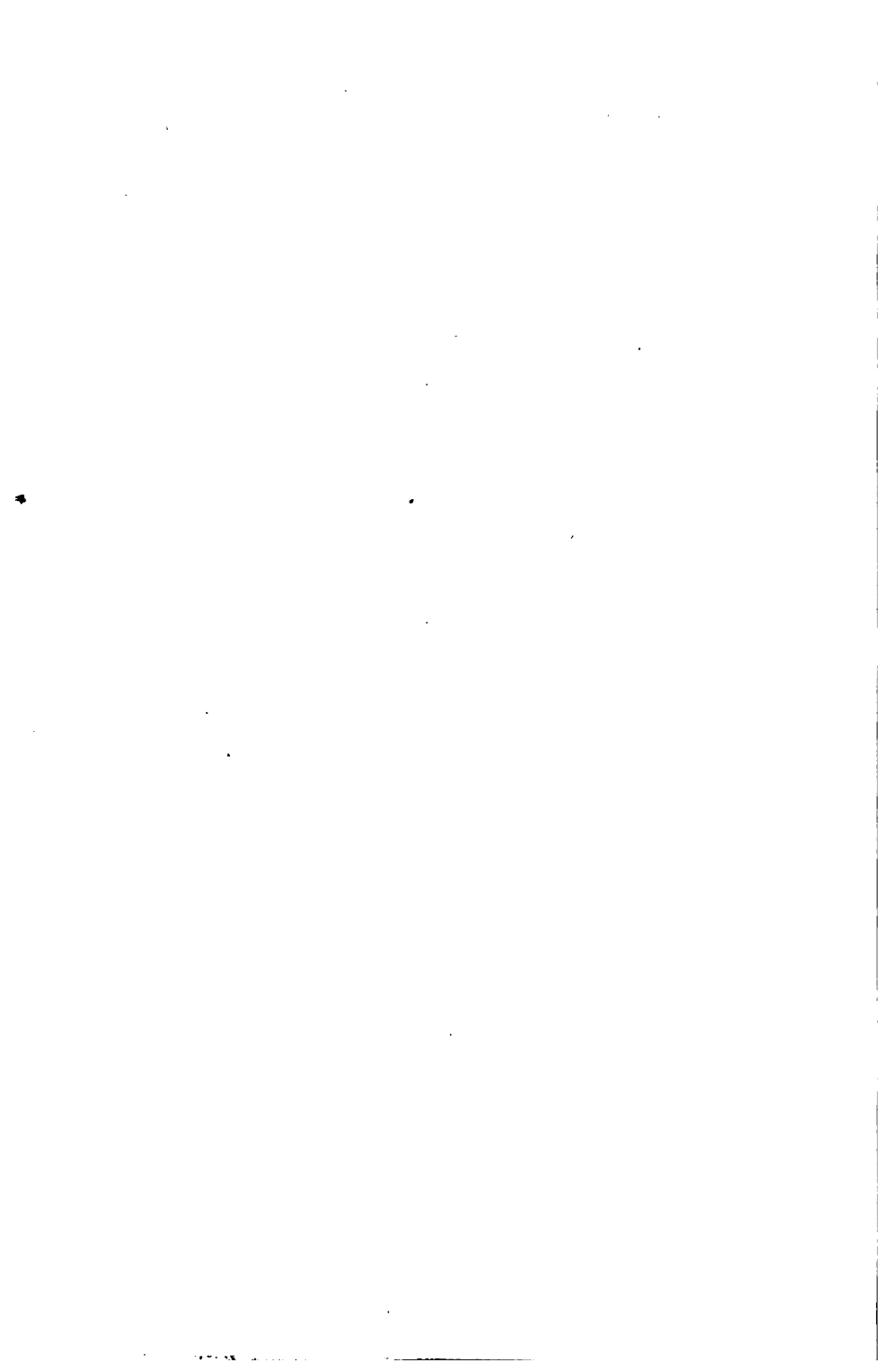
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To

Miss Cwelling
with Miss Moore's grateful
thanks for help so kindly
rendered towards the late
J. Moore Work for the Blind

July. 1898







DR, WM. MOON.

[Frontispiece.]

1. The first part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the

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6. The fifth part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the



WILLIAM MOON, LL.D.

F.R.G.S., F.S.A.

AND HIS WORK FOR THE BLIND

BY

JOHN RUTHERFURD, M.A., B.D.

Lewes

WITH PORTRAITS AND ILLUSTRATIONS

LONDON

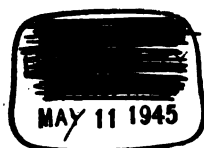
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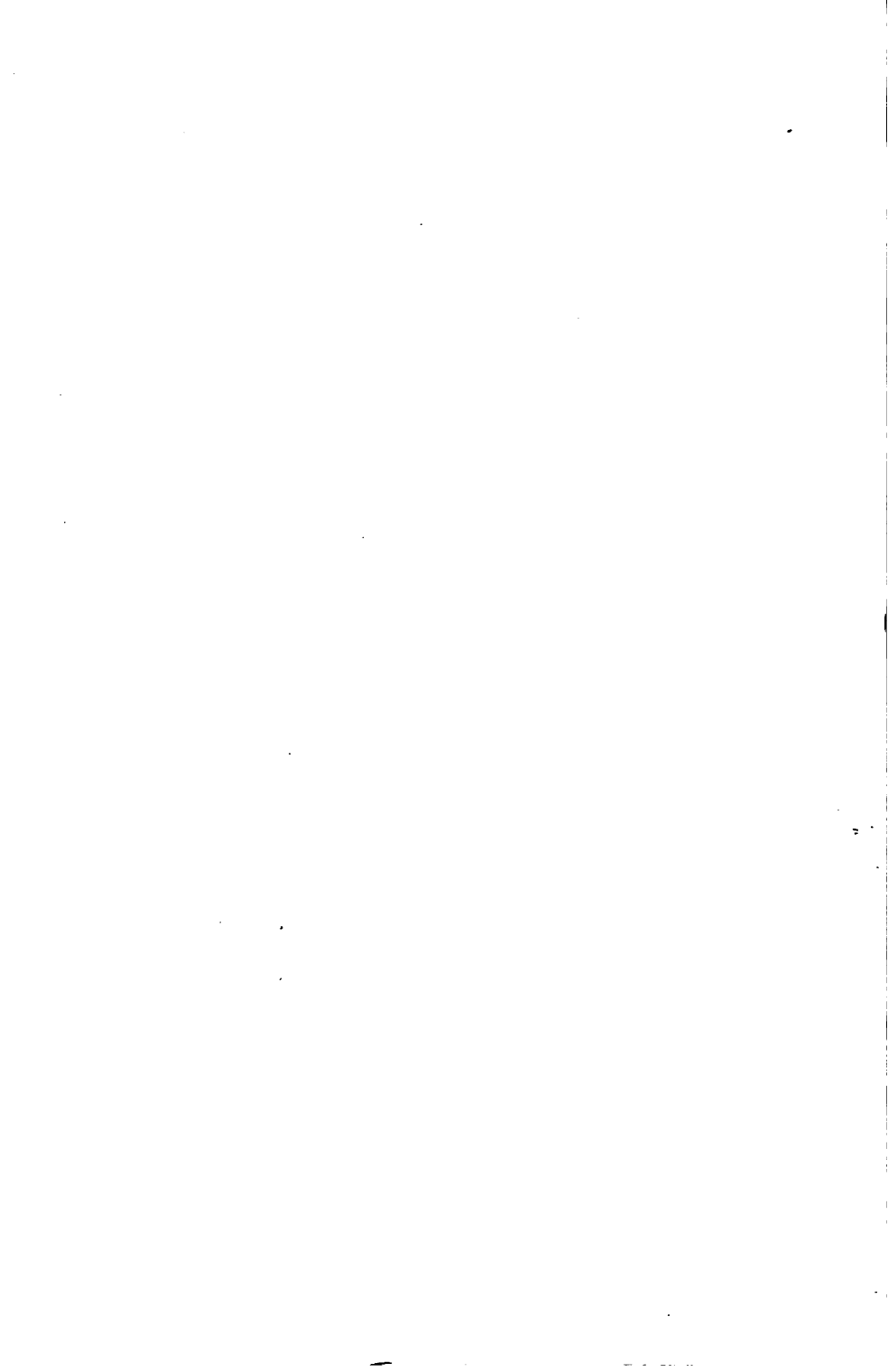
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**PARENTAGE; CHILDHOOD; EARLY DAYS;
BLINDNESS**



CHAPTER I

PARENTAGE; CHILDHOOD; EARLY DAYS; BLINDNESS

"I was eyes to the blind."—JOB xxix. 15.

"God gave me blindness as a talent to be used for His glory. Without blindness I should never have been able to see the needs of the blind."—WILLIAM MOON.

" But thou
Revisit'st not these eyes, that roll in vain
To find thy piercing ray, and find no dawn ;
So thick a drop serene hath quenched their orbs,
Or dim suffusion veiled."

Paradise Lost.

I N the preface to his *Astronomical Atlas for the Blind*, published in 1874, Dr. Moon writes :
" Numerous instances both in ancient and modern times might be adduced in support of the fact that great mental vigour and ability are not unfrequently associated with blindness. Scarcely any department of human knowledge or science is without its representative amongst the blind. They have adorned literature and art ; in many instances they have manifested eminent engineering skill. The blind also number among them philo-

sophers, mathematicians, philanthropists, divines, poets, musicians, and others of commanding intellect." Dr. Moon was himself an instance of the truth of these words.

Horsemonden, a parish near to Tunbridge Wells in Kent, is in the midst of an important agricultural district. It is also noted for its very fine old church. Within the sound of its chimes William Moon was born on the 18th of December, 1818. His parents were James and Mary Funnell Moon. The family of Moon was at one time of considerable importance in the neighbouring county of Sussex.¹

James Moon died while his children were quite young, leaving his widow with a son and daughter to bring up and educate. Mary Funnell Moon, who lived to be ninety years of age, was remarkable for her conscientious firmness and decision of character, and doubtless it was to his mother that William Moon owed much of his peculiarly strong personality.

His whole career is a proof that "impossible"

¹ Under parish of Rotherfield: "Walshes or Welshes, an estate and manor in this parish. The estate continued in the family (of Fermor) for upwards of two centuries, and was recently the property of a family of the name of Moon, a name of some antiquity in the neighbourhood."—*The History, Antiquities, and Topography of the County of Sussex*. By T. W. Horsfield, F.S.A. 1835. Vol. I., p. 399.

is a word which should be used but sparingly. Whenever persons would say, "I cannot do this or that," he would invariably reply to them, "You should never say that." The widowed mother was held in the greatest reverence by her children, and the instructions they received at her knee were never effaced from their memories.

William Moon was about seven years old when he lost his father; but though his father and mother had removed to Brighton, he had not yet been brought to that town, with which his name and his work were afterwards to be so honourably associated, but meanwhile remained with his grandparents at Horsemonden.

From the country life amid the South Downs he was taken to London, where he was placed at school. As a schoolboy he had to meet difficulties which others do not require to face, but the result proved that, to the brave heart, difficulties exist only to be overcome.

When only four years old he had lost the sight of one eye, as the result of scarlet fever, and even in his boyhood he could read ordinary print only when the colours of the type were sufficiently contrasted with that of the paper to make the effect clear and distinct; and therefore, to aid his sight, he used to write on a slate with chalk. In mental arithmetic he quite excelled. Owing to

his defective sight he accepted help from his fellow-pupils in the preparation of the daily lessons ; they kindly aided him by reading these to him, and he then wrote the lessons on a series of slates, and could thus commit them to memory. In return for this kindness shown by his comrades he used to compose all kinds of tales, which he would recite to them to their amusement and entertainment.

After leaving school he continued his studies with a view to qualify himself for the ministry of the gospel. During this period of his life he underwent several surgical operations on his eyes ; but notwithstanding all that could be done by the most skilful treatment, his sight gradually failed, until in 1840 he became totally blind : this happened when he was twenty-one years of age.

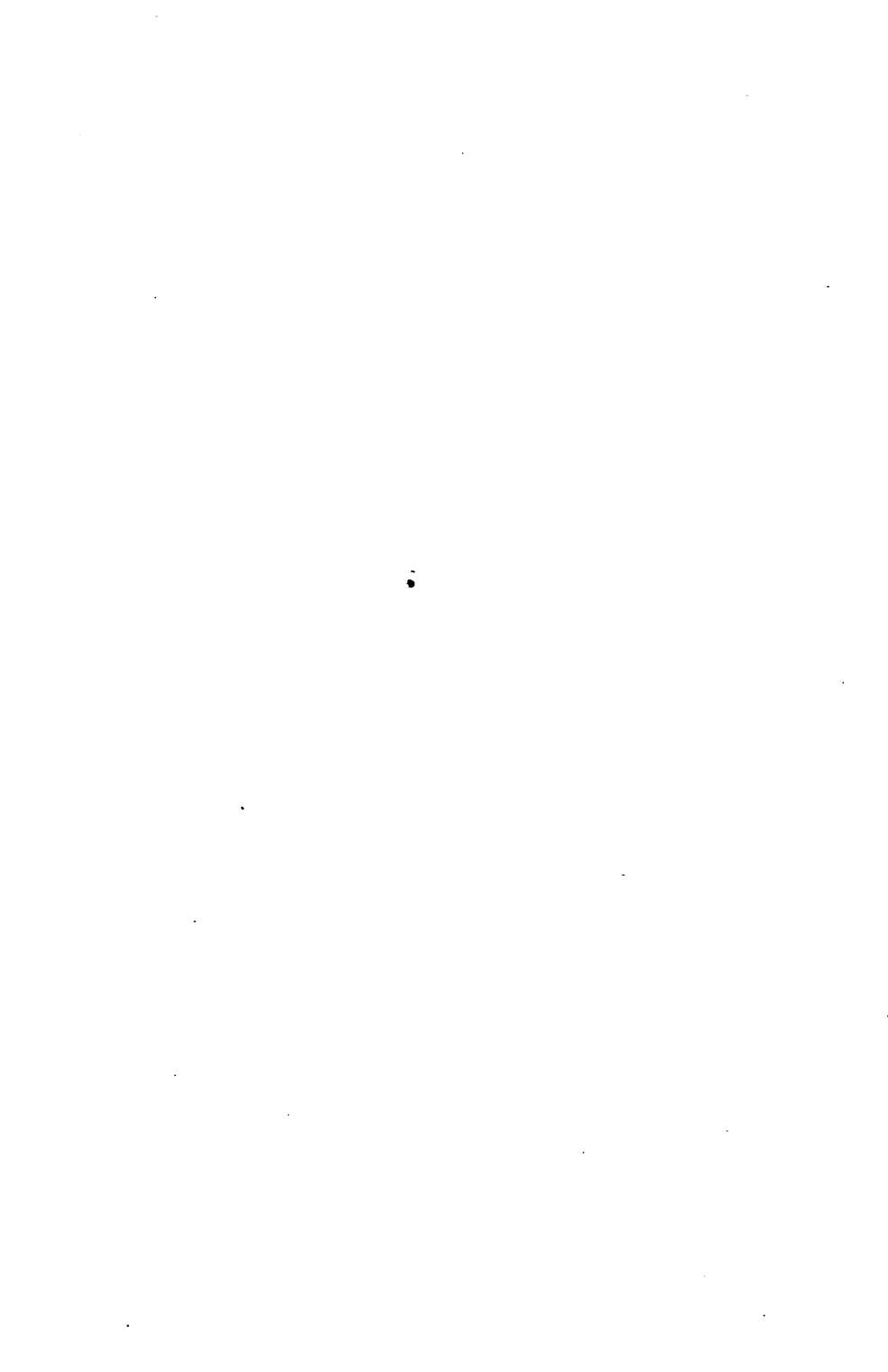
Just before he lost his sight entirely, he had been in the country and was returning to Brighton by the Lewes Road. As he was nearing the town his sight suddenly left him : he lifted up his heart in prayer asking that he might be helped. A dray happened to come along, and he followed behind it until he reached the town, when his sight partially returned—enough to enable him to get home. For some time the sight continued to come and go, the disease being gradual in its developement.

Not many weeks afterwards his mother one day

asked him to go an errand for her. Astonished that she received no reply, she said, "Are you too proud to carry a parcel for your mother?" and then he could only answer, "Mother, I am blind."

He suffered much pain in his eyes. Some one gave him an old violin, which he would take to the highest rooms in the house and there play as he best could. The process of learning the violin is proverbially not a pleasant one to the listeners; but in this case it answered the purpose of diverting the attention of the performer himself from the pain.

Mary Moon, his only sister, and his devoted companion, was always ready and willing to render him assistance. In his eagerness to acquire information he would not unfrequently get out of bed in the middle of the night, and seeking her room would light a candle and ask her to read him passages from some work he had brought with him. This sister is now a widow. She has the satisfaction of knowing how much gratification she afforded her brother during those early years of his blindness,



THE INVENTOR

CHAPTER II

THE INVENTOR

LOSING no time in vain regrets over the calamity which had befallen him, William Moon gave his attention to mastering the various systems of reading for the blind which were in use at that time. In this he was aided by some ladies, especially by Miss Jane Mohun, residing in Ship Street, Brighton, who kindly interested herself in teaching him to read from Frere's embossed type, which is based upon a phonetic principle. It was during the latter months of 1838, or in the beginning of 1839, that he acquired the art of reading those types. He had not then wholly lost his sight, but it was failing very rapidly. When he became quite blind in 1840, he purchased a few books in embossed type ; and as he had nothing to occupy his time, he at once began to seek for and teach other blind persons at their homes. After a while he succeeded in forming a class of blind pupils of various ages. This class subsequently

developed into the Asylum for the Blind in Eastern Road, Brighton.

Sarah Silverthorne was his first pupil. She was a woman about thirty years of age, and lived a few doors above Smithers' brewery in North Street. He next met with Edward Cogling, a boy about seven years of age; then Harriet Pollard, about four; then Amelia Wise, about three. After her came William Bishop, a boy of about ten, and another lad in John Street, of about nine. These afterwards came to Mr. Moon's home in High Street and formed a class. Bishop did not attend the class at first, but joined it afterwards when it met during the week at the Rev. Mr. Maitland's Sunday School Room. Here this class of blind persons was formed into a day school, along with the deaf and dumb, who had been collected together by Miss Mohun.

About a year afterwards all the pupils removed to Egremont Place, where an institution was opened for the blind and the deaf and dumb. A year later a separation was made, the deaf and dumb remaining in the old premises, while a new day school for the blind was opened at the corner of Egremont Place. Soon afterwards the school for the blind was removed to Mighel Street; in 1842 it was transferred to 27, St. James Street; and subsequently to a class-room



WM. MOON AT THE AGE OF 21.

(From a Portrait taken just after he lost his sight.)

[To face p. 12,

of the Central National Schools in Church Street, where it remained until it was removed to Eastern Road.

With much perseverance and with more or less success, he endeavoured to instruct his pupils in one or other of the systems then in use. But he found that many of his scholars were quite unequal to the task of committing to memory a long series of contractions, or of deciphering a type in which the ordinary forms of the Roman alphabet were employed. It is believed that owing to these causes comparatively few blind persons advanced in years or accustomed to manual labour were at that time able to read by the touch.

Reflecting on such facts as these, the desire arose in his mind to devise some easier method; and after earnest consideration and ingenious contriving he constructed a new system, which has now stood the test of fifty years and is known throughout the world as "Moon's" system for teaching the blind to read.

The alphabet constructed by him consists of letters of very simple form combined with a full orthography. Most of the characters are either the unaltered or slightly modified forms of the Roman letters. Where some of the more complex letters of the Roman alphabet could not be changed or adapted with advantage, new char-

acters were substituted for them. When completed Dr. Moon's alphabet was found to consist of only nine characters placed in various positions. A glance at it will show that it is composed of the very simplest geometrical forms, such as the straight line, the acute and the right angle, the circle and the semicircle.

The simplicity of construction of Dr. Moon's alphabet is further shown from the fact that five of the forms used in it, each of them turned four different ways, make twenty letters out of the twenty-six. Thus the character (A) stands for A, K, V, X, in the varied positions of



The alphabet consists of eight of the Roman letters unaltered, fourteen others with parts left out, and five new and very simple forms which may be easily learned by the aged and by persons whose fingers are hardened by work.

The more the type was tried the more was the young inventor encouraged by its success and by its adaptability to the needs of the blind. It soon became evident that his future life was destined to be devoted to their welfare, and in particular to the preparation of a literature for their use.

Half a century afterwards and but a short time before his death he could thankfully remark to a visitor who had called on him in Brighton, "It has been for me a long night, but a bright day. God has been pleased to give me the talent of blindness, and I have tried to do my best to use it."



LIGHT FOR THE BLIND

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Sarah Silverthorne was his first pupil. She was a woman about thirty years of age, and lived a few doors above Smithers' brewery in North Street. He next met with Edward Cogling, a boy about seven years of age; then Harriet Pollard, about four; then Amelia Wise, about three. After her came William Bishop, a boy of about ten, and another lad in John Street, of about nine. These afterwards came to Mr. Moon's home in High Street and formed a class. Bishop did not attend the class at first, but joined it afterwards when it met during the week at the Rev. Mr. Maitland's Sunday School Room. Here this class of blind persons was formed into a day school, along with the deaf and dumb, who had been collected together by Miss Mohun.

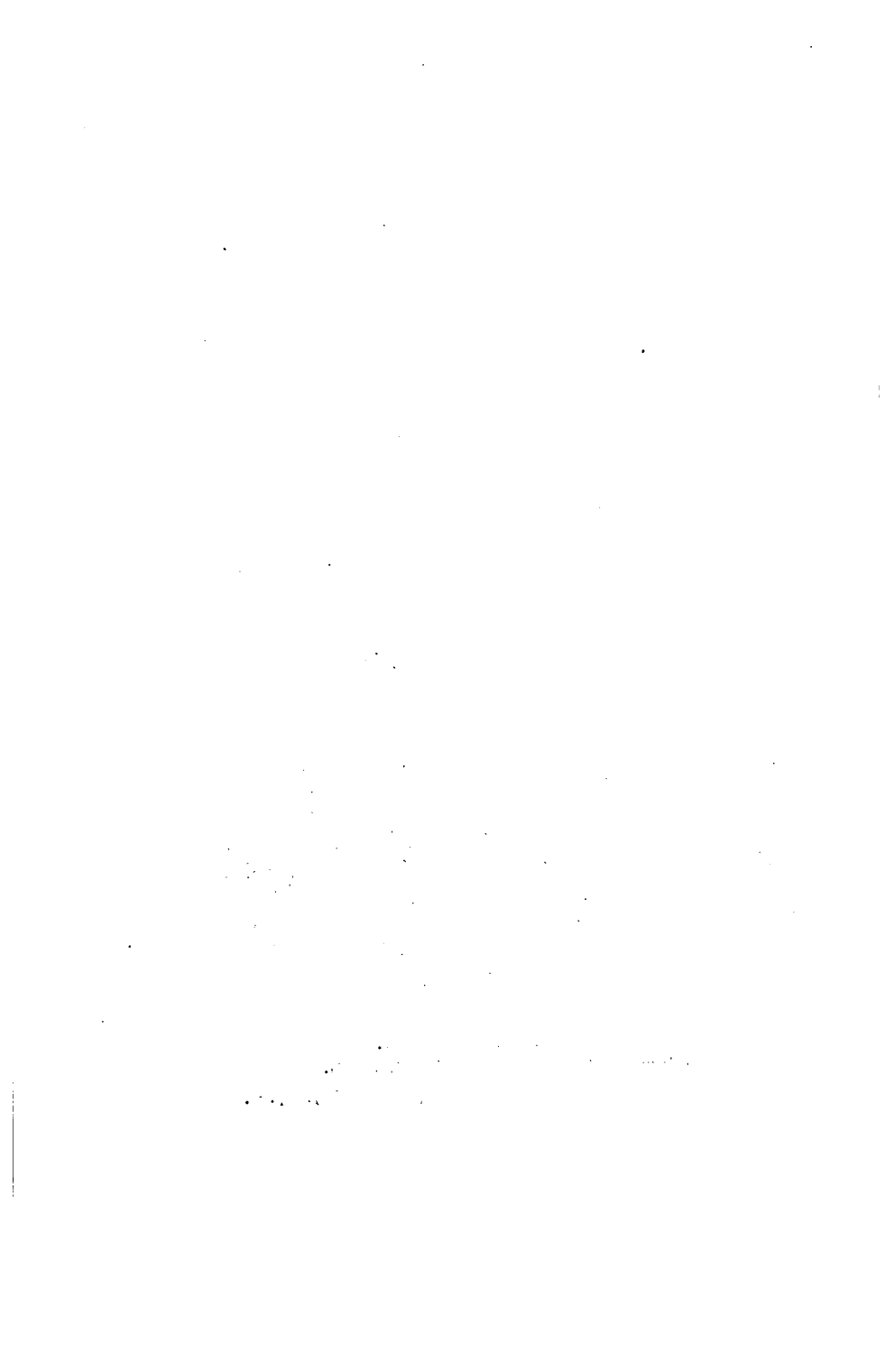
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THE AGN

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face p. 17.



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With much perseverance and with more or less success, he endeavoured to instruct his pupils in one or other of the systems then in use. But he found that many of his scholars were quite unequal to the task of committing to memory a long series of contractions, or of deciphering a type in which the ordinary forms of the Roman alphabet were employed. It is believed that owing to these causes comparatively few blind persons advanced in years or accustomed to manual labour were at that time able to read by the touch.

Reflecting on such facts as these, the desire arose in his mind to devise some easier method ; and after earnest consideration and ingenious contriving he constructed a new system, which has now stood the test of fifty years and is known throughout the world as "Moon's" system for teaching the blind to read.

The alphabet constructed by him consists of letters of very simple form combined with a full orthography. Most of the characters are either the unaltered or slightly modified forms of the Roman letters. Where some of the more complex letters of the Roman alphabet could not be changed or adapted with advantage, new char-

singular. According to the most reliable accounts, it was as follows:—In 1783 a band of blind musicians in Paris obtained their living by playing in the streets; and, strange to say, they wore spectacles and placed music books on stands before them, as if they were possessed of sight. Among the listeners who gathered round this sightless company was the philanthropic Haüy. As he watched them pretending to read page after page of their books, it occurred to him that some plan of raised notes might perhaps be devised by which these poor men could feel the notes they played. He consequently collected all the information he could respecting the blind and the plans which at different times had been adopted for their instruction. The types prepared by the Philanthropic Society came to his knowledge, and were afterwards used by him in the Institution for the Blind which he eventually established.

“Haüy's first pupil was a young man born blind named Lesieur, who, like many other blind persons in Paris, begged for his subsistence at the door of a church. To prevail upon this man to be instructed Haüy had to pay him as much money as he gained from sources of public charity; and as he went on teaching his pupil, fresh modes of instructing the blind were suggested to his

mind. Encouraged by the success he experienced, he applied to the Philanthropic Society and received immediate help from the excellent Bailly, then Mayor of Paris, and the Duc de Rochefoucault-Liencourt. He was thus enabled to collect other blind persons, and subsequently obtained for them a house, No. 18 in the Rue Notre Dame des Victoires. This house may be considered to have been the cradle of all the Schools of Instruction for the Blind throughout the world. In 1785 he had twenty-five gratuitous pupils, who made considerable progress; and the novelty of the undertaking soon attracted public attention and support. On December 26th, 1786, at the command of the King, Monsieur Haüy exhibited his pupils before the Royal Family at Versailles, who honoured him with the warmest testimony of their approbation.

“In 1791 the National Assembly passed a decree placing the Institution under the charge of the State, assigning it a dwelling in the ancient Convent of the Celestines. A sum of 24,000 francs per annum was to be provided for the maintenance of masters and pupils; but amidst the political agitation which soon afterwards ensued the Institution was forgotten, and it required Haüy's most strenuous efforts during the three following years to keep it supported.

"In 1795 the Government again came to his aid, and passed a decree giving the Institution the title of 'Blind Workers.'"

The Introduction of Embossed Reading into England.—"In 1821 the Lady Elizabeth Lowther brought from Paris some of the embossed books referred to, for the use of her son Sir Charles Lowther, Bart., of Swillington and Wilton Castle, Yorkshire. She also procured types by means of which he might emboss other books."

Sir Charles Lowther.—"Sir Charles Lowther accordingly, aided by a clever man-servant, embossed the Gospel of St. Matthew and several of the Epistles for his own use: so that he may be considered to have been the first to read and print embossed books in this country. The original printing-press and types are still preserved at Swillington. Sir Charles now possesses a full library of works embossed in my type."¹

Mr. Gall of Edinburgh.—"In 1827 Mr. Gall of Edinburgh embossed some elementary works in an angular type; and in 1828 commenced the Gospel of St. John, which was not published till 1834. He afterwards published the remaining three Gospels, the Acts of the Apostles, and

¹ Since this was written Sir Charles Lowther has died: see page 89.

several of the Epistles, as well as a few religious tracts. It was this philanthropist who aroused the British public to a sense of the duty of providing reading for the blind ; and he justly deserves honour as the benevolent pioneer in the preparation of books in this country for their use."

Mr. Alston of Glasgow.—"In 1837 Mr. Alston of Glasgow printed some elementary books in the Roman letter ; in the following year, the New Testament ; and in 1840 he completed the Bible in nineteen volumes. The form of the Roman letter adopted by him was, however, found to be too difficult for the touch of the generality of the blind. The letters were too complex, owing to the numerous lines of which they were composed."

The Systems of Lucas and of Frere.—"Mr. Lucas of Bristol, a shorthand writer, and Mr. Frere of Blackheath, perceiving the difficulties in the use of the Roman and angular types, and that they would never meet the requirements of the great mass of the blind—more than half of whom are over fifty years of age, and whose touch is often hardened by work—each introduced an alphabet consisting of simpler forms ; but their systems being based upon stenography or shorthand, in order to reduce the bulk of the books and the expense of their production, have proved

unsuitable to the capacity of many, especially of the aged and nervous blind.

"In the year 1840," continues Dr. Moon, "when I became blind, I discovered with much regret that the arduous efforts of my good and zealous predecessors had failed to accomplish the object to which they had been directed. I was led to investigate the causes of failure, and to attempt the construction of a System of Reading adapted to all classes and capacities of the blind. By the Divine blessing upon my endeavours I was enabled to project a plan embracing very simple characters for the alphabet, which is composed principally of the Roman letters in their original or in slightly modified forms, combined with full orthography.

"By the aid of subscriptions from benevolent friends I have been enabled to apply this system in embossing portions of the Holy Scriptures in many foreign languages. The alphabet is of universal application, and since the commencement of embossing the Bible and other books on my plan in 1847 (until 1873) nearly 120,000 volumes have been circulated.¹

"A large number of volumes of the Bible in my type have, in addition, been circulated by the British and Foreign Bible Society.

¹ This number has now (1898) increased to 216,000 volumes.

“Many persons not only blind but also *deaf* and *dumb* have learned to read the books; and it would be impossible to estimate the value and comfort they have afforded them under their *three-fold* affliction.

“Several ministers in different parts of the world, who from loss of sight were obliged to relinquish their sacred vocation, have been enabled to resume their labours by the use of our Embossed Bible and portions of the Book of Common Prayer.

“It is estimated that more than five thousand¹ persons in the United Kingdom have learned to read upon this system, including several at the advanced ages of eighty and ninety, as well as children of very tender years. This number is large, compared with that of the readers by other systems.

“The books have not only been circulated throughout the principal parts of the United Kingdom, but in many of the countries in Europe, and likewise in Egypt, Syria, India, China, Australia, and America; but necessarily to a limited extent, owing to the want of larger funds.

“Although thus much has been accomplished, millions of the blind throughout the world are yet without a page of the Word of God! And when

¹ More than 20,000 persons have been taught to read, up to this time, 1898.

we compare what has been done with what daily opens up for us to do, we can scarcely say that we are, even now, more than upon the threshold of this great and important work."

The Origin of Dr. Moon's System of Reading.—

"As before stated, it was in the year 1840 that I became blind; and after learning to read by the aid of books embossed in the various systems then in use, I began to seek for and teach others deprived of sight. The difficulties which I experienced in teaching my pupils led me to devise the easier plan before referred to; and by it a lad who had in vain for five years endeavoured to learn by the other systems, could in ten days read easy sentences."

In another memorandum Dr. Moon refers again to the origin of his system, and says:—

"In 1845 I was led to plan my method of reading in consequence of Edward Cogling not being able to read by Frere's. In ten days he could read easy sentences: the first sentence was, 'The horse is a very useful animal and carries heavy burdens.'

"Means were then required to prepare books, etc., for the blind generally in my system of embossed reading.

"I afterwards met with C. Rogers, Esq., of Brunswick Square, Brighton, who gave me £60 worth of type. The first book was issued on the

1st of June, 1847, as a monthly magazine. It was *The Last Days of Polycarp*, and was followed in the next month by *The Last Hours of Cranmer*. *Morning and Evening Portions* followed these. I then commenced the Gospel of St. Luke.

"As soon as these books began to circulate, an urgent demand was made for portions of the Bible, the preparation of which, for a time, caused me to discontinue the magazine; but it was re-issued many years since, and has been widely circulated.

"To emboss the whole Bible with the small quantity of type I then possessed would have been a work of many years, and would have required a very considerable sum of money to produce even a small edition, on account of the large quantity of paper needed for an embossed book and the expense of setting the types.

"I found I must have recourse to stereotyping. The ordinary method of making stereotype plates then cost from sixteen to twenty shillings each. A plan occurred to me by which I was able to stereotype plates at a comparatively small expense—two shillings and sixpence per plate—and these would be permanently available for the production of future editions."

Often has Dr. Moon recounted to his home circle the difficulties he met with while experi-

menting with a candle during many a night, after the members of his family were in bed. These experiments he conducted quite alone; and he used to tell how, in his blindness, being guided only by the sense of touch, he at times burned his fingers, though not seriously. At length his experiments were crowned with success, and he perfected his system of stereotyping the plates for embossing.

But the blind are oftentimes most courageous, persevering in tasks in which we would imagine it impossible that they should ever succeed. Yet they do succeed.

Anecdotes related by Dr. Moon.—Dr. Moon relates the following anecdote, which he heard from a Mr. Goldsmith, the gentleman concerned. "One very dark night he was going to Dartford on a business appointment. Being unable to find the way, he entered an inn to ask for a guide for the two miles' distance. A man was immediately procured for that purpose. He took a lantern and led the way. In one part they had to cross a canal where there was no bridge, only a plank placed over it instead. Having conducted Mr. Goldsmith safely to his destination, the guide received some money for his services. He then prepared to return home, and extinguished the light in the lantern. Mr. Goldsmith asked, "What

do you do that for?' The man replied, 'Oh, I don't want the light. I am blind!'"

The following was related to Dr. Moon in the year 1869 by the person referred to, and also by the Rev. H. Cottingham, Vicar of Heath, the parish where he lived. "Seven miles from Chesterfield a blind man lives, who conducts a water-mill for grinding flour. He is also the messenger of the village: he walks upon errands the seven miles into Chesterfield, and is also employed to fetch the doctor from there when required."

Such is the quickening and developement of the other faculties by which in many instances the loss of sight is followed.

"My first stereotyper," Dr. Moon goes on to say, "was a young woman from the work-house. A month later, viz. in October 1848, I engaged a little girl named Harriet Redman, about twelve years of age, to make letters, which were of copper wire. The stereotyping began September 18th, 1848." Harriet Redman has been engaged in this work for forty-nine years, and is still so employed. "Edward Hibbert was the name of my first pressman. Mr. Eade, my first bookbinder, came from Lindfield in 1852, and was with me twenty years, until he died.

"My first printing-press was made of wood, but a year later, this having broken several times, it

was replaced by an iron one, an 'Albion' by Hopkinson. This afterwards broke, and was replaced by a stronger 'Albion' press."

To stereotype the New Testament by the cheaper mode which Dr. Moon had invented required a large sum. "In this difficulty also," he writes, "a kind Providence opened the way, and the necessary funds were raised, towards which T. Creswick, Esq., of St. John's Wood, kindly gave the first five pounds. It was a cause of great rejoicing and thankfulness to myself and friends, when the New Testament was ready for the use of the blind.

"H.R.H. the Duchess of Gloucester honoured me with a visit about this time, and remarked that my embossed books might have afforded much comfort and pleasure to her royal father and sister, of whose blindness she spoke with many tears. On taking leave she expressed an earnest wish for my success in the work I had undertaken, and kindly contributed to the embossing fund."

As already stated, it was in June 1847 that Dr. Moon issued the first of his publications in his embossed type. A friend who called on him about this time for the purpose of making inquiries respecting his plans and methods, asked him what might be the estimated cost of embossing the New Testament. "A thousand pounds," was

the reply: on which the question was asked, "Where do you expect to get the thousand pounds?" The answer was characteristic: "The silver and the gold are the Lord's, and the cattle upon a thousand hills."

At length the heart of the inventor was cheered by receiving donations which enabled him to proceed at once with the stereotyping; and it was amid much rejoicing and thankfulness that the work was finished, and Dr. Moon, although unable to look upon them, could for the first time lovingly pass his hands over the completed volumes of the New Testament in his embossed type.

In those early years during the preparation of these works, and for several years afterwards, discouragements and disappointments alternated with success and encouragement. But a childlike trust in God carried him through all difficulties. With one object in view, his perseverance was unceasing. Day and night he laboured on, helping with his own hands to accomplish his cherished plans.

Some of the articles written at that time in reference to Dr. Moon's system, by the advocates of other and earlier methods, were couched in an unkind tone: ridicule was thrown upon his system, his type being represented in their illustrations by

distorted forms which bore hardly any resemblance to the letters which he used. One of the critics ironically lamented that Dr. Moon's talents should have been so misdirected ; another grotesquely represented in embossed type the line "A man's own geese to him are all swans." But although Dr. Moon doubtless felt the sarcasm, he remained undaunted, knowing that he could safely leave the system to the discernment and appreciation of the public because of its intrinsic merit.

The First Report, 1852.—In the first "Report" of the work published in 1852, we see the struggling efforts which were still being made by the friends of Dr. Moon's system to obtain for it a footing and the recognition to which it was entitled. It is only a few pages in length, and contains an appeal for funds to stereotype the greater part of the Bible, for the work was even at that date only in an elementary condition.

Systems based on Contractions.—Contrasting Dr. Moon's type with others based on a system of contractions, the Report states that "Embossed reading for the blind necessarily swells their books to such a size, that a system of contractions possesses a great advantage in point of bulk ; but practical persons who have much intercourse with the adult poor who are also blind, especially those who have endeavoured to teach them to

read, well know that no system of shorthand can possibly suit them as a body, whatever exceptions may be met with here and there. If any one doubt this, let him first learn *himself* one of the most approved of the shorthand systems. First he will have to learn an alphabet unlike our own in almost every letter ; for if there is the form of C for instance, it will probably stand for D or E, and so on. He must then fix in his memory one hundred and fifty rules for contractions, and afterwards proceed to read sentences in which ninety words out of every hundred are contracted. If he finds this a hard task, how much more would it be so to the blind ? For the very affliction which has deprived them of sight has generally so shaken their nerves, that they feel their heads confused, and find it impossible to learn anything that requires much thought or memory.

“Would it then be wise to choose a system of contractions for the sake of its rendering their books more *portable*, if they would by this means become *unreadable* to the great majority of our blind population ? Facts confirm this view of the subject.”

And further comparing Dr. Moon's system with others, it is well remarked : “The question is not, How many can read by them ? but How many cannot read by them ? Schoolmasters have

little idea of the scattered multitude who would be classed under the second head."

Dr. Moon's Interview with Mr. Frere.—"I think," Dr. Moon writes, "it was in 1841 that I first met with Mr. Frere, and told him of the difficulties connected with his system of reading. He was very indignant, and thought, being an older man than myself, he must know best. I told him that, if he did not make the alterations I suggested or something like them, some one would at a future time either do so, or would invent another method which would supersede it, little thinking at the time that I should be the very individual that would do it four years later.

"At the commencement of the work, the embossing was carried on at my private residence ; but it soon became necessary to procure larger and more suitable premises. A piece of ground was consequently purchased, on which the present premises for the work were subsequently erected. On September 4th, 1856, the foundation-stone was laid by Sir Charles Lowther, Bart. ; but the premises, large as they at first appeared, were soon found to be far too small, and three enlargements have since been made to enable us to meet the increasing demands for the books.

"Many were the trials and difficulties during these earlier years, but I believe they were some



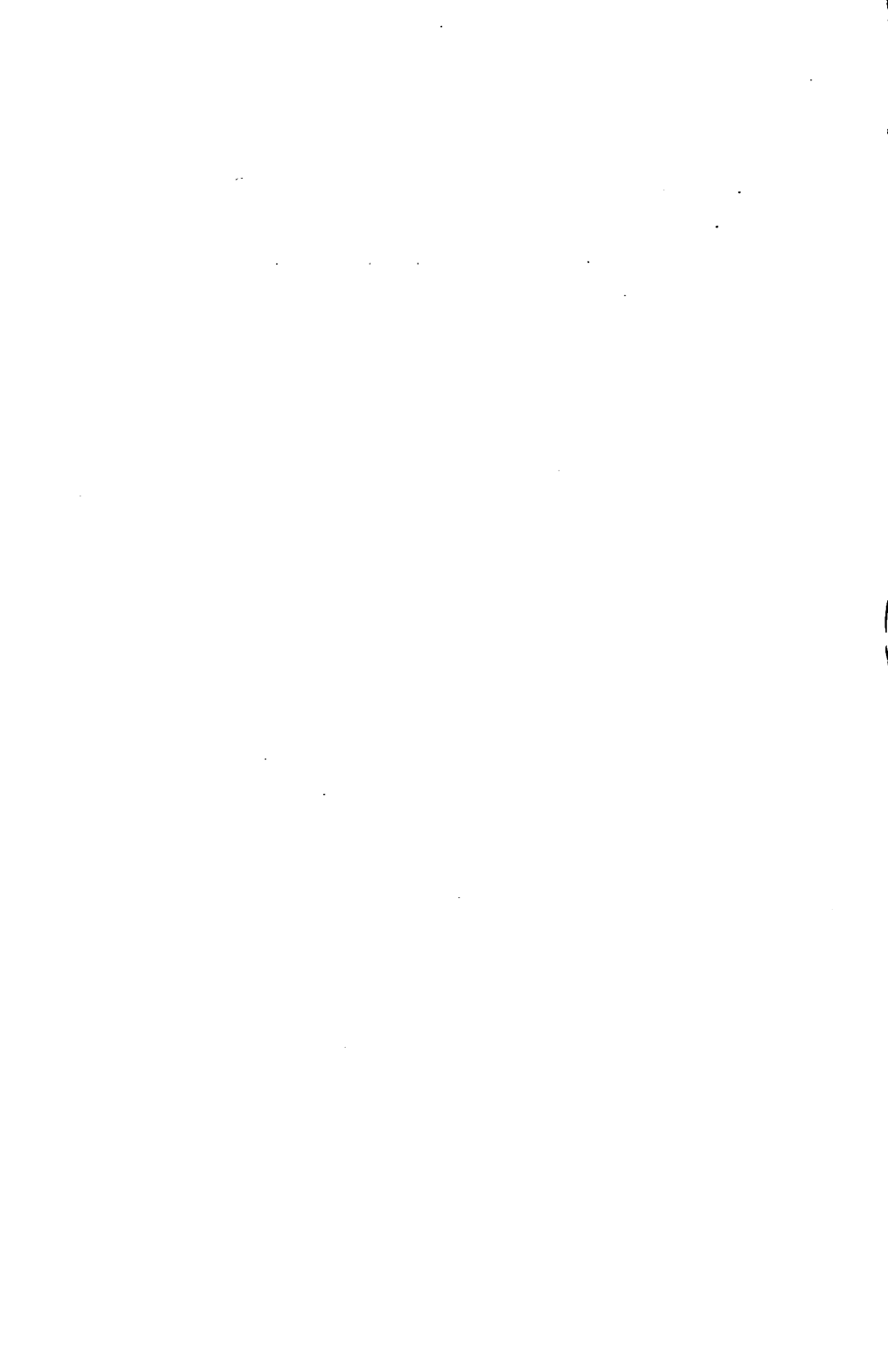
EMBOSSED ROOM.

(Showing the machinery used for embossing the Books for the Blind, also some of the drawers in which many thousands of the stereotyped plates are kept in readiness for immediate use.)

(To face p. 36.)

of the sweetest seasons of communion with God that I ever knew.

"It was in 1855 that I first became intimate with Sir Charles Lowther. I had met him, I think, about three years before."



**MARRIAGE; THE TYPE IS ADAPTED TO FOREIGN
LANGUAGES**

SPECIMENS OF D. Moon's Type for the Blind.

AS APPLIED TO FOREIGN LANGUAGES.

English,

O U \ I A - • F \ N • I C • A \ - I N • F A V E N .

French,

N O - \ F - F \ F - U I F \ A U > C I F U > .

German.

U N / F \ V A - F \ I N C K I F \ I D E L .

Dutch.

O N Z F V A C F \ I O K I N C F • F I F L F N

Danish.

V O \ V A C F \ . C U / O T • I • I T L F N F .

Swedish.

I A C F \ V A \ . / O T : A / - I • I T L O T .

Russian.

O N U L ÷ A N - . C / O I A ÷ A ÷ L L L C A > - .

Arabic.

I - I U I I N F - A - I N A F O I / J - / Z T . A I A F S

Armenian.

N - < - J F V / F O F / F A I N : > N / U .

Greek.

F N A C F F N • L • I • / .

104, Queen's Road, Brighton.

CHAPTER IV

MARRIAGE; THE TYPE IS ADAPTED TO FOREIGN LANGUAGES

IN 1843 Dr. Moon was married to Miss Mary Ann Caudle, eldest daughter of a well-known surgeon in Brighton, six of her brothers being also members of the medical profession. At Methodist Class Meetings at Dorset Gardens, Brighton, Dr. Moon was often greatly attracted by the sweet voice of a young lady. On one occasion his sister, having promised to come when the meeting was over to lead him home, was prevented doing so, and the young lady who had sung so sweetly, hearing of his difficulty, stepped forward and offered to see him home. A friendship soon sprang up, for although to him "The face was veiled, yet to his fancied sight love, sweetness, goodness in her person shined." In a week or two, as they were walking together, Dr. Moon asked her hand. "I have known you but a few weeks," she replied; to which he answered, "If you do not know your own mind by this time, you never will. You must decide before you

leave me to-night." Within six weeks of their first meeting they were married. The ceremony was performed in Old Preston Church, Brighton, by the vicar, the Rev. Mr. Kelly. When the marriage party entered the vestry to sign the register, the vicar offered the bridegroom the pen with which to affix his signature; but as no notice was taken of it, Mr. Kelly remarked, "I fear you must be short-sighted, Mr. Moon"; to which he could only reply, "I beg your pardon, Mr. Kelly, but I have no sight at all."

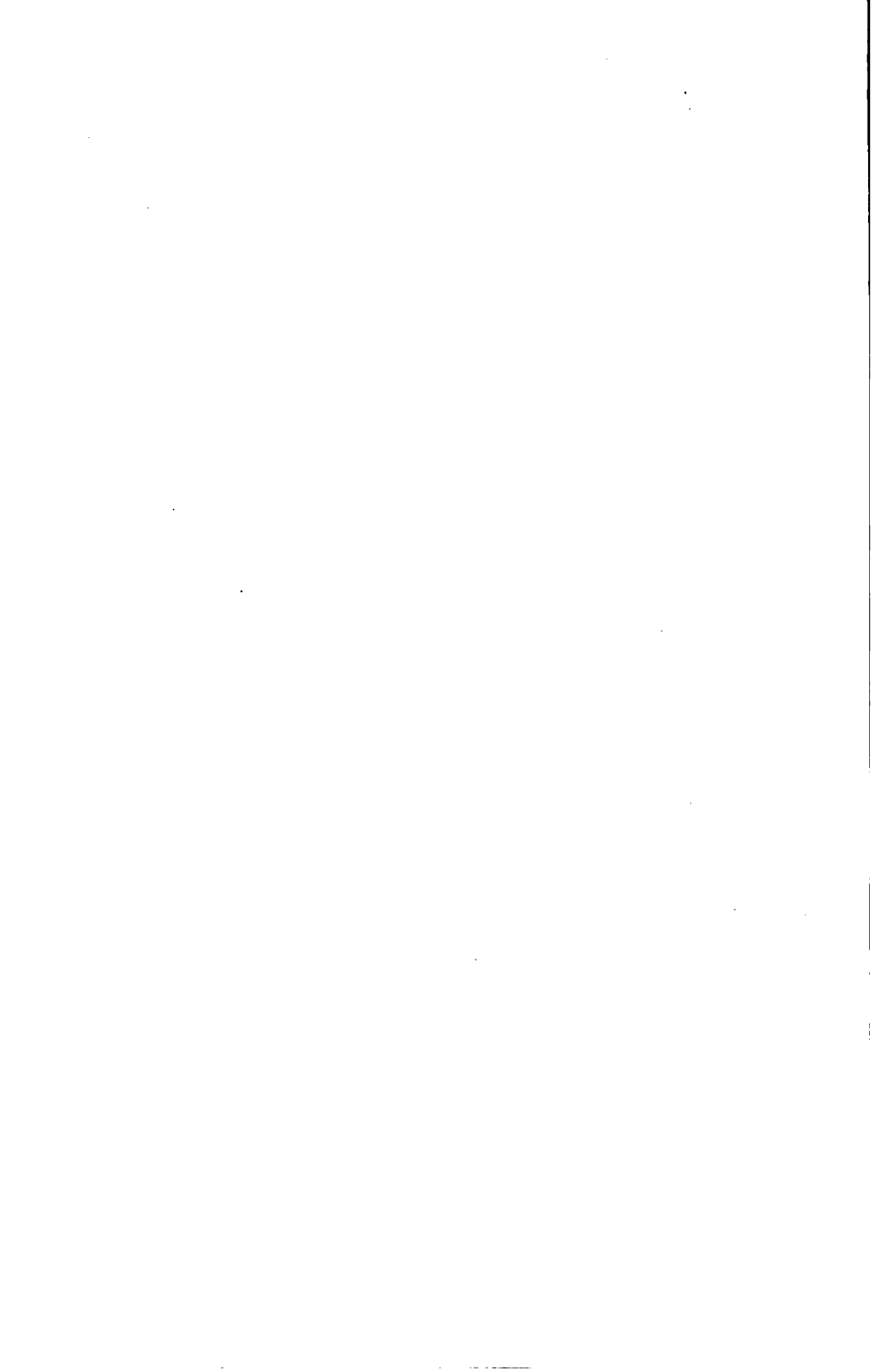
Dr. Moon had two children—one a son, named Robert, who became a physician, and is now settled in the United States; the other, a daughter, Adelaide. She was, as it were, born into the work. She was her father's lifelong companion and fellow-worker, and on his decease the responsibility of the work devolved upon her, it having been his earnest wish that she should carry it on after his death.

The Type is adapted to Foreign Languages.—Soon after the introduction of the type, an opportunity occurred by which its adaptability to foreign languages was tested. The first in which the experiment was made was Irish, and the inventor was encouraged to find that the letters could be successfully applied to that language, and could also be easily learned and read by the Irish-speaking blind.



MISS MOON.

[To face p. 42.]



Strangely enough, the next language to engage his attention was Chinese. Knowing something of the prevalence of blindness in China, he longed to provide embossed reading for the multitudes of the blind in that vast country. One day an old friend, a captain in the navy, who had called to see him, greeted him with the words, "So, Dr. Moon, I hear you can't leave the Chinese alone now." "Not all the time they have any blind among them," was the reply. "Well, would you like to see a real Chinaman? If so, I will with pleasure introduce you to a Chinese gentleman, a friend of mine." The offer was gladly accepted, and by arrangement Dr. Moon met the foreigner the following evening. Soon the conversation grew interesting, and the Chinese gentleman, Mr. Ho Chee, gratified his visitor by repeating the Lord's Prayer several times in the Ningpo colloquial. The ear of the listener had long been trained in the accurate distinguishing of sounds; and he dictated to his amanuensis the Chinese syllables as his ear had caught them. When he parted from his Oriental friend, he gave himself up for the rest of the night to the task of adapting his alphabet to the Chinese language. On the evening of the following day he was ready to pay a second visit to his new acquaintance. After unrolling his embossed page, he read aloud the words, "Woo Ting Foo"; but he

was allowed to go no further, for the Chinaman sprang from his seat, and, putting one hand on Dr. Moon's chest and the other on his back, patted him before and behind, exclaiming, "Oh, you got 'Our Father,' you got 'Our Father': you *shall* have some tea!" And it was not until he had been refreshed with a cup of the fragrant Bohea that he was allowed to proceed with the rest of the Prayer, which proved to be substantially correct. Such was the commencement of embossed reading for the Chinese blind, which has since been greatly developed and adapted to several others of the dialects besides that of Ningpo.

In rapid succession attention was given to embossing portions of the Scriptures in French, German, Dutch, Swedish, Italian, Latin, Greek, and many other languages.

HOME TEACHING FOR THE BLIND

CHAPTER V

HOME TEACHING FOR THE BLIND

IT is an important feature of the "Moon" type that it can be easily felt and learned and read by the aged as well as by the young, and by the unlettered as well as by the educated. As the result of its simplicity and of its easy acquisition, many thousands of the blind in all parts of the world are now finding pleasure and comfort in reading the embossed books which solace them in their weary and lonesome hours. Many of the blind who read Moon's type easily had previously tried in vain to learn by other systems. This experience evidently shows that in providing reading for the blind a type should be selected which is universally applicable; not merely one which can be deciphered by the acute touch of the minority of the blind, viz. by children who are being educated at school, to be abandoned, it may be, when their schooldays are past, or when their fingers become hardened by manual labour, but one which can be felt and easily read by the multitudes of the adult blind

throughout the country. It should be borne in mind that the majority of the blind are over fifty years of age. In addition to their loss of sight, many of them are in suffering, the result of accident or disease; their sense of touch is far less acute than in early life, so that they fail to distinguish easily the Roman or the dotted types; or their nervous system has oftentimes been so shattered that they are unequal to the task of mastering a system which involves the committing of numerous contractions to memory.

Repeated experiments having shown that the adult blind, and indeed the blind of all ages and conditions, could learn to read the Moon type with comparative ease and could continue to use it with great comfort, and the fact being recognised that adults form by far the larger proportion of those who have lost their sight and that the blind are largely intermixed with the sighted population, efforts were soon made to organise some plan by which all of them could be reached and taught. Accordingly, in various parts of Great Britain and Ireland, in America, in Australia, as well as in other countries, Home Teaching Societies and Free Lending Libraries of Moon's books have been widely established; and teachers, many of whom are themselves blind, are engaged in visiting the blind in their own homes, teaching them to

read, and providing them with books from those libraries.

London.—For many years prior to her death, Dr. Moon had the privilege of enjoying the friendship and valuable co-operation of Miss Graham, sister of Thomas Graham, Esq., of Edmond Castle, Cumberland. She was a zealous, energetic Christian worker, and devoted much time and personal effort to the cause of the blind. After Dr. Moon's death, a few notes composed by himself were found, which contain reminiscences of their joint labours among the blind of the metropolis.

It was the work of house-to-house visitation, described by Dr. Moon, which resulted in the formation of the first Society for systematically carrying out the plan of "Home Teaching" which they had so happily and successfully inaugurated. It was instituted in 1855, and was entitled "The Society for supplying Home Teachers and Books in Moon's Type for the Blind." Through Miss Graham's influence and exertions the Earl of Shaftesbury became its President, and the names of the Bishops of London, Carlisle, and Ripon appeared in the list of Vice-Presidents.

Miss Graham.—Dr. Moon writes as follows :
"Incidents that occurred with Miss Graham and myself in the early years of our united efforts for the blind.

"During the year 1852 and the early part of 1853, Miss Graham and I had much conversation and correspondence about what could be done for the blind in London in addition to that which was already being done in the two schools then existing—viz., the one in St. George's Fields, Southwark, and the newly formed one in Avenue Road, Regent's Park. At length we came to the conclusion that a workshop might be tried with a daily attendance of such as would like to come to learn basket-making and to learn reading in our embossed books. In the month of June 1853 I offered to go to London for a month, and set such a thing on foot if Miss Graham could find us a suitable place wherein to commence the work. Upon enquiry Miss Graham procured the use of an old Welsh chapel in Lambeth; and there we assembled, as nearly as I can remember, six of the blind, two of whom, I think, were children. The name of one of the men was Cooper. We commenced our labour with prayer, which I offered in the little old-fashioned pulpit, which stood upon the floor and formerly belonged to John Bunyan.

"During the month the pupils made good progress in their basket work and in reading; and a basket-maker was engaged, on my leaving for Brighton, to carry on the work which I had

commenced ; and Miss Graham gave attention to the instruction in the reading.

“In the following summer I went to London again for a month, and found that the work had been removed to a room forming a part of the school belonging to the works of Messrs. Doulton & Co., Lambeth. Some of the pupils had made considerable proficiency in their basket work. But two difficulties had arisen—one with the teacher, who was found to be addicted to drink ; and the other, that the stock of baskets had become very considerable from want of a proper place for their sale. Up to that time Miss Graham had defrayed all the expenses herself, which she felt she could no longer do, as they now became considerable. After prayer and much conversation upon the subject, we decided that it should be given up, and that an attempt should be made to search out more of the blind and instruct them in reading in their own homes ; and Mr. Cooper, one of the blind pupils, was selected for the purpose, and became the first home teacher in London. Thus was inaugurated and established what was afterwards called The Home Teaching Society for the Blind.

“Home teaching was a plan that I had tried myself in Brighton with much success when I first became blind in 1840, and which afterwards

resulted in the school for the blind in Eastern Road, near Kemp Town.

"During 1854 and 1855, and subsequent years, Miss Graham and I devoted much time, when I was in London, in searching out the blind, interesting persons on their behalf, and in the support of the work we had commenced.

"One day, while passing through St. Paul's Churchyard, and enquiring as usual of one and another if they knew of any blind, we ascertained of a woman keeping an apple-stall that she had occasionally seen a little blind girl pass that way, pointing in the direction of a narrow street. She had seen her 'come here and go there,' she said. After spending much time enquiring at the various shops and of persons living in the neighbourhood, we were about to give up the search in despair. A little boy hearing us make the enquiry at a shop door, said, 'Oh, I have seen a little girl go up one of the courts here!' By his assistance we found the place, and a neighbour kindly pointed out the house and told us to knock loudly three times, and the mother of the child would answer the door. Accordingly we went and knocked as we had been told, and shortly the door was opened, and we were asked in no very civil manner what we had come for. On enquiring if the woman had a blind child and if we could see her, we were told 'Yes,'

if we would follow her. She led the way up a high and winding staircase till she reached the top, and then took us into a room where we found the child we were in search of and her little sister, who was ill in a small bed in a corner of the room. After a little conversation with the mother, expressing sympathy about the child that was ill and the one that was blind, we seemed to have found the way to the mother's heart. We gave the blind child a lesson with the alphabet we had brought. The child seemed to be quick in learning, and before we left was able to tell us some of the letters. On leaving, Miss Graham took another look at the child that was sick, and enquired what was supposed to be the matter with her, and to our astonishment we found that she had scarlet fever. Retiring, Miss Graham said that she would call again and give her pupil another lesson. As we came out of the court, Miss Graham looked to see what might be its name, when she found it was Labour-in-Vain Court! Upon finding this we both laughed heartily, saying it had not been labour in vain to us. The blind child was afterwards sent to the School for the Blind at Brighton. She proved to be an apt scholar, and in time became an organist in one of the churches in London.

"The work of home teaching went on with much success. Two of the pupils were little boys

who attended the schools for sighted children at Battersea Fields. They soon learned to read much better than any of their sighted companions ; and when the Government Inspector came to examine the schools, these little fellows were always so ready with replies to his questions that he was obliged to tell them, 'Not you, little blind boys, till I tell you' ; and when he could not get a proper answer from the others, he would turn to them, and almost invariably got what he required.

" When staying with Miss Graham, we frequently spent whole days in searching out or doing something for the blind. Sometimes we have left home by nine o'clock in the morning, and have not returned till nine or ten o'clock in the evening. Frequently we would stop some of the blind whom we met in the street, and take their names and addresses, and tell them about our embossed reading, sometimes giving a lesson in the streets, and frequently to sighted persons, in order that they might teach any blind persons they knew or might meet with.

" One day, meeting a blind man near Newgate, Miss Graham began to give him a lesson upon the raised alphabet. A crowd soon collected to see what was being done, when a policeman coming up, said, 'Move on, madam ; you must not stop the way.' But Miss Graham had sufficiently

succeeded with what she had done, and I think I remember afterwards her telling me the man had successfully mastered the reading.

"It was no uncommon thing for Miss Graham, when we were out, to get too late for the train. We became so much absorbed in what we were doing that she did not notice the flight of time. One day, on going to see a missionary about sending some books to the blind abroad, we remained a little too long, as usual, and had to run to the station, which was somewhat more than a mile away, and we only reached there just as the train came alongside the platform. We had a quantity of steps to go down to reach the platform, and by the time we reached it the train was again in motion. Miss Graham called for the train to be stopped. This being done, she got into the carriage, expecting the guard to put me in after her, but on turning round she discovered that he had not done so, but that he had closed the door and started the train and left me on the platform. Finding this, she shouted for the train to be stopped again, and began to get out of the carriage. The guard, finding what had occurred, again stopped the train and put me in.

"At another time when I had been staying with Miss Graham, the day before I was to return to Brighton, we went to various parts of London

about the work of home teaching from quite an early hour in the morning till ten at night, and as I had to leave for Brighton by the six o'clock train the next morning, we had still much to settle, so that I did not retire to bed till two o'clock. At five o'clock I arose and found that we had still something to do before I left. All on a sudden Miss Graham observed, 'It is nearly six o'clock.' We immediately started, and ran all the way to the station, and reached it just as the train came up. There was but just time to get the ticket and put me into the train. In the hurry Miss Graham put something in my hand instead of the ticket, and I did not know till I reached Brighton but that it was all right. When I presented it to the ticket collector, he said it was not my ticket, so that I had to pay my fare again. Immediately I wrote to Miss Graham about it, and she went to Clapham station and found that some one had picked up my ticket and left it at the ticket office, so that I recovered my money again.

"Once while I was at Miss Graham's, I was needing some money for a very special object in our embossing work at Brighton, and I mentioned it to her. She said she had £5 given her to place to anything she might desire, and she had made up her mind to put it to something that she had in hand requiring a much larger sum. In

the course of the day she prayed about it, and said she thought the Lord intended that she should give it to me, and she did so, adding at the same time that she felt that the Lord would send her something in its stead. In the evening a letter came with £100 from quite another person, so that she received twenty-fold for what she had done for our cause.

“ She once related a very remarkable answer to prayer which she had about the same time that the above circumstance occurred. She was endeavouring to raise some money—I think it was towards the erection of some new schools—and she thought that she would call upon a gentleman who lived in the neighbourhood of Clapham Common, but some distance from her own house, and ask if he would give her something towards them. She thought it possible that he might give her £100, as he was a kind as well as a rich man. She had to leave home early, to catch him before he went to the city. The gentleman had a niece who kept his house and who did not approve of her uncle's parting so freely with his money. When Miss Graham reached the house, she was told by the niece that her uncle was just going to the city and would not be able to see her. Miss Graham left the house, and was bending her steps towards her home, and lifting up her heart to the

Lord about what had occurred, when she suddenly heard the sound of a carriage approaching, and presently the well-known voice of the gentleman said to her, 'Oh, Miss Graham, where are you going to so early this morning? Can I help you on your way?' She immediately got into the carriage, and told him of her visit to his house and the object of her going. As soon as she related her business he said, 'Well, I will give you a cheque for £500.' How little did the niece think, when she sent Miss Graham away, that she was doing the Lord's work!

"Numerous other interesting circumstances might be related in reference to our united efforts during the early years of the London Home Teaching Society. It grew rapidly, and was greatly owned of God and blessed. The first home teacher—William Cooper's—success was great, and in six months after the commencement of the work a second teacher was appointed. At the present time—*i.e.*, 1889—eighteen teachers are employed, seventeen of whom are blind. More than five thousand of the blind have been taught by them to read, and above one million volumes of our books have been lent from the Society's Free Library since the commencement of the work.¹

¹ See note on next page (p. 59).

"Miss Graham was called to her rest and reward a few years since, in a good old age, and like a shock of corn fully ripe and richly laden for the Master's garner. 'Her works do follow her.'

"The work commenced in London has spread to many other cities and countries of the world; and I think it may be truly said that the Home Teaching and Free Libraries form one of the greatest spiritual and intellectual blessings that the blind have ever enjoyed. About 2,200 of the blind of London are periodically visited by the teachers of the London Society."¹

William Cooper.—The first teacher employed by the Home Teaching Society was William Cooper. Admission into a school for the blind had previously been refused him on account of his age. But when the Moon type was put before him, he learned to read it in one lesson. During the first year he taught seventy-one of his pupils to read, twenty of whom learned at their second or third lesson, including two persons above seventy years of age. Sometimes it was not altogether easy to persuade certain blind persons to begin to learn. This generally arose from the idea that they were too old or that their touch was not sufficiently

¹ For information regarding localities where there are home teaching societies, and number of volumes circulated by them, see Appendices B, C, and D.

good to feel the letters. But Cooper usually found that if he could succeed in gaining their earnest attention in one lesson, the work was half done, and they were almost certain to learn. From the commencement of his labours till 1875 Cooper taught four hundred blind persons to read.

Such was the beginning of the Home Teaching effort in London; and from 1855 this Society has gone on pursuing its good work.

Lord Hatherley's Opinion.—In May 1873 the Right Hon. Lord Hatherley, the Lord Chancellor, presided at the annual meeting of the London Society. In moving the adoption of the report, his lordship remarked that he had himself experienced the benefit of Dr. Moon's system of reading; for when nearly deprived of sight, he learned the finger alphabet in three hours, and was now never at a loss to read this type used by the blind. He was thus able to confirm from personal experience the statement that Dr. Moon's was the simplest method of reading for the blind yet devised. There was, he thought, a good deal of advantage in reading the Scriptures slowly, as was necessarily the case when the touch was the only sense employed; for he had found that in passages which he thought he understood very well, he had come across words and phrases which had quite a new or an additional significance to him. He

congratulated Dr. Moon on having contributed not only to the comfort, but to the spiritual enjoyment, of thousands of his poor and afflicted fellow-creatures.

In the Home Teaching Society's Report for 1874 there is this passage:

"There are abundant proofs that the Word of God has been, as of old, quick and powerful to the conversion of souls, and there are not lacking many among the blind who confess that *that* Word is the very sunshine of their existence; and this they owe, humanly speaking, to the quiet, persuasive, and persistent intercourse and visits of the teachers employed by this Society.

"The Census returns show that in England and Wales, in 1861, there were 19,352 persons blind; while in 1871 there were 21,590, being an increase of 2,238, or at the rate of 11·6 per cent. in the ten years.

"Of the foregoing, the number under twenty years of age in 1861 was 2,702; in 1871 was 3,019. Above twenty years of age in 1861 was 16,650; in 1871 was 18,571.¹

¹ The Census of 1891 showed that the blind in England and Wales numbered 23,467, of whom 11,815 were over 55 years of age.

Scotland: total number of blind persons, 2,797, 1,434 of these being over 55 years of age.

Ireland: total number of blind persons, 5,341, 3,261 of these being over 55 years of age.

“The Committee also think it of importance to pronounce again an emphatic opinion in reference to the embossed type used by the Society and all its branches throughout the country. Moon’s type needs no commendation from the Committee; its benefits are felt all over the world. The efforts, however, that are now being made to promote at great expense new systems founded, not on the ordinary characters used in types for the sighted, but on arbitrary signs and fanciful notions of sound, lead the Committee again to declare that no system yet invented is so *simple* or so *useful* as Moon’s type. It is not only well adapted for the young, but, what is far more important, considering the preponderating number of the aged who are afflicted with blindness, it is absolutely the only system that can be read with ease by the old or by those whose sense of touch is deadened by manual labour or exercise.

“The objects of the teacher’s visits may be thus expressed :

“1. To teach gratuitously all who are able and willing to learn to read.

“2. To act as colporteur ; to lend and exchange the books of the Bible and instruct in its meaning ; also to lend other books printed in Moon’s type.

“3. To act as Scripture-reader to those who from

advanced age or infirmity are unable to read by the tips of the fingers.

"In not a few cases the blind, by their intercourse with the teachers, are aroused from that depression which is the natural consequence of their heavy affliction, and begin to feel that they are not altogether cut off from the power of exertion and livelihood.

"The results of the work must surely demonstrate that blindness presents no insurmountable obstacles to the acquisition of knowledge, if the aids which modern invention and Christian philanthropy provide are kindly and willingly placed before the blind for their acceptance. It is also shown that God, in His mercy, is pleased to use the agency of this Society as a means of giving spiritual knowledge and light to the hearts and minds and consciences of many of His afflicted people."

The Bishop of Ripon's Opinion.—At the annual meeting of the Society, held in May 1875, at Willis's Rooms, the Right Rev. the Bishop of Ripon presided and said: "You are all aware what the real object of this Society is. It is to teach the blind to read the Word of God by the system which is generally known as 'Moon's System' of embossed type. I cannot mention this without expressing what I feel with regard to the

debt of obligation under which I believe the public are placed to Dr. Moon for the invention of this particular system. You are probably all aware that there are other systems of embossed characters by which the blind may be enabled to read ; but so far as I can form any opinion upon it, the system known as ' Moon's System ' is by far the simplest, the easiest of acquisition, and altogether the most likely to produce those results at which we aim—viz., to afford the highest amount of facility to the blind to acquire the art of reading by means of embossed type ; and I do think there is no one who deserves more highly of his fellow-countrymen, amongst those who have done most to alleviate the sufferings and afflictions of others, than Dr. Moon, the inventor of this particular system. I can hardly imagine a greater blessing to one who is deprived of sight than to be instructed how he or she may read for themselves the Word of God in a language they can understand."

THE WORK IN THE PROVINCES

CHAPTER VI

THE WORK IN THE PROVINCES

THESE methods, originated by Dr. Moon, of benefiting the blind by visiting and teaching them in their own homes, were soon adopted in other parts of Great Britain. In Cornwall the work was begun at the same time as in London. Bristol, Birmingham, Liverpool, Newcastle, Leicester, Worcester, and many other towns were early in taking part in the movement. In this work in the provinces William Cooper, who has been already mentioned, was eminently useful. In 1857 he began the work in Bristol, where he taught a large number of blind people to read. He was next sent to Birmingham, with equally good results. In 1873 two teachers of the blind were employed in Birmingham, in which city and its neighbourhood three hundred and ninety-one blind persons had been found. The library then contained nearly one thousand volumes.

Liverpool.—The work in Liverpool was very successful. Embossed books for the blind were

added to the Free Library for the sighted ; and this greatly aided the cause, and many blind persons gratefully availed themselves of the privilege. In addition to this, there was also instituted a Free Library of the Home Teaching Society, so that the blind of Liverpool are well supplied with books.

Cornwall.—In mining districts blindness is always more or less prevalent, owing to the accidents arising from the blasting of rocks and other dangers inseparable from the processes of that industry. It was in the neighbourhood of St. Austell that the Cornish work of home teaching, etc., was commenced, and it has had great success.

Newcastle.—Many gratifying instances of the success of Dr. Moon's system are furnished from Newcastle and Gateshead. The usual methods were followed, and much good has been done.

Leicester.—By home visitation and the Free Library the blind in Leicester have been helped and taught. Employment was also provided for many blind persons, thus enabling them to earn their own living.

Worcester.—The Worcester Society for teaching the blind to read took its rise from a severe accident which befel a man and his wife and two children who were all travelling in a cart in which

there were also some casks of vitriol. The cart was overturned, with the result that both of the children died of the terrible injuries, and the parents were sadly hurt. After long and agonising sufferings, the father and mother recovered,—the mother with partially restored sight, but the father totally blind. On returning to his home, the man found himself deprived of all means of subsistence, and was left without any object of interest with which to occupy his mind. This difficulty, however, was soon removed, as he was taught Moon's raised alphabet for the blind. He threw his heart into this new occupation, and was soon able to read, to play the harmonium, and to write by means of a frame. Anxious to benefit the many blind who did not possess these newly acquired advantages, he visited many distant villages, distributing tracts which were given him for that purpose, and speaking such words of counsel and comfort as he was able. In 1868 he formed a class in Worcester with five blind persons. The numbers increased, and much good was effected. Sir Charles Lowther kindly presented a library of one hundred and sixty volumes, which also proved of great service.

Yorkshire.—Dr. Moon writes: "In 1869 Sir Charles Lowther, finding that the blind in that county (Yorkshire) were numerous, expressed a

desire that the opportunity of reading should be given to all who were able to avail themselves of it. For this purpose he kindly offered to supply free lending libraries for various parts of the county; also to augment the number of books where they were needed in the libraries which already existed.

"In order to carry out Sir Charles Lowther's benevolent wishes, I communicated with about nine hundred of the clergy of Yorkshire, and journeyed more than five thousand miles, by rail and on foot, to search out the blind, and to interest as many influential persons as possible on their behalf, with the view of forming local societies for realising that object. The names and addresses of about a thousand of the blind were obtained, and copies of my embossed alphabet and of the Lord's Prayer were either given or sent to each of them.

"The blind being widely scattered in the extensive county of Yorkshire, itinerant teachers are greatly needed to go from place to place, as in Cornwall, to instruct them. This would, without doubt, greatly increase the number of readers. At Middlesborough, Guisborough, Whitby, Scarborough, Beverley, Wakefield, Barnsley, Rotherham, Dewsbury, Brighouse, and Leeds new libraries have been formed; and the libraries of Hull,

Doncaster, Bradford, Halifax, and Sheffield have had additional books given to them to increase their usefulness in their several neighbourhoods. Much exertion will be requisite to discover and to teach all the blind in the county."

Leeds.—Work had been begun in Leeds some years before Dr. Moon visited that city in 1869; but his visit greatly revived the organisation, which was somewhat languishing. More than two hundred of the blind were sought out; two Biblewomen were appointed to visit them at their homes; and Sir Charles Lowther gave a library of four hundred and fourteen embossed books, so that the work might go on in good earnest. After a time a day-school was begun for the blind children of Leeds, and this also proved a success.

Sheffield.—Home teaching was begun in Sheffield in 1858. Dr. Moon visited it in 1869, and was cheered to find that so much good had been effected. A grant of new books was given by Sir Charles Lowther to enlarge the library.

Doncaster.—The system of home teaching has produced good results here also; and the local Society possesses a considerable library. Dr. Moon writes: "On visiting Doncaster from time to time, it has afforded me much pleasure, when giving addresses at meetings of the Society, to see how

highly the blind of that neighbourhood appreciated their books and the kindness shown to them by their excellent teacher."

Bradford.—A teacher from London began the work in Bradford in 1860. Seventy-six blind persons were found, and of these sixty-five were taught. A local Society was formed. "Workshops," writes Dr. Moon, "have since been instituted for the blind of Bradford, which provide considerable employment for a large number of them. Two hundred and forty-four volumes of my books were given by Sir Charles Lowther to augment the library. When visiting the workshops, I was pleased to find they were so large and so conveniently built."

Halifax, Hull, and Huddersfield.—Home teaching societies and free lending libraries were also formed in Halifax, Hull, and Huddersfield with good results. Sir Charles Lowther kindly made a grant of embossed books to the library in each of these cities.

THE WORK IN SCOTLAND AND IN IRELAND

CHAPTER VII

THE WORK IN SCOTLAND AND IN IRELAND

EDINBURGH.—"Home teaching for the blind of Scotland," writes Dr. Moon, "was commenced in good earnest shortly after it had been instituted in England. At Edinburgh, when introduced in 1856, but very few of the adult blind, accustomed to work, could learn to read, in consequence of the difficulties experienced in deciphering the Roman letter. The reports of the home teaching societies show how successful my type has been with persons of all ages in Scotland, many of whom had, previous to its introduction, given up the attempt to learn to read by the other systems."

In 1858 a teacher of the blind in Edinburgh writes: "I would say that the blind are very fully satisfied that Moon's type is the best that has ever been invented. In this I fully agree, and am deeply convinced that it is one of the greatest blessings that has ever been conferred upon persons deprived of sight."

Edinburgh Blind Asylum.—The following state-

ment, dated March 1860, acquires peculiar force from the fact that it emanated from men who themselves were blind : " Were it possible to ascertain the opinion of the aggregate working blind on this matter, we feel confident our assertion that Moon's system is out of all sight the best would be fully borne out by it. In proof of this we would humbly offer the experience of those employed in the Edinburgh Asylum, which we consider will fairly represent the average intelligence of the working blind. In this excellent institution the directors, while administering to the physical wants, are by no means neglectful of the moral and intellectual training of the inmates. With respect to embossed reading, our directors have taken a wise course : while being partisans to no particular system, they liberally supply books in the different systems as they appear, and never dictate what system shall be used, but allow us to judge for ourselves. All of us who had reached manhood before losing our sight find, on examining the Alston, Gall, and other types, that they are of no more use than so much sandpaper ; and even those who in boyhood learned these systems at the Edinburgh Blind School or at the Asylum here, no sooner begin to work than they begin to lose the power of reading, and ultimately find those types to be of little or no use to them.

"We may here state that we have often and anxiously enquired of inmates of the other asylums if ever they knew a case of an adult having lost his sight learning to read by any of the common modes. We have been told of three persons ; these were the only cases that had come under our observation.

"Towards the end of 1856 Moon's system was first introduced here ; and on trial it was found peculiarly adapted for the use of the blind. The character is simple, easily felt, and easily remembered. We are warranted in stating that individuals of any age can easily acquire a knowledge of it with the least possible trouble. Those amongst us who in consequence of labour had lost the power of reading by other systems, found in Moon's a valuable substitute ; and since its introduction here, upwards of forty of us, by more or less progress, have shown our capability of learning the system. In the female branch of our institution most of the inmates can read by any system, some preferring Gall's and some Lucas's ; but those who were unable to do so before can now do so easily by Moon's. From this it must appear that Moon's system possesses advantages over all others, and justifies us in stating that it is not only the best, but the only, system capable of being a lasting benefit to the blind."

Edinburgh Home Teaching Society.—In 1872 the Edinburgh Home Teaching Society declared that “Moon’s system is employed at 38 institutions for the blind, Lucas’s at 7, the Roman at 4, Alston’s at 4, Frere’s at 3, and Braille’s at 4, or Moon’s at 38 against 21 of all other systems. Several Scotch home teaching societies, however, all of which teach Moon’s system, having been omitted, it would appear that Moon’s type is twice as much used in Great Britain as all the other types put together. Dr. Armitage’s book, which gives an analysis of the different blind types, comes to a conclusion, in reference to children, in favour of Braille’s dotted type, and mainly on the ground that it can be best employed in music, in which department, it states, the greatest number of openings for the blind are to be found. We admit that this matter deserves a full and earnest investigation ; and if it shall appear that blind children can easily learn Braille’s type, and that there is a considerable likelihood of their being able to apply it to their advancement in life, it may turn out that two blind types may be required in this country—Moon’s for adults, who form by far the largest proportion of the blind ; and Braille’s, for those born blind and for children early deprived of sight. These are, respectively, one in ten, and one in eight of

the blind. It seems, however, an utter impossibility that Braille's dotted type—six dots in various combinations forming not only the twenty-six letters, but musical notations and other marks besides—can become an available system for those becoming blind as adults. With the great majority of them simplicity is essential. Braille's system is, even to the seeing, complicated ; and to the simple-minded or nervous or poverty-stricken or misery-stricken adult blind it will ever be unattainable. It is well known that even Moon's system, easy of comprehension as it is, and easily felt by almost the roughest fingers, is at first rejected by not a few of the aged, irritable, and uneducated blind, and how immeasurably less a hope of good results is to be expected if such a difficult type as Braille's be presented to them."

In 1875 they report, "Reading on Moon's system is now all but universal among the adult blind of Scotland."

Mr. John Brown.—Mr. John Brown, of Edinburgh, tells how he took up the work of teaching the blind about the year 1856. He began with twelve blind persons. His narrative is as follows: "I met Sheriff Heriot in Princes Street, and he told me that a relative of his had come from England—a Miss Graham—and that they were going to begin a movement among the blind to teach them

to read by Dr. Moon's system ; and he asked me if I would be the missionary to the blind.

" Mr. Brown Douglas, Mr. John Burn Murdoch, and Mr. James Balfour Melville, with the Sheriff, constituted the Committee.

" I met with the Committee at Sheriff Heriot's house. They had no money in hand, and could only afford to have a missionary for half his time. Nevertheless, I took it in faith that something would turn up. I got the joint appointment to be missionary to the blind and also city missionary in the village of Water-of-Leith.

" The work among the blind increased, and that so quickly that my work in the Water-of-Leith had to be given up, and I was wholly taken on for the blind. Then I got one assistant, and then a second, and afterwards a third assistant ; and I still have two assistants, both 'sighted.' The whole time of the two assistants and of myself is fully occupied in the work in the city of Edinburgh, and in the six counties of Edinburgh, Haddington, Berwick, Roxburgh, Selkirk, and Peebles.

" Then, after we were established in Edinburgh, we thought that what was good for Edinburgh would be good for all the blind in Scotland ; and we made a beginning by the Committee sending a home teacher to Glasgow, and he began the work there.

" And for the same reason I travelled throughout the whole country from Dumfries in the south all the way to Caithness, visiting all the counties ; and ultimately went as far as Orkney and Shetland, and discovered one hundred blind people in those islands.

" There are 22 missionary teachers to the blind in Scotland and 3,200 blind persons, all of whom are visited in their own homes ; and of these, 1,500 have been taught to read the embossed system.

" A very interesting case was that of an old lady, then aged ninety, Mrs. Neaves, a relative of Lord Neaves, one of the judges of the Court of Session. She had at that time been blind for a year, and quickly learned Dr. Moon's method. She was thoroughly pleased with the system of reading.

" I visited her for five years, until her death. She told me, and she told Miss Moon too (Dr and Miss Moon visited her), that she had got real benefit of a higher kind since she began to read for herself.

" Altogether the work has been deeply interesting."

Glasgow.—A vigorous Home Teaching Society was established in Glasgow in 1859, and has succeeded in reaching and benefiting large numbers of the blind. In 1874 seven teachers were employed, and the names of no fewer than 841 blind

persons were on the registers. There was also a large library consisting of 1,076 volumes or parts.

The work has so increased that there are now (1897) eight home teachers in Glasgow who teach both in that city and in the south-western counties of Scotland. The number of home pupils amounts to about 1,300.

Perth, Inverness, Stirling.—In these cities and the surrounding districts much good was accomplished; the Home Teaching Societies in Perth and Inverness searching out the blind, and bringing them consolation, and helping to cheer them in their long-continued night. In the Inverness district books embossed in Gaelic were used with good effect, as well as those in the ordinary type. Equally good results were obtained in Stirling.

“In addition to the foregoing Home Teaching Societies,” writes Dr. Moon, “Manchester, Cheltenham, Carlisle, Southsea, Cardiff, Dundee, and many other places in Great Britain have their respective teachers and free lending libraries for the blind. The blind gladly avail themselves of the benefits of the institutions for their intellectual and spiritual advancement. In the more remote and outlying districts they are frequently taught by kind friends and sympathising neighbours.”

Dublin.—The School and Home Teaching Society in Marlborough Street, Dublin, was

originated chiefly by Miss Mary Pettigrew. In 1857, as she was one day walking with her maid in the neighbourhood of Rathmines, she chanced to hear the voice of some one reading aloud. She stopped to listen and enquire. Crossing the road, she found that the reader was Captain McIntyre, himself blind, who, as he sat in the garden in front of his house, was reading aloud from Moon's embossed Bible. Entering into conversation with Miss Pettigrew, he told her of his blindness, and with what comparatively little trouble he had learned to read from Moon's raised characters. He presented her with an embossed alphabet, and induced her to try to learn to read it, and this she easily accomplished. Feeling the desire to share with others her newly found privilege, a committee was formed, subscriptions collected, and on August 3rd, 1858, the School and Lending Library for the Blind was opened. Many of the blind in Dublin and its neighbourhood were taught by means of this Society.

SIR CHARLES LOWTHER, BART.

CHAPTER VIII

SIR CHARLES LOWTHER, BART.

“**T**O the various home teaching societies and free lending libraries in Yorkshire,” writes Dr. Moon, “Sir Charles Lowther has altogether kindly presented 3,294 volumes. To these might be added 5,047 volumes, which he has so munificently given to libraries, etc., in other parts of our country, and 1,568 volumes to America, Australia, etc., making the large total of 9,909 volumes in the short space of five years. Were this benevolent example followed in every county in Great Britain, the blind poor throughout the length and breadth of our own and other lands might soon have free libraries within their reach.”

It will thus be seen what an intimate friend and indefatigable helper Dr. Moon found in Sir Charles Lowther. Both before and after the erection of the new premises in Brighton he rendered munificent aid in the carrying out of Dr. Moon's plans for the improvement of the condition of the blind ; and there is hardly a home teaching society in England to which he did not contribute a large

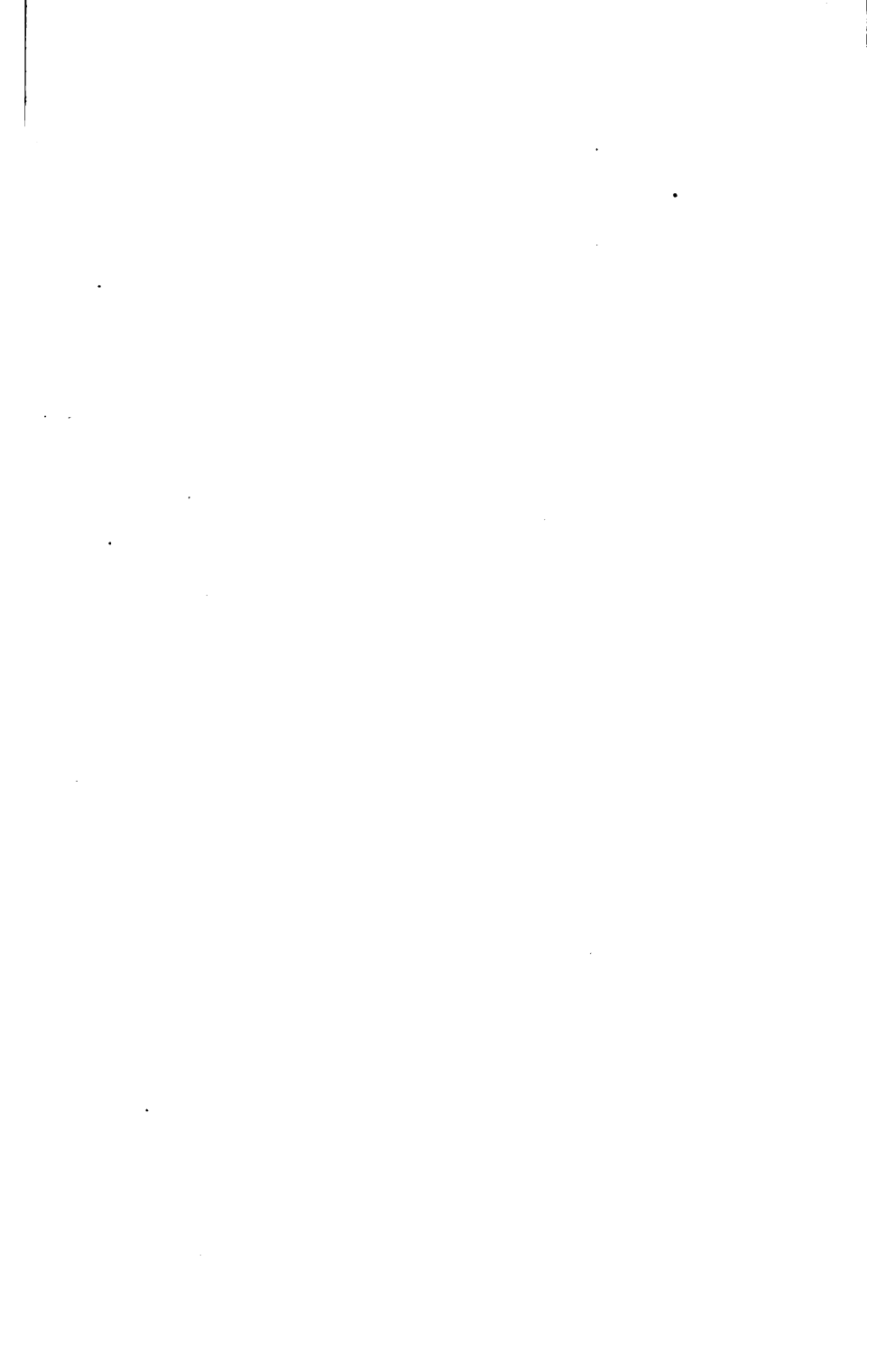
supply of the embossed books. Even at the advanced age of ninety-two he himself found pleasure in their perusal.

Sir Charles Lowther, who was born in 1803, had lost his sight when only six months old. Owing to this affliction, he was not able to take that active part in public affairs which has been the habit of the Lowther family for several generations. But his blindness in no way abated his enthusiasm in all that concerned the welfare of his fellow-men. He was a warm and open-handed supporter of the Church Missionary Society and of various other organisations of the Church of England. But the movement to which he was perhaps more personally devoted than any other was the advancement of educational facilities for the blind. His own affliction, which was almost life-long, he bore with resignation and cheerfulness, and his sympathy was quick and lively with the distressed, especially with the blind. Some years before his death he was described as "a genial old gentleman, who may be seen any morning taking his walks in the grounds of Wilton Castle, with such apparent comfort and easy security that it is difficult to realise at once that he is blind. At the age of seventy-eight he still comes regularly to town, and enjoys his life in a manner which appears extraordinary to those gifted with perfect sight."



SIR CHARLES LOWTHER, BART.

[To face p. 88.]



This physical and mental vigour was maintained in a surprising way as he increased in years ; and, even when more than ninety years of age, he was accustomed to read for himself Dr. Moon's embossed books, which he had found personally so helpful, and in the wide circulation of which among the blind of England, as well as of foreign lands, he had taken so liberal and honourable a share.

The sadness and peevishness which are often associated with blindness had no existence in the case of such men as Dr. Moon and Sir Charles Lowther. Milton describes this feeling of querulousness in such lines as—

"Inferior to the vilest now become
Of man or worm ; the vilest here excel me :
They creep, yet see ; I, dark in light, exposed
To daily fraud, contempt, abuse, and wrong,
Within doors, or without, still as a fool,
In power of others, never in my own ;
Scarce half I seem to live, dead more than half.
O dark, dark, dark, amid the blaze of noon,
Irrecoverably dark, total eclipse
Without all hope of day."

Samson Agonistes.

The activity and cheerfulness of blind men who have risen to a right view of the dignity, responsibility, and joy of life, are the best refutation of the idea that blindness is necessarily followed by wretchedness.

Sir Charles Lowther's personal friendship with Dr. Moon was one of long standing, having begun about the year 1853, and it continued unabated to the last. Of Dr. Moon's system Sir Charles was an ardent supporter. His purse was always open to aid in the distribution of Moon's literature for the blind, and especially of the Bible. Writing in 1875, Dr. Moon mentions that Sir Charles Lowther had, at different times, given sums amounting to upwards of £5,000 towards the work. It is a pathetic coincidence that the deaths of Dr. Moon and of Sir Charles Lowther should have occurred so very near to one another, there being an interval of only a few days between them.

Sir Charles's study was filled with "blind" books, and on each of these volumes, when it was wanted, he could lay his hand with unerring accuracy. At the chimney-corner there stood his well-worn chair, in which, with his embossed book before him, he was accustomed to read for a certain period daily—a dignified and interesting figure, that of one of the most unobtrusive, one of the humblest, one of the most Christian of men.

FIRST VISIT TO IRELAND

CHAPTER IX

FIRST VISIT TO IRELAND

IN 1863 Dr. Moon visited Ireland, and, accompanied by the Rev. Dr. Black (now of Inverness) and others, he attended several public meetings in Dublin and other places. These meetings were held on behalf of the Dublin Home Teaching Society, for the purpose of raising funds to extend its operations. Dr. Moon records these particulars of this visit : “ At the close of one of the meetings in Dublin, at which I had been speaking, an elderly gentleman came forward to speak with me. ‘ May I be allowed,’ said he, ‘ to ask a few questions ? I am desirous of hearing from you further how my soul can be saved.’ ‘ Read the third chapter of St. John very carefully,’ I replied, ‘ and pray that you may understand it.’ ‘ What shall I do then ?’ ‘ Read it again.’ ‘ And what then, sir ?’ ‘ Read it again and again, particularly the sixteenth and thirty-sixth verses, till you feel every word is written for *yourself*. There you will learn, in the words of Jesus, how we can be

saved.' 'When shall you again speak in public?' he enquired. I said, 'To-morrow at N——, about forty miles from here.' 'Then I shall be there,' he said. The next day, when we were returning by railway after the meeting had been held, our carriage door was suddenly opened at the first station at which the train stopped, and Mr. C—— entered, accompanied by another gentleman, whom he seated by my side, saying to him, in a strong Irish accent, 'Sit you there, man, and he'll tell you how your soul can be saved,' and then retired. The next time the train stopped the door was again opened, and again Mr. C—— entered, and, taking by the arm the gentleman he had before brought to me, he said, 'Come out, man, and let another come; for his soul must be saved.' This he repeated at several stations, until we were approaching Dublin, when he wished me good-bye. Rarely have I seen such earnestness in the Master's cause and exemplification of the words, 'Now is the accepted time; now is the day of salvation.'"

Dr. Moon rejoiced in presenting the gospel for the immediate acceptance of the hearer. In an address which he once delivered he blessed God for the "*hath*" in St. John iii. He then told of one lady who could not believe that she had been saved. He asked her to read the verse, "He that

believeth on the Son *hath* everlasting life." She read it. He then asked her to take her pencil and mark on the margin, "I do not believe it." She replied, "I cannot do that; I *do* believe." "Well, then, don't you see that you have everlasting life?" She saw it in a moment, and left him rejoicing.

Canon Neligan, of Christ Church, Leeson Park, Dublin, has written the following notes about one of Dr. Moon's visits to Ireland: "The late Dr. Moon, of Brighton, visited Ireland on behalf of the blind, and especially to assist Canon Neligan in establishing a National Institution for the blind of Ireland, which the latter conceived in 1859. Canon Neligan's idea was to incorporate the old Molyneux Asylum, opened in Peter Street in 1815, with the National Institution, and for this purpose he and Dr. Moon travelled over many Irish counties, and they were everywhere hospitably and gratefully received and much blessed.

"Before the present Asylum and School were opened in 1862, Dr. Moon and Canon Neligan went through the rooms and measured each, Dr. Moon carefully stopping as he approached the wall, and saying, 'When I meet a lamp-post, unless hindered by my stick or a friend, I knock against it, as the air does not press against me ;

but when I approach a wall, the pressure of the air on my face warns me, and I pause and am safe.'

: "When on the same occasion we went into the Infirmary, the wall plaster was not dry and the floor was covered with whitewash, etc., but Dr. Moon said, 'Is it not here the inmates will pass through their last sickness, and go from this into eternity?' I said, 'Yes, it will be an important room.' 'Oh, brother,' he said, 'how solemn! what a thought! Now, ought not you and I to kneel down and consecrate this room and the whole Asylum?' I was gratified at the idea, and recognised it as of God. I got two pieces of clean board, and we knelt on them, and in that quiet room asked God, amongst other blessings, that if it were possible no soul of any inmate might separate from the body in that room, or elsewhere, without testifying by their peace and joy to the complete salvation and living presence of our loving Christ Jesus. That prayer has been answered very fully, for since the Home was opened in 1862 no inmate has died without knowing, and also rejoicing in, Christ.

: "Another day I sympathised with his loss of sight, and he checked me, saying, 'I see now splendidly. God took away the eyes of my body and gave me the eyes of my soul, with which I

see the King in the beauty of holiness. Oh, I can see very "far off" now!'

"Again, he heard some hard word of some one, and said, 'Oh, how thankful I am! There is not one being on earth I cannot love. God has taken away all dislike. He loves me and makes me by His grace able to love all men.'"

Cork.—A Home Teaching Society was established in Cork in 1861. Much opposition was met with, but much success also.

Limerick.—In 1834 an Asylum for the Blind was erected in Limerick. In a letter to Dr. Moon regarding the inmates of the asylum it is said, "They are remarkable for their cheerfulness, their Scriptural knowledge, and genuine piety, and they greatly appreciate the use of the embossed books they have in your type."

Dr. Moon continues: "I was enabled a few years ago, through the liberality of a Christian gentleman, to send a donation of books to this institution as well as to others in Cork and Dublin. The same kind donor has also enabled me from time to time to send portions of the Holy Scriptures to the blind of France, Holland, Germany, Italy, Spain, and several other countries, which have proved a great blessing to a large number of the blind."

Dr. Moon was personally instrumental in found-

ing many of these societies in Great Britain and Ireland ; and with the managers and many of the teachers of all of them, as well as with those who conducted the work in foreign countries, he was in constant correspondence to the last.

TESTIMONIES

CHAPTER X

TESTIMONIES

A FRIEND interested in the work of circulating books among the blind of Ireland enquired of a lady if she thought that the good effected by the circulation of the books of the free lending libraries through the agency of the home teachers and others compensated for the expense and labour bestowed. The lady, thinking the blind themselves would be the best able to answer this question, asked a few of them with whom she was personally acquainted for their opinions.

The following are extracts from some of the letters which she received in reply:—

“A sense of duty compels me to dictate to you these few lines, hearing that the question has been raised, ‘How does the system for teaching the blind to read work?’ and, ‘Do the results justify the trouble and expense involved in the undertaking?’ In reply, I must ask the question, ‘Who can tell the value of an immortal soul?’ If it

be of more value than ten thousand worlds, and if but one, destitute of bodily sight, be brought to a knowledge of God through the reading and teaching of the Holy Scriptures in the embossed type, then has the labour not been in vain.

“ If proof be wanting as to the blessed results of the dissemination of Scripture truth amongst those deprived of sight by the means of being taught and encouraged in the reading of the blessed Word in the embossed type, I would ask my friend ‘What he would part with his Scripture truths for?’ His answer would be, as it has been, ‘I would not give it for a handful of money.’ And why? Because he received spiritual benefit thereby. Or ask Mr. H—— concerning the benefit he receives, and he will give you a similar reply. As for myself, in this note I cannot state all the blessings I have received—seventy-two years of age when I began to read, and fifty-seven years without reading God’s Word at all. I thank God that for many years before I began reading the embossed type I was not ignorant of the Scripture, nor of its saving power. But one of the greatest blessings I have experienced has been recently, when I was confined to my room for eight weeks, and many wearisome days and nights appointed unto me; for whilst all lay slumbering through the silent watches, my

Bible was a comfort to me. And the God of the Bible made it a blessing to my soul ; and, thank God, I can say, with David, 'O how I love Thy law ! it is my meditation day and night.' And there are many others, whom I do not know but by hearsay, reading the Word of life, and many of them led to see that Jesus Christ is the only Saviour, the Way, the Truth, and the Life. And I believe that eternity alone will reveal the full efficiency of this means, with God's blessing, in accomplishing a Divine mission to a portion of His deeply afflicted creatures."

Another wrote :

"Could I remain prostrated on my knees until the ground was worn away, it would show, as it were, but a grain of the gratitude I feel towards God for the blessing bestowed upon me in enabling me to read His Word."

Another wrote :

"I consider the library such a blessing that I would willingly pay for the books if I could afford it ; and my opinion is, that were you to take the books from a blind man, it would be like putting a bandage on the eyes of one who had his sight."

A few testimonies may not be out of place, showing, as they do, how the embossed books have done their work, and also how appreciation and gratitude were universally evoked.

A Music Mistress.—"One of our pupils was a music mistress, an educated and well-informed person, but bowed down with sorrow ; for, having lost her hearing as well as her sight, she was quite cut off from her usual occupation. At her second lesson she read a chapter of the Second Epistle to the Corinthians, and she now accounts reading the Word of God to be her highest pleasure. She is no longer desolate and unhappy."

The Brightening of Intelligence.—An application came from the daughter of a clergyman in a country parish on behalf of a poor blind man whom she had taught to read in Moon's type some time before. His life till he was eighteen was indescribably wretched. He sat by the fireside almost like an idiot, his arm nearly useless from disease. It was scarcely thought that he could be taught the letters, but he learned them all, and several short words also, in a week ; and he very soon began the Gospel of St. John, a copy of which was given him as a present. The effect which cultivation and awakened thought had upon his mind was wonderful ; he became the most cheerful of the family instead of the most desponding, and after years of suffering he even became healthy.

Chelsea Pensioners.—The blind often read to the sighted. Five blind pensioners at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, were taught to read ; and it was

interesting, when one visited the hospital on a wet day, to see a number of pensioners assembled while one of the blind men, with his embossed Bible open upon the table, read to his aged comrades. These men had oftentimes refused to listen to the Scriptures when visitors desired to read to them.

A Gold-Digger.—E. W. had lost his sight at the gold diggings, and, returning to England, tried to keep a little shop ; but he did not succeed, and all his money was thus lost, so that he became dependent upon a sister. Being deaf as well as blind, he did nothing but lie in bed or sit in a corner of the room. The only alleviation that came to him in his darkness and suffering was the reading of the embossed books.

Testimonies.—"I would not take a hundred pounds to give up my books," said a bedridden man. "These books are my comfort day and night," said an inmate of a workhouse. This man learned to read in one lesson, and added, "I never read so much of the Bible as since I have been blind." Another said, "I understand it far better than when I read it with my eyes"—a result which is no doubt partially owing to the reading of the words rather slowly, and passing over not even one word without thought.

Blind and Bedridden.—At Whitehaven, J. P., blind and bedridden for thirteen years, who could not

read before becoming blind, learned in about eight lessons. He said, "The 51st Psalm has taught me what a sinner I am and how great a Saviour Jesus is. I would sooner part with my bed than with my books."

A Child.—J. C., aged eleven, blind and deaf from two years old, learned to read in about eight or ten lessons, and is delighted with his books.

A Blind Woman.—"Often," said a blind woman, "since I have been deprived of sight, I have taken up the Bible and kissed it with a sad heart at the thought that I could never read its beloved pages; but now, thanks to you, I can read the words of my Saviour for myself."

A Bedridden Paralytic.—An old man in the union at Barnstable was bedridden and paralytic. He frequently lost all feeling in his right hand, and could use only the forefinger of his left to read with. The first verse which he succeeded in reading was, "I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions, and as a cloud thy sins." He wept for joy that he was once more able to read the words; and the books are now his chief solace in his wakeful nights.

Canada and the U.S.A.—In Canada and the United States of America books embossed in the Moon type have been distributed and have fulfilled their mission.

Georgia.—"In 1870," Dr. Moon writes, "I received an urgent request from Georgia for a few books with which to commence the work of teaching some of the emancipated slaves who are blind. Sir Charles Lowther kindly gave a small library of our books, which we trust will be found profitable to the souls of many of those poor negroes for whom they were intended."

Portland, U.S.A.—"In 1871 a blind man from Portland, America, having heard of my embossed books, called to see me at Brighton, and said he would like to learn to read them. A lesson was given him upon the alphabet and Lord's Prayer. He called the next day for a book. The fourteenth chapter of St. John was given him, no further instructions being needed. About two months later he returned to America, taking with him a small library of books, given by Sir Charles Lowther, to enable him to commence home teaching in his neighbourhood. He has found several blind persons, and we hope much good may result from his efforts."

Two Thousand Volumes sent to New York.
"In response to another earnest request from the United States for supplies of our embossed books, Sir Charles Lowther munificently presented two thousand volumes, which were distributed in New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Louisville, etc."

**THE WORK IN AUSTRALIA ; ITS ORIGIN AND
PROGRESS**

CHAPTER XI

THE WORK IN AUSTRALIA; ITS ORIGIN AND PROGRESS.

IN the Australian colonies numbers of the blind have learned to read through the agency of home teaching; and very pleasing and grateful testimonies have been received regarding the comfort afforded by the books.

Mr. James, of Ballarat.—Some twenty years ago Mr. Thomas James, residing in Ballarat, wrote to Dr. Moon that he had been taught by a home teacher in Cornwall before emigrating to Australia, and that since his arrival in Ballarat he had taught twelve persons to read by the system, much to their delight. This description of him and of his work is from the *Ballarat Sun*: “Mr. James, the blind teacher, has gone to an immense amount of trouble in teaching a blind Chinese not only the alphabet for the blind, but to read English. Mr. James is himself not only blind, but also has to work under another great disadvantage—viz., the loss of an arm. This somewhat remarkable man

may be seen trudging fearlessly along with his dog, in all sorts of weather and in all directions, with his leather case of books at his back—chapters of the Bible in raised type—on his road to or from the various blind people in and around Ballarat, exchanging their books, reading to them, and chatting cheerfully and pleasantly with them all, and so tending to alleviate and soften their lot. Considering the general timidity exhibited by blind men on the street, there is certainly something very remarkable and even surprising in the bold, fearless, and quick manner in which Mr. James walks along the streets and finds his way about the neighbourhood of Ballarat.”

Mr. Prescott's Work in Australia.—Mr. Harry S. Prescott, the founder of the Home Teaching Society in New South Wales, is, like Dr. Moon, a native of Kent. Having emigrated to New Zealand, he joined the Armed Constabulary, and it was while engaged in this occupation that he became totally blind, and was the inmate of a hospital for nearly a year. A visitor to the hospital having suggested to him that he should learn to read from Dr. Moon's type for the blind, he agreed to make the experiment; and, unaided by a teacher, he accomplished this feat in the short space of two hours. Through the reading of the Word of God and of *Grace and Truth*

the light of salvation and of peace with God broke upon his mind.

He gained admission to the Melbourne Institute for the Blind, and an incident which occurred here was the Divine leading which guided him to what is now his life's occupation. One Sunday afternoon, while reading in the Acts of the Apostles, a blind lad, who was also lame, chanced to stumble against him. After mutual recognition, the boy asked Mr. Prescott to read to him. Others were attracted by the reader's voice, and thus began a regular Sunday Reading Class. Not a few of the blind found these readings of Mr. Prescott to be the means of their salvation.

He had now found his vocation, and with perseverance and increasing success he still pursued it. After an interview with Mr. Thomas James, who has been already mentioned, Mr. Prescott resolved to enter on similar work. In 1877 he went to Sydney, and, to use his own words, "In a strange city, going out with my stick, by enquiring and being led by God's Spirit, I commenced searching out the blind and helping them."

The value of his work being recognised, a committee was formed to further it. Steamboat and railway companies gave him free passes everywhere, and in 1886, when he revisited

England, he could report that he had travelled sixty thousand miles seeking out, evangelising, and otherwise helping the blind of Australia. The Australian Government had so far appreciated the value of his mission to the blind as to subsidise it by giving an equal amount to that subscribed by the public.

Thanks from Australia.—No fewer than three hundred and eighty-two blind residents in Australia signed the following letter expressive of their gratitude to Dr. Moon: "On behalf of the undersigned blind persons residing in Australia, all of whom are using books printed in your type, I desire to testify our high appreciation of your valuable labours, which have resulted, firstly, in the production of an alphabet composed of characters so simple that the blind of all ages and capacities can read with ease; secondly, in the formation of a library for their use, containing a large selection of religious, poetical, biographical, educational, scientific, and general reading; and thirdly, in the establishment of home teaching societies in various parts of the world, by means of which thousands of our fellow-sufferers, otherwise neglected and uncared for, have been taught to read and provided with profitable reading, further furnishing their minds with food for healthy thought, and in a great measure keeping

them from the contemplation of the awful darkness by which they are surrounded. In conclusion, we desire to tender our sincere thanks for all you have done to relieve the tedium and monotony of our lives, and venture to express the hope that our Heavenly Father may richly bless you in all your undertakings, and that you may be long spared to carry on the noble work for which you are so eminently fitted and to which you have already devoted upwards of forty years of your life." It was no small encouragement to Dr. Moon to receive such a letter as this.

Schools and Workshops for the Blind in Australia.—In Victoria the system of home teaching has often proved but the beginning of a work which has led to the establishment of industrial institutions for the blind.

In New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, and New Zealand schools or workshops have been erected as the immediate outcome of home teaching ; while in Tasmania and Western Australia the teachers are arranging for similar results.



DR. MOON'S DESCRIPTION OF HOME TEACHING



CHAPTER XII

DR. MOON'S DESCRIPTION OF HOME TEACHING

THE following notes will be valued, as in them we have Dr. Moon's own description of his system of home teaching and of how it originated.

"In addition to my labours in preparing books for the blind, I have devoted much time to the establishing of home teaching and free lending libraries for the blind at home and abroad, and have been greatly aided in my endeavours by Sir Charles Lowther, Bart., who has kindly given grants of books for this special purpose, the total number of volumes donated up to the present time (December 1892) being no less than 21,821.

"Among the various plans suggested from time to time for the promotion of the intellectual and spiritual welfare of the blind, perhaps none have been more successful in meeting the requirements of this afflicted class than home teaching and the

establishment of free lending libraries of my embossed books.

"The number of blind in England and Scotland averages about one in every thousand of the general population, and of these blind not more than one in ten is under fifteen years of age. Hence it will be readily seen that the great proportion are adults, and, by reference to the census, it will be found that four-fifths of the blind are over thirty years of age.

"Previously to 1856 attention had been directed to the instruction of the juvenile blind collected in schools, while the teaching of the adult blind, who form by far the larger number, many of whom were plunged suddenly into permanent darkness in maturer life, had been almost wholly overlooked.

"To establish schools for these multifarious sufferers would be impossible, even though schools were increased a hundred-fold, by reason of the disparity of ages, infirmities, states, and conditions, and an endless variety of other circumstances to which they are subject. In certain countries of the East the numbers are much higher than in our own country, the proportion being two and sometimes three in every thousand, while in Egypt the number is still higher.

"In the United States of America there are

sixty-five thousand blind, of whom fifty thousand are adults over twenty years of age.

"The plan of home teaching is both simple and inexpensive. A committee is formed, and a teacher is appointed, who is usually blind, to search out and instruct all such as are willing to learn, and afterwards to exchange the books, weekly, fortnightly, or monthly, as opportunity affords or necessity requires.

"A complete set of books in my type is sufficient to supply a large number of readers by means of periodical circulation among them through the agency of teachers.

"More than three thousand of the blind die every year, and a still larger number of persons become blind; so that the work of home teaching and the use of free libraries will always be required. More than three hundred thousand of the blind of the entire world die every year. Great, then, is the necessity for home teaching to be established as far as practicable in all parts of the globe.

"The plan of home teaching and free lending libraries was instituted about 1856, and doubtless it is not too much to say that it is the greatest literary boon ever contrived for the blind.

"By these means more than ten thousand of the blind of Great Britain have been taught to read,

and the same plan has been adopted in various parts of Australia and various other countries. More than two hundred thousand (200,000) volumes are annually circulated among the blind entirely free of cost to the readers.

“It would have been impossible to have rendered the home teaching and libraries so successful had not the type, in which the books are printed, been both simple and clear to the touch.

“I have adapted my type to the Sanskrit, Bengali, Telugu, Canarese, Punjabi, Hindi, Malayalam, and several other Indian languages.

“I have now (1883) adapted my type to eight of the Chinese dialects.

“In Japan several of the blind have learned English sufficiently to read my English embossed books. We have some books embossed in the Japanese language. I received very kind assistance in this work from the Rev. F. B. Plummer, Rev. Mr. Warren, and Rev. A. C. Shaw. Sir Charles Lowther has kindly given a large number of our English books for establishing free lending libraries in Yokohama and other places.

“The work of teaching the Japanese blind to read is not intended to benefit the blind alone, but it is hoped that through them thousands of the rest of the population of Japan will be spiritually blessed. The idea of a blind man being able to

read is so novel in Japan that many of the sighted population would be likely to listen and attend to the Bible being read in this way ; and by this means the blind would become missionaries to their heathen countrymen.

“ Another reason why it seems specially good to aim at reaching the masses of the heathen through the medium of the blind is, that the latter, having no opportunity of reading other books, and feeling so much the need of employment—not being cared for in heathen as in Christian countries—would, it is hoped, be more ready, in the first instance, carefully and thankfully to read the gospel, and then by reason of their affliction, as with the blind who came to the Lord Jesus in former days, to be more ready to embrace and rejoice in Him who is the Light of the world.

“ The Rev. A. C. Shaw, who first urged the undertaking of this work, has several blind Christians in connection with his church at Tokio, and one of them had begun to preach before the Rev. F. B. Plummer left Japan.”

The foregoing paragraphs, together with some information regarding the progress of the work in Constantinople, India, Canada, and the United States of America, seem to have been intended by Dr. Moon as part of a new volume to be

embossed for the blind, in order to let them have some fuller idea of what progress had been made with the work of circulating the Bible for the blind, and teaching them to read it. Unfortunately the idea seems not to have been carried out.

**DR. MOON'S TRAVELS IN HOLLAND AND
GERMANY**

CHAPTER XIII

DR. MOON'S TRAVELS IN HOLLAND AND GERMANY

WE have now the benefit of Dr. Moon's notes regarding his travels in Holland and Germany, both of which countries he visited in the interest of the blind resident there. He writes: "My system of embossed reading having proved so eminently successful in Great Britain and Ireland, I became desirous of ascertaining more particularly what was being done in this respect for the blind on the Continent. Accordingly, during the summers of 1858-59, accompanied by my son, I travelled through Holland and many parts of Germany to make enquiries in reference to the teaching of embossed reading among the blind of these countries. We learned that portions of the Bible had been embossed in the Roman letter by the Stuttgardt Bible Society, but that very few men or women accustomed to work could read them; and the directors of some of the institutions for the blind

considered it was impossible to teach the aged to read or those whose fingers were hardened by work. Very different were their convictions, however, after my system had been tried."

Rotterdam.—"At the Institution for the Blind at Rotterdam one of the first pupils we taught was a woman about thirty-two years of age, who had been blind twelve years. She read the whole of the Lord's Prayer in the course of the first day's instruction, and when we returned from Germany a few weeks later several others had also learned to read. Among them was an aged woman whose loss of sight had deprived her of the privilege of reading her Bible for upwards of thirty-six years. Her joy was great when she was again able to read the blessed book for herself."

Stuttgart.—"At the Stuttgart Institution one of the blind masters learned to read in half an hour; and when I called there the next morning, he had read a considerable portion of the Epistles of St. John. The director of this institution, during the course of the same day, taught the system to three of the children, who read to me the next morning from the third and from the fourteenth chapters of St. John."

Cologne.—"At Cologne a lad learned the alphabet and read half of the Lord's Prayer in the course of an hour."

Hanover.—"At Hanover an elderly man received a lesson from my son, and called upon us the next morning to say that he should require no further instruction, as he could make out the reading quite well by himself. This person has since taught several others to read. The Rev. C. A. Wilkinson, then chaplain to the King of Hanover, likewise taught several persons to read in that city."

Brunswick.—"At the Institution for the Blind in Brunswick we found but one adult, besides the master, able to read from the Roman letter, and that but slowly. In the course of one afternoon they learned my plan, and said they much preferred it to the other. The blind master at the institution lent the Epistles of St. John which I had given him to a blind organist in the city; and when a lady called on the organist the day following to enquire if he wished for any assistance in learning, he said he had read nearly half of the Epistles, and required nothing but more books to read."

From these journeys in Holland and Germany Dr. Moon returned to Brighton, highly gratified with his success, and proceeded at once to provide larger portions of the Scriptures in Dutch and German.

Second Visit to Holland.—"Early in the year

1860," Dr. Moon writes, "I received a letter from one of the directors of the Blind School at Rotterdam stating they were so encouraged by the success which had attended the trial of my reading in their institution that they felt they ought not any further to burden their English friends with the expense of preparing the Bible for the Dutch blind, and that they would willingly provide the means for purchasing a printing press and other necessary apparatus if I would procure these and go over to Holland and instruct them in the way the books were made."

Rotterdam.—"Accordingly, in the month of May, accompanied by my son and a workman, I went to Rotterdam, with a press and the necessary materials. On landing, the press was at once taken to its destination, and before we retired to rest that night it was set up and a page embossed—the first printed with my type in a foreign land! The next day, upon rising, I was presented with two copies of the same page, printed that morning by one of the directors, after holding a prayer-meeting at five o'clock to implore a special blessing upon the future working of the press. I felt much pleasure and encouragement in finding such Christian earnestness in the Lord's cause and such humble dependence upon Him for a blessing. So indefatigable were

the efforts of our Dutch friends in the work that in about three weeks we were able to return to England, intending, should the means be graciously provided, soon to revisit Holland and extend our labours, if possible, as far as Berlin and Dresden.

“Upon returning to Rotterdam in the following month, I learned that a blind man had been employed four hours daily in teaching the blind to read at the institution, and the remainder of his time was devoted to searching out and teaching others at their own homes.”

The Hague.—“At the Hague Dr. Cappadose had taught nine persons to read. One of these, to whom he took me, was an inmate of the poor-house, and, in addition to being blind, was deaf and dumb. As we entered the room in which he was sitting, we found him reading an embossed book, apparently with great earnestness. When Dr. Cappadose made known to him, by spelling the words on his fingers, that I was present, he put forth his hand to grasp mine, and seemed extremely pleased. Upon the doctor asking him to read to us, he did so with much ease and rapidity. He then took a slate lying near to him, and wrote the words he had been reading, which we found to be correct. I enquired if he enjoyed the reading. He wrote upon the slate, ‘I have so much pleasure in the reading that it is the joy of my soul.’”

Hanover.—"Soon after our arrival in Hanover we paid a visit to the Rev. C. A. Wilkinson, who introduced me to Herr Cammann the Government Inspector of Schools. Herr Cammann told me that he 'had desired my books to be used at the Blind School.' In a few days I was able to leave Hanover for Berlin, previously having the gratification of hearing two boys read ably from my embossed books who had received only fourteen days' instruction."

Berlin.—"Upon arriving in Berlin, I presented a letter of introduction to Lord Bloomfield, who kindly promised to render me all the assistance he could. The Hon. Mr. Jocelyn, the *attaché*, who was present at the interview, gave me an introduction to his father, the late Earl Roden, who was then at Berlin. This Christian nobleman received me with much kindness."

Dr. Krummacher.—"On leaving, he gave me an introduction to Dr. Krummacher, by whom I was warmly received. Dr. Krummacher promised to become a member of a committee, in case I should form a society in Berlin, to carry out my plans. Dr. Hoffman and Dr. von Mühler, with Mr. Neuhauss, also consented to become members of the committee. His Excellency Herr von Bethmann Hollweg, the State Minister, and several other gentlemen, likewise showed me much kindness,

and promised all the help they could afford, feeling it to be a cause worthy of their support. Mr. Millard, agent of the British and Foreign Bible Society, was extremely energetic in the cause, accompanying us from place to place in order that no time might be lost in furthering our mission.

“Upon visiting the Bible House the second day after our arrival, a blind converted Jew, Mr. Bernard, was awaiting us there, to receive a first lesson. In half an hour he mastered the alphabet and read part of the Lord's Prayer. At the next lesson he read the whole of the Prayer and commenced the fourteenth chapter of St. John, and a few days later he became a teacher.”

The Emperor Frederick.—“A Home Teaching Society was successfully inaugurated in Berlin, with the Crown Prince—afterwards H.I.M. the late Emperor Frederick—as patron; and Mr. Bernard continued to labour with much success among the blind in Berlin.”

Dresden.—“Before leaving Germany,” Dr. Moon continues, “I visited Dresden, and was warmly received by the director of the School for the Blind, who pronounced my system of reading to be far superior to any he had hitherto seen, and resolved to try it with the pupils under his care. ‘Reading by the common letter,’ he said, ‘was out

of the question altogether with his scholars who were accustomed to work ; and he thought it would be a great boon for all the blind throughout the city if they could be taught to read.'

"In 1865 there were nearly a hundred readers in Rotterdam, and an agent was employed to go throughout the country to search out the blind and teach them to read."

Utrecht.—"In 1861 we met at Utrecht several missionaries from the Cape and others from Scotland who were preparing for labour in the Dutch colonies of South Africa. We gave a lesson to several of them upon our alphabet and method of teaching the blind to read. They promised to instruct their fellow-students (nearly twenty in number), and by this means we hope to reach the blind in many of the missionary settlements of South Africa. Since then an Institution for the Blind has been opened in Utrecht, where they are taught to read our books and to earn something towards their own support by various kinds of handicraft."

Amsterdam.—"When at Amsterdam in 1865, I addressed a meeting on behalf of the blind. At the close of the address a blind man expressed a wish to speak to me. He said that a few months before he obtained his living as a musician by playing in a public-house, for which he received

about twelve shillings per week. The agent employed by the directors of the Rotterdam Blind School met with him, and gave him a lesson in reading, leaving with him a copy of the 34th Psalm. He read it, and became seriously impressed that his mode of obtaining his living was not such as was pleasing in the sight of God. He thought and prayed much about it, and at length came to the conclusion that he ought to give it up, feeling, as he said, that he had served the devil long enough, and that it was now time he served God. One difficulty appeared great—how should he get a living for himself and his wife? While he was considering these things, he asked his wife if she would like to hear him read. She replied, ‘Very much.’ He then read the 34th Psalm. When he had finished, he told her what he thought about giving up playing at the public-house. ‘But,’ he said, ‘my dear, how shall I get support for you?’ ‘Why,’ replied his wife, ‘have you not just read, “The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth them, and delivereth them out of all their troubles”? Let us cry to the Lord.’ They knelt in prayer, and rose from their knees with a determination that he should no more play at the public-house, and that they would cast their care upon the Lord.

“The landlord of the public-house sent to know

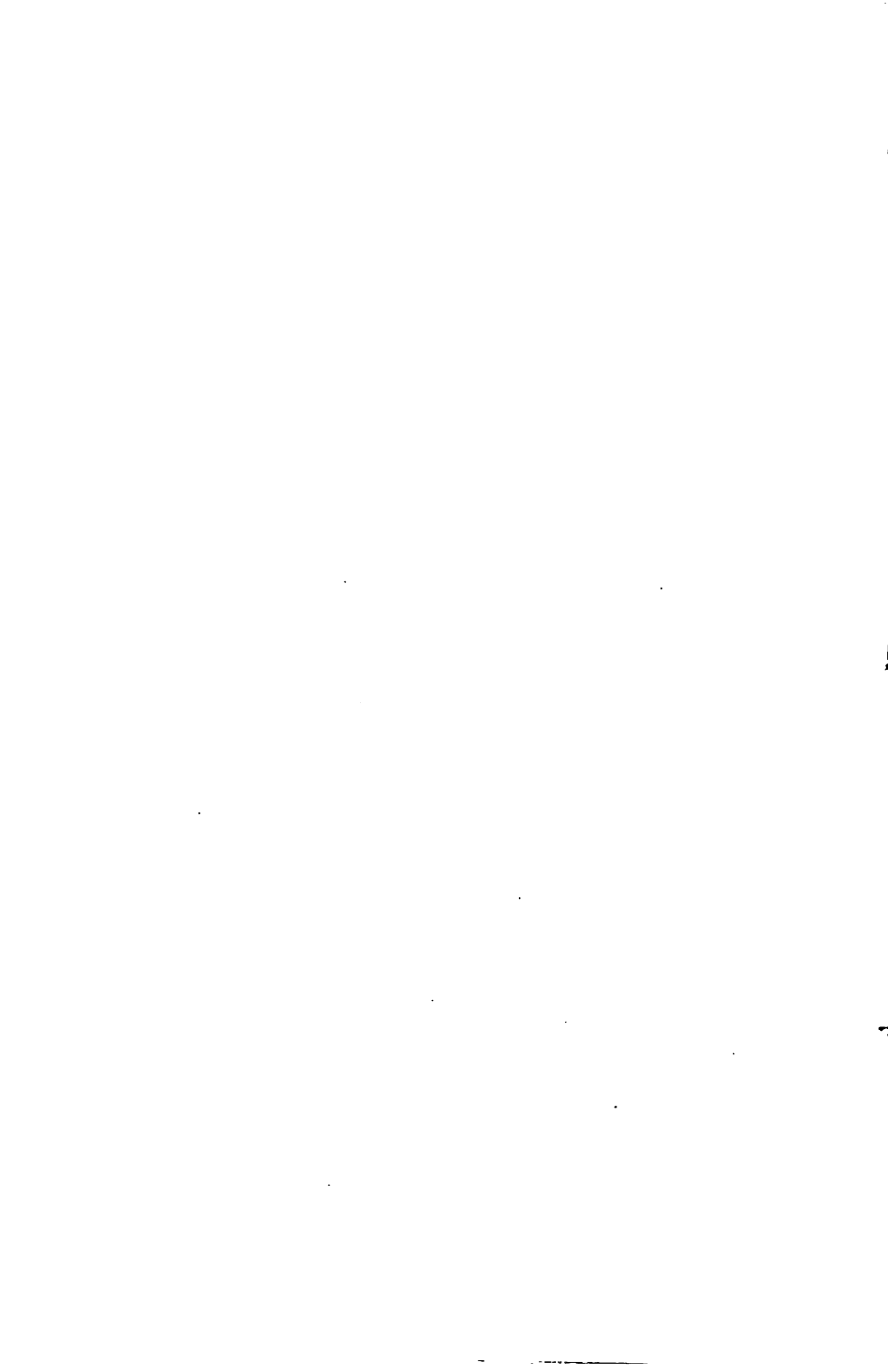
the cause of his absence, and, thinking an advance of money might be a temptation, offered him fifteen shillings a week ; but the bribe did not succeed. He then promised twenty shillings a week, but with no better success.

“A Christian gentleman, hearing of the case, sent for the man and enquired if there were many other blind adults in the city, and if he thought they would like to come to a school and learn to work, should one be provided. The man enquired, and soon heard of sixty persons who would like to come. The gentleman made an effort to raise sufficient funds to procure a room and open a school. When I was at Amsterdam the room was being prepared with proper fittings for a workshop, and the blind man and his wife were engaged as teachers to commence the work as soon as the room was ready. Sufficient means were provided for their support till the school was opened. Thus their cry was not raised to heaven in vain ; the Lord heard and delivered them out of their troubles. How frequently we see, as in this case, the conversion of but one person resulting in a blessing to many !

“Upon another occasion when in Rotterdam I found a blind man who had learned to read my books a few years before, and who had lost his sight from cancer. In course of conversation

I enquired if he did not think the Lord had dealt hardly with him in permitting him to suffer so much pain. 'No, sir ; no, sir ! It is all love.' I asked, 'Do you not dread the future, as regards the sufferings you may have to endure ?' He said, 'No, sir ; I am going to Jesus.' This man, by his conversation and exemplary patience, was made a great blessing to the other inmates of his ward. The love of Jesus seemed to outweigh every other suffering.

"The directors of the institution at Rotterdam were desirous that the benefit of the reading should be extended to the blind of the Dutch settlements—Java, and other places. For this purpose we prepared portions of reading in the Javanese language."



JOURNEYS IN FRANCE

CHAPTER XIV

JOURNEYS IN FRANCE

DR. MOON'S Travels in France.—For the purpose of carrying out his missionary labours among the blind, Dr. Moon visited France in 1861 and again in 1862. He has left these short notes regarding some incidents of these journeys. "Upon visiting Paris with my son in 1861, I met with a large number of blind ; but after diligent enquiry could not find that any possessed the smallest portion of the Word of God. By the kind assistance of the Rev. G. Monod I visited a Protestant blind woman, resident in the Quinze-Vingts, who expressed the greatest delight at the prospect of learning to read for herself. In a few days she accomplished the task, and great was her joy on finding she was able with her own fingers to read the blessed words of divine truth. When she came to the last verse of the third chapter of St. John, and read the words 'He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life,' she said, 'Oh, it does not say he *may* have or

he *shall* have, but that he *hath* everlasting life !' Upon our leaving, she again thanked us for teaching her to read. After giving her some books, she said, 'I will remember you in my poor prayers before the Lord, and ask Him to make all your undertakings result to His glory.'

"My next pupil was a blind man who had obtained his living by singing in the streets, and who learned to read in two lessons. When he came for his second lesson we found that he had risen at five o'clock that morning to study his reading, so earnest was he to make progress ; and when the Gospel of St. John was placed before him, he could read any portion of the book. On being told that the volume was to be his own, it would have gladdened the hearts of our friends had they seen the delight with which he bore away the precious treasure.

"This man had been educated at one of the blind schools, where he had learned to read upon Braille's system, but he said that many of the blind whom he knew could not learn upon that plan. I have since heard that he died about six months after I had seen him, and I trust he is now realising the reward of that faith he professed in the infinite atonement made by Jesus Christ.

"Shortly after my leaving Paris, a blind man,

an inmate of l'Asile de Courbevoie, who had been taught by a kind lady, was appointed as a teacher to visit the blind at their homes. Encouraging accounts respecting the progress of his labours frequently reached me the following year; and a grant of £20 was kindly made by the British and Foreign Bible Society towards supplying the Lending Library with portions of the Scriptures.

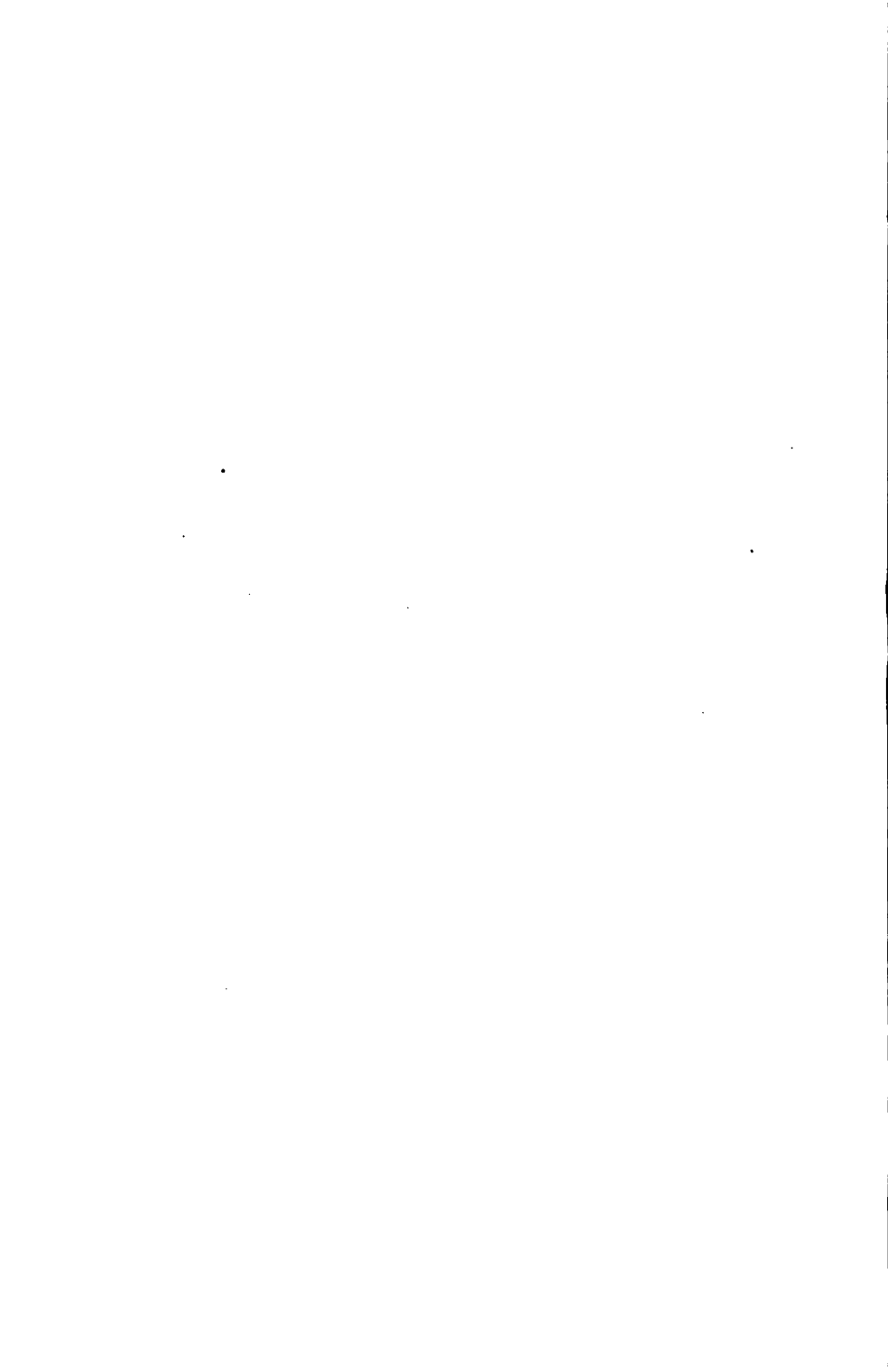
"In August 1862 we paid another visit to Paris, and found that about fifty persons, the greater number of whom were Roman Catholics, had been taught to read. Several of these readers learned in one lesson, of whom the blind teacher himself was an example. In order to see for ourselves the progress his pupils had made, we went with him to visit a few of the blind in their own homes."

The Mayor of Trouville.—"We were invited to meet another of the readers one evening at the house of a Christian friend. He was an elderly gentleman of seventy-five years of age, and was at one time Mayor of Trouville in Normandy. The meeting was truly touching. The dear and aged Christian threw his arms around my neck, and kissed me, whilst the tears ran down his venerable face. 'Bless you!' said he; 'you have opened up a new life to me. My book is my every comfort, and I am rejoiced to see you to thank you; but now you are here I scarcely know how

to find the words to do so. The book has given me peace of soul.' The same gentleman, whilst Mayor of Trouville, assisted the late King Louis Philippe in his escape from France, and supplied him with the great coat he then wore.

"During two years an evangelist had been employed, who had instructed sixty persons to read; these, together with those taught by the home teacher, numbered about one hundred and fifty."

**FURTHER JOURNEYS IN THE UNITED
KINGDOM**



CHAPTER XV

FURTHER JOURNEYS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

IN England, Scotland, and Ireland Dr. Moon made very many journeys, addressing meetings from one end of the kingdom to the other, and always in the interest of the blind. In reference to these journeys he writes :

“ While the work of extending the Bible among the blind of the Continent, and in more distant parts of the world, has been successfully carried on, its progress in Great Britain and Ireland has been equally encouraging. It has been estimated that in the United Kingdom there are about thirty thousand persons deprived of sight. To meet their spiritual wants, societies have been formed at various places for sending teachers to the homes of the blind, to instruct them in reading upon my plan, and to lend them books free of charge.

“ In 1862, accompanied by my son, I made a tour through the West of England and a part of Scotland and Ireland, visiting several of the provincial home teaching societies *en route*.”

Birmingham.—"In Birmingham I found that two teachers were employed by the Society in connection with the Edgbaston School for the Blind, and that upwards of ninety persons had then been taught. A large number of readers has since been added."

Liverpool.—"The Liverpool Home Teaching Society was in a flourishing condition; and since the commencement of the society four hundred and thirty-two blind persons had been visited at their own homes. The number of pupils then on the register was two hundred and sixty-nine, a large proportion of whom read with rapidity and ease. Finding that many who were visited by the teachers were in a sad state of destitution, some friends of the society were induced to open workshops in which the blind might be taught trades, and to provide materials for such as were already acquainted with a trade, and give them adequate remuneration for their work. This branch of the society's operations has been productive of the most happy results. Many who at one time were unable to earn a shilling are now, through the teaching and assistance given them by this society, earning from ten to eighteen shillings per week. In connection with the work-rooms is a large shop, where the goods made by the blind are sold."

Alston, in Cumberland.—"Alston, in Cumberland, was the next place we visited, where the Home Teaching Society was instituted principally by a blind lady, the widow of a late vicar of the parish. She was very energetic, and frequently assembled the blind from miles around at her house to partake of dinner and tea. In her neighbourhood was one of our oldest and one of our youngest pupils. The latter, who was only three and a half years of age, read to me with extraordinary facility for so young a child."

Edinburgh.—"Leaving Alston, we proceeded to Edinburgh, where I was much gratified in witnessing the unwearied zeal of the gentlemen connected with the Scottish home teaching societies. To know that twelve hundred of the three thousand blind of Scotland were being visited and cared for, and that many of them had acquired the power of reading through the instrumentality of these societies, was truly a cause of deepest thankfulness to God."

Glasgow.—"In Glasgow I addressed a large meeting, at which a goodly number of the blind were present, one of whom read by his fingers before the audience, although, in addition to being blind, he was deaf and dumb. The young man, after reading a page from the embossed book, repeated it by means of manual signs to his

teacher, who afterwards interpreted it to the audience."

Ireland.—"After addressing a meeting at Greenock I visited several parts of Ireland, and with the Rev. Dr. Neligan, chaplain to the Molyneux Asylum, attended a number of meetings held on behalf of that institution.

"In the following year, accompanied by the Rev. Dr. Black and other gentlemen, I advocated in a similar manner the claims of Miss Pettigrew's Institution for the Blind, Marlborough Street, Dublin.

"From time to time since 1863 I have repeated my visits to various parts of England and Scotland on behalf of the home teaching societies, and have been much encouraged by their continued success."

Death of Mrs. Moon.—In August 1864, not long after his return from these journeys, Mrs. Moon died. This was a great loss both to her husband and to her children. During the whole course of their married life she had keenly sympathised with him, and given him her hearty co-operation in all his labours on behalf of the blind.

**THE WORK IN SWEDEN, EGYPT, SYRIA, TURKEY,
INDIA, CHINA**



CHAPTER XVI

THE WORK IN SWEDEN, EGYPT, SYRIA, TURKEY, INDIA, CHINA

DR. MOON tells us of the beginning of the work among the blind of Sweden. He says: "The British and Foreign Bible Society more than twenty years ago sent to Stockholm five hundred copies of St. Luke's Gospel printed in the Roman letter. A gentleman who afterwards visited Stockholm in 1853 made enquiries upon the subject, and took with him a specimen of my type. He learned that the copies of St. Luke sent by the Society had never been read, excepting by a few of the children in the Institution for the Blind at Manilla. An examination of the more simple and distinct characters of my reading immediately produced the exclamation, 'This is what we want!' The number of the blind in Sweden is about five thousand seven hundred, or a proportion of one to seven hundred of the whole population. Several persons in Stockholm promised to make an attempt to teach some of

these poor sufferers if books were supplied to them; and a Swedish lady, at that time in England, was so delighted with the simplicity of my type that she also promised on her return home to endeavour to engage her friends as teachers. Some chapters of St. John's Gospel in the Swedish language were at once stereotyped, and eighty-four copies were sent to Stockholm on trial; and letters were shortly afterwards received stating that several persons were using them in teaching the blind to read.

"Soon afterwards Mr. Knolleke received a letter from the Rev. A. Senft, of Stockholm, from which the following is an extract: 'I had a visit this morning from Mr. Borg, director of the Institution for the Blind at Manilla, accompanied by the head teacher of the same, Lieutenant Klingspoor. Moon's system has now been tried among us, and the result has proved that it far surpasses all its predecessors in clearness and intelligibility; and this the above-named gentleman particularly requested me to tell you. They venture, however, one step further, and, emboldened by the kindness already shown, proffer the wish that they may now be furnished with a portion of the Scriptures printed according to this system; and for that object they would propose the Gospel of St. John. Should their wish be complied with on the part

of our noble benefactors in England, they would thereby acquire fresh claims to our gratitude. And what numbers of those who are now outwardly blind might by that means have the eye of faith implanted in their souls !'

"In compliance with this earnest request, the Gospel of St. John was stereotyped in Swedish, and six copies were sent over as specimens, with some other books. The British and Foreign Bible Society kindly made a grant to the Institution of fifty copies of the gospel printed from my stereotyped plates, twelve copies of the fourteenth chapter of St. John in wider lines for beginners, and twelve copies of the Epistle to the Ephesians."

It was a great pleasure to Dr. Moon to find that his system of reading was thus becoming so widely useful and making good progress in so many foreign countries. Even among the Arabic-speaking peoples of Syria and Egypt it was found highly serviceable for the blind.

Egypt.—"There are many blind persons in Egypt," writes Dr. Moon, "of whom a large number are schoolmasters, and I am informed by missionaries from Cairo that they rank amongst the most literary men of the country."

Rev. Dr. Lansing, of Cairo.—"The following is an extract of a letter from the Rev. Dr. Lansing,

of Cairo, by which it will be seen how quickly the blind there learn to read my books embossed in Arabic, and what an extensive field of usefulness the Lord has opened up to us in this portion of His vineyard : ‘ I lately gave your volume, containing the fourteenth chapter of St. John in Arabic, to one of the blind schoolmasters here. He learned the alphabet in one lesson, and commenced the chapter. I left him at sunset, and the next morning, at sunrise, he came to my house and read the whole of the book, which he appeared also to have accomplished the previous evening before going to bed, which is a good proof that the system is excellent.’

“ A blind girl in Cairo, named Wordy, was daily sent out by her father to beg for his support, he being a very idle man. Dr. Lansing found her, and took her into his school for instruction. She soon learned to read. She was afterwards appointed as teacher in a school in Upper Egypt ; and in 1869, when Dr. Lansing called on me at Brighton, he said that before leaving Egypt he paid a visit to Wordy’s school, and stayed there till the next day. Happening to awake in the night, he heard her reading aloud from a copy of the Arabic Psalms we had sent to her.

“ In the morning, before he left, she enquired, ‘ Are you going to England, and shall you see the

gentlemen who sent the books ? ' On his replying in the affirmative, she said, ' Please tell him, when you see him, I am so hungry. I want all the Bible.' ' Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness.'

" With the co-operation of kind friends in Cairo, home teaching has been recently introduced among the blind of Egypt ; and I have been encouraged in the effort by a Christian lady in England, who has kindly given £100 towards commencing the work."

Syria, Beyrout.—The late Mrs. Bowen Thompson also introduced Dr. Moon's system into her schools at Beyrout, and found that it was easily acquired by the children, both blind and sighted, and that through them the Word of God was read to others.

Constantinople.—In Constantinople the books have also been productive of good, as is shown by these extracts from letters written by Dr. Riggs, resident there. On January 3rd, 1865, he writes that copies of the third chapter of St. John's Gospel in Armenian had been sent for the instruction of the blind in Marsovan, Tokat, Sivas, and Harpoot—names now too well known, alas ! in connection with the massacres of the Armenians in 1895 and 1896 by the Turks and Kurds. In 1868 Dr. Riggs writes requesting fifty copies of

the embossed Gospel of St. Matthew in Turkish. He adds, "Copies of your books have been sent to several places in the interior, and we hear of individuals who are benefited and delighted by them. One who learned to read here is now studying in our Theological School at Marsovan; and a blind girl from Baghehyut, near Nicomedia, has also learned to read in the raised characters, and she is gone to Marsovan to study in our female school there, in the hope that she will be prepared for greater usefulness."

Dr. Moon adds that some of the books sent by him to Turkey were stereotyped at the expense of the American Bible Society.

India.—Dr. Moon's benevolence was world-wide. The following notes of his show the beginning of work among the blind in India and China:

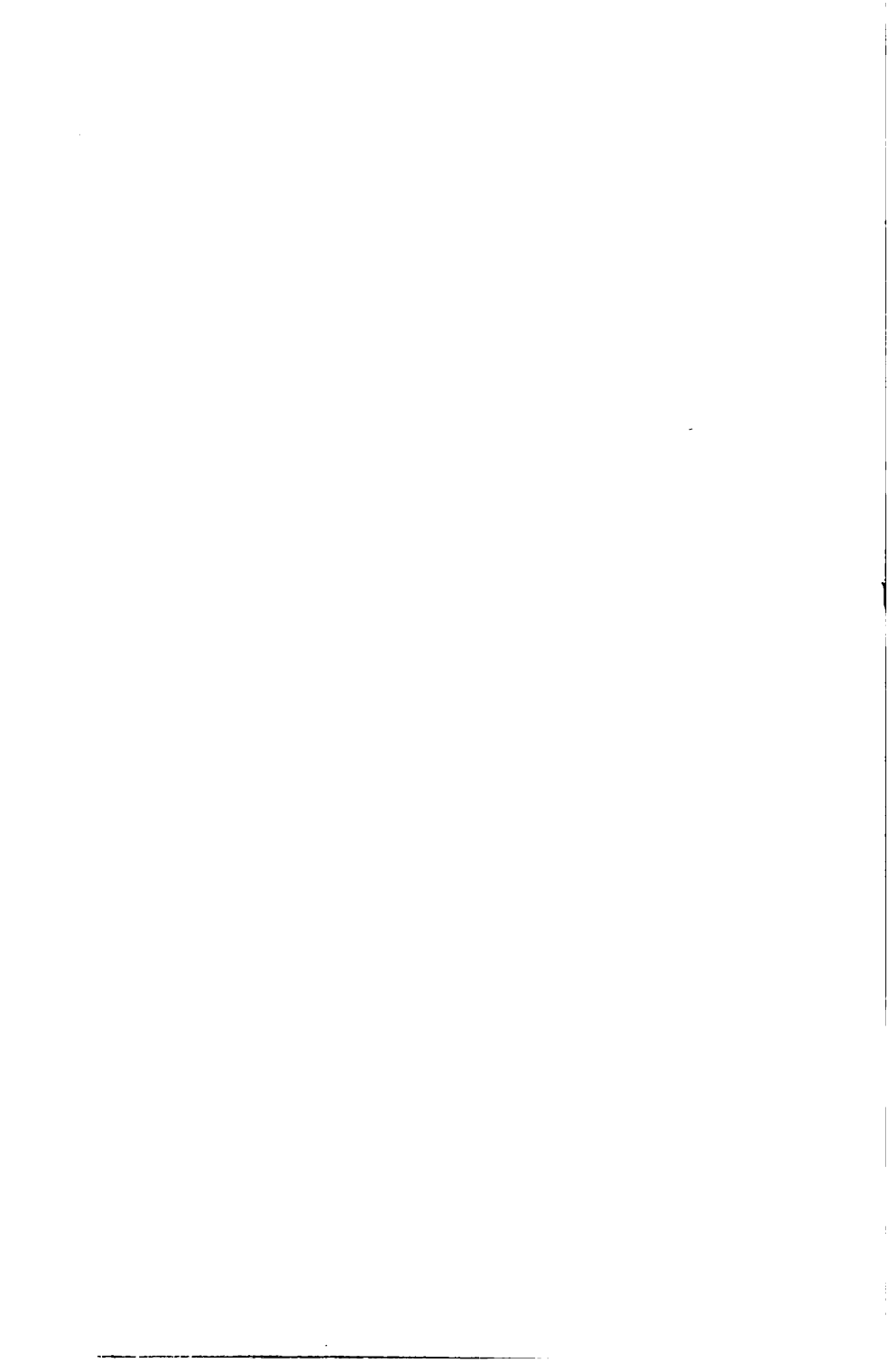
"A large field of usefulness is open to us in India, the number of blind there being very great, and particularly in the Punjaub, where many have lost their sight from the dreadful ravages of small-pox.

"We have prepared, at the expense of a kind friend, the Gospel of St. Matthew in the Urdu language for the use of the blind of Northern India. Five hundred copies of the Gospel, with other portions of Scripture, have been sent out, and more will follow when needed. Many of the

blind have learned to read, and are greatly benefiting from the use of the books."

China.—"In China a considerable number of the blind have been taught. A young woman at Ningpo, who received one of the copies of the Gospel of St. Luke in the Ningpo dialect, which I sent out some years ago, frequently sat in the market-place and on the steps of the idol temples, where numbers of persons congregated, and there read the gospel narratives to the assembled crowds of surprised and attentive listeners. We trust that in the great day of account many may be found to have listened to their eternal good, and to have found peace and joy in believing.

"At the taking of the city by the Taiping rebels this young person was obliged, with others, to leave Ningpo, and she afterwards settled at Shanghai, where many others have since learned to read."



THE EDUCATION OF BLIND CHILDREN. MISS
GILBERT

CHAPTER XVII

THE EDUCATION OF BLIND CHILDREN. MISS GILBERT

EDUCATION of Blind Children in Ordinary

Schools.—In regard to the question how blind children should be educated, Dr. Moon's opinion was that this could easily be effected in the ordinary schools for children who possess their sight. In regard to this matter he writes as follows: "Experience for many years, in this and other countries, has proved that with but little effort on the part of teachers blind children can easily be educated in ordinary schools. It has been remarked by inspectors of schools and others that blind children thus educated very frequently profit more from the oral instruction than the sighted ones do, and that those who assist the teacher in the instruction of the blind children advance more rapidly than the rest of the scholars.

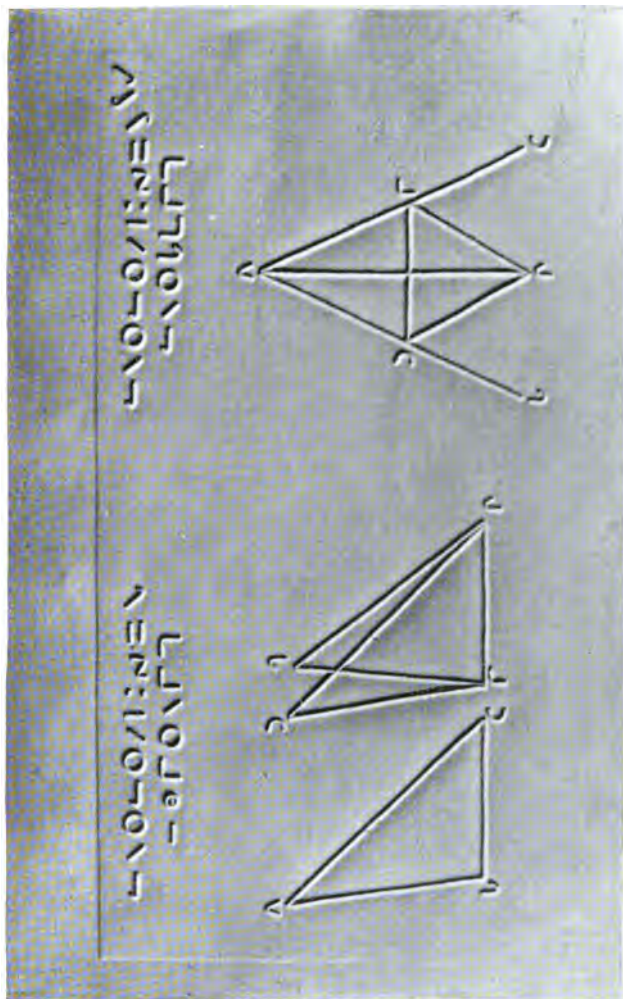
"The instruction of blind children in ordinary schools is by no means a new idea. For many years I have advocated its adoption; and we have

at different times sent a large number of books from Brighton to various places, both at home and abroad, for the education of blind children in schools for the sighted ones. Very pleasing testimonies have been received from China, India, Egypt, Syria, Australia, Turkey, and other countries in reference to the results of teaching blind children in mission and other schools."

The education of blind children, and the teaching to them of useful trades, will, it is hoped, have the result of largely bringing to an end that poverty and mendicity in which we find so many of the blind.

In his little volume *Consequences and Ameliorations of Blindness*, published in 1875, Dr. Moon gives these suggestions to the parents of blind children: "Sighted children acquire their habits, to a great extent, by imitation. A child deprived of sight, however, must be *educated* in all its habits. It should early be trained to a self-dependence. It should be encouraged as early as sighted children to wash, dress, and feed itself; to comb and brush its own hair, to lace its boots, etc. Every effort should be made to correct irregular habits in walking, sitting, and standing. The earlier a child is taught to read the better, as it affords occupation both for the mind and the fingers."

In regard to "the future of blind scholars," Dr.



PHOTOGRAPHED FROM THE EMBOSSED EUCLID FOR THE BLIND.

[To face p. 164

Moon goes on to say: "After every pains has been bestowed in the education of blind children, and large sums expended in the various institutions for that purpose, the question yet remains, How are they to be directed into paths of self-supporting competency? On leaving school they may possess the ability to play and teach the organ or some other musical instrument, tune pianofortes, make boots, mats, baskets, etc.; but they may still need a guiding hand and watchful care to enable them to establish themselves in their calling in some suitable neighbourhood, or it may be to provide them with the necessary means to do so by way of loan or gift, and otherwise interesting themselves among their friends and neighbours in getting them work by recommending them, occasionally calling on them at their homes, to see how they are progressing, and to encourage them by suitable counsels, etc."

Miss Elisabeth Gilbert.—Among those who learned the "Moon" system at an early age was Miss Elizabeth M. M. Gilbert, the blind daughter of Dr. Gilbert, Principal of Brasenose College, Oxford, and afterwards Bishop of Chichester. Dr. Moon went to Chichester and himself taught her.

This lady, who became so well and so deservedly known as the founder and benefactress of the Association for Promoting the General Welfare

of the Blind, in Euston Road, London, lost her sight entirely as the result of scarlet fever. She was then only three years of age.

The parents resolved that she should be educated along with her brothers and sisters ; that blindness should be made as little as possible a disability to the child ; that she should be trained, educated, and treated like the other children ; that she should share their pleasures and their experience, and should not be kept apart from them through the mistaken notion of shielding her from injury.

These principles were acted upon. When she came into the room the other children were not to give her a chair ; she was to find one for herself. Her father was specially anxious that she should behave like the others at table, should be as particular in eating and drinking as they were, and should manage the food on her plate without offence to others. He encouraged her in ready repartee and swift intellectual insight. When he joined his children in their walks, it was always Bessie who took his hand. Her sisters tried to make her feel as little as possible the difference between herself and them, and to help her to be as independent as they were. She was taught to dress herself unaided at as early an age as the other children. She enjoyed a romping game, and

would rather risk being knocked over than allow any one to lead her by the hand when they were at play.

For a long time she and her sister Fanny were companions in their lessons, which were in every respect alike. Bessie's were read aloud to her; she learned easily, her memory was good, and she made rapid progress. In French and German the grammar was read to her, and she worked the exercises verbally. The governess was specially interested in Bessie, so that she turned to account every hint and suggestion as to special methods for the blind. She drew threads across a piece of paper which was fixed to a frame, and taught the child to write in the ordinary way. There was a box of raised letters which could be used for spelling lessons, and there was leaden type with raised figures for arithmetic lessons. The letters were arranged on an ordinary board, but the figures were placed in a grooved board.

An eager, intelligent child, with parents and teachers all anxious to smooth her way and remove difficulties, we need not wonder that youth was a happy time for her; "the brightest and happiest of all the children," she is said to have been" (*Elizabeth Gilbert and her Work for the Blind*, pp. 8, 9: Macmillan & Co.).

Her parents never swerved from their original

intention to educate Bessie at home in the school-room with her sisters. The apparatus which replaced pen and pencil and slate might differ, but her lessons were given and learned at the same time, and she lost none of the happiness and stimulating effect of companionship in work and play.

An actual instance like this of Miss Gilbert proves how correct Dr. Moon was in the principles which he held regarding the education of blind children.

DR. MOON'S SECOND MARRIAGE. RETROSPECT.
COLOURS. LOVE OF NATURE. ATLASES.
ILLUSTRIOUS VISITORS

CHAPTER XVIII

*DR. MOON'S SECOND MARRIAGE. RETROSPECT.
COLOURS. LOVE OF NATURE. ATLASES.
ILLUSTRIOUS VISITORS*

*D*R. MOON'S *Second Marriage*.—In 1866 Dr. Moon married his second wife, Anna Maria, daughter of the late Rev. R. Elsdale, D.D., an able and accomplished lady. In early life she had spent several years in Greece at the home of her uncle, the late Rev. Henry Leeves, the translator of the Bible into modern Greek and chaplain to the late Lord Lyons, the British Ambassador at Athens. Mrs. Moon survived her husband, but died in 1896.

Mrs. Moon was a granddaughter of the Rev. W. Leeves, rector of the parish of Wrington, in Somersetshire. Previous to his becoming a clergyman of the Church of England, Mr. Leeves had been a lieutenant in the 1st Foot Guards. In musical circles the name of Mr. Leeves cannot be forgotten, as he was the author of the music of the ballad *Auld Robin Gray*. Many persons who have sung or listened to this song have

thought all the while that they were singing or listening to genuine Scottish music. But this is not the case. The air was originally and entirely composed by Mr. Leeves. Lady Anne Lindsay was the authoress of the ballad itself, and she handed the words of it to the Rev. Mr. Leeves, who had a great taste for music, that he might try whether or not it was possible to closely imitate Scottish music. The result was a success, for he produced the beautiful air now so universally admired, and which is so often thought to be an original old Scottish air. There is another tune set to the ballad, but the two have not the slightest resemblance.

In concluding the second edition of *Light for the Blind* in June 1875—a volume written by Dr. Moon for the purpose of spreading and increasing an interest in his work by means of a narrative of what had then been accomplished, and of which considerable use has been made in the foregoing pages—he writes :

“ In reviewing the numerous and great blessings vouchsafed to the cause by our Heavenly Father, I desire gratefully to tender my thanks to all those through whose kind aid I have been enabled to prosecute my labours with so much success.

“ To Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen I feel the deepest gratitude for the gracious

donation, and its accompanied expressions of sympathy with the work, and for her consent to become its' patron, also for the honour of being permitted to emboss in my type *The Queen's Journal* and *The Early Years of H.R.H. the Prince Consort*, the perusal of which volumes has afforded the blind much pleasure.

"A friend—G. M. E.—has rendered most valuable help by contributions, amounting in the aggregate to £775, for the purpose of supplying portions of Scripture to the blind poor of Ireland, France, Germany, Italy, Syria, Liberia, Australia, etc., where they have been most gratefully received and highly appreciated.

"I acknowledge with warmest thanks my obligations to the British and Foreign Bible Society, the Prussian Bible Society, and to those friends of the editor of *The Book and its Mission*, who have kindly given so valuable and important a support to the work; also to the various home teaching societies of Great Britain and other countries for the great assistance they have rendered in teaching the blind to read and in circulating the books through the means of 'free lending libraries' and other agencies. Not less than two hundred thousand volumes are being circulated annually amongst the blind poor from the free lending libraries now formed. Without

these united efforts, thousands of the blind now reading the Word of God for themselves would probably never have had the opportunity of so great a privilege. But although much has been done, much more remains to be done, and the work of preparing books for the blind, so far as it has advanced, must be considered merely as the nucleus for future development. Not only are increased efforts required for the blind of Great Britain and Ireland, but largely increased funds are urgently needed to enable us to circulate the Word of God still more extensively in this simplified type, *applicable to all languages*, amongst the blind so widely scattered throughout the world.

“In consequence of a misconception prevailing that a pecuniary benefit is derived from the sale of the embossed works, it may be well to remark that such is not the case. All the works are sold below their cost of production, and a considerable extra reduction is made in the prices when purchased by the poor or supplied to free lending libraries.

“All contributions are entirely appropriated to the purposes of the charity; and unless such were the case, the embossed books could not be sold at their present prices.

“W. MOON, LL.D.

“BRIGHTON, *June* 1875.”

Those who are born blind labour under the disability of being unable to form any adequate idea of colour; from the beauty of the world lying around they are quite shut out. Hall Caine depicts this well in one of his works, where he speaks of a blind girl having a flower given to her of a kind she had not had before, and her utter inability to conceive what it was like :—

“She passed her fingers over it, but did not know it.

“‘What is it?’ she asked.

“‘It’s blue,’ said the child.

“‘What is blue?’ said Naomi.

“‘Blue,—don’t you know?—blue!’ said the child.

“‘But what is blue?’ Naomi asked again, holding the flower in her restless fingers.

“‘Why, dear me! can’t you see?—blue—the flower, you know.’

“Ali was standing by, and he thought to come to Naomi’s relief. ‘Blue is a colour,’ he said.

“‘A colour?’ said Naomi.

“‘Yes, like—like the sea,’ he added.

“‘The sea? Blue? How?’ Naomi asked.

“Ali tried again. ‘Like the sky,’ he said simply.

“Naomi’s face looked perplexed. ‘And what is the sky like?’ she asked.

“At that moment her beautiful face was turned

towards Ali's face, and her great motionless blue orbs seemed to gaze into his eyes. The lad was pressed hard, and he could not keep back the answer that leapt to his tongue. 'Like,' he said, 'like ——'

" 'Well?'

" 'Like your own eyes, Naomi.'

"By the old habit of her nervous fingers she covered her eyes with her hands, as if the sense of touch would teach her what her other senses could not tell. But the solemn mystery had dawned on her mind at last—that she was unlike others; that she was lacking something that every one else possessed; that there was a strange and lovely and lightsome world lying round about her, where every one else might sport and find delight, but that her spirit could not enter it, because she was shut off by the great hand of God." (Hall Caine: *The Scapegoat*.)

Those who are not born blind, but who lose their sight in after life, are not thus cut off from nature. The recollection of what they once saw enables them to enter into a present realisation of the appearance and beauty of the world, and to participate in a much greater enjoyment than would be possible had they never had the use of their sight at all.

And although, for instance Milton bewails how

“With the year
Seasons return, but not to me returns
Day, or the sweet approach of ev’n or morn,
Or sight of vernal bloom, or summer’s rose,
Or flocks, or herds, or human face divine;
But cloud instead, and ever-during dark
Surrounds me, from the cheerful ways of men
Cut off, and for the book of knowledge fair
Presented with a universal blank
Of nature’s works to me expung’d and ras’d,
And wisdom at one entrance quite shut out.”

Yet who can describe nature as our blind poet?
In what pages do we find such accurate
descriptions of sea and sky and plain, such
minute delineation of the sounds and sights and
colours of the world?

There is the well-known instance of a man
born blind who was asked what he thought
scarlet was like. He replied, “Like the sound
of a trumpet.” Such an answer strikes us as
being an approximation to a right idea, yet how
very far from the correct knowledge which is
given by a single glance of the living eye.
Paradise Lost was possible only because the
poet had used his eyes so well during the years
before blindness fell upon him.

And in like manner Dr. Moon throughout his
life retained a vivid recollection of colours, scenery,
faces, and forms which he once had seen. A

picture or a landscape, once described to him, held a place in his memory, and after an interval of many years would be referred to by him as if he had seen it but recently. He was a lover of nature, and delighted to dwell upon the works of God in creation. He would often repeat and sing the lines of Addison :

“ The spacious firmament on high,
With all the blue ethereal sky,
The spangled heavens, a shining frame,
Their great Original proclaim.”

Atlases for the Blind.—Imbued with such a spirit, he was led in 1860, and again in 1874, to provide for the blind maps of the starry heavens, representations of the Milky Way, the solar system, phases of the moon, eclipses, tides, comets, nebulae, etc. In this work he was aided by his son, Dr. Robert C. Moon, who prepared the drawings for the astronomical as well as for the geographical maps in accordance with his father's plans.

The astronomical and geographical atlases displayed great ingenuity along with simplicity of delineation, offering to the blind a source of both enjoyment and profit.

Visitors.—From time to time many important and illustrious visitors, both British and foreign, called at the printing and embossing establishment



in Queen's Road, Brighton, and inspected the various processes in operation there.

In September, 1868 Prince Heussein, General of the Tunisian forces, paid a visit to Dr. Moon and manifested much interest in what was then shown to him. The Prince was so favourably impressed that, when attending a public meeting in Brighton a few days afterwards, he made a speech in Arabic—which, however, was translated for him—on behalf of Dr. Moon's work.

The following was written by some visitors from India :—

"August 20th, 1872.

"We, the undersigned, beg most respectfully to express our sincere thanks for the great favour granted to us by Dr. Moon in allowing us to visit the establishment that he has formed for printing books for the use of the blind. And we rejoice to find that with the blessing of Him who rules all, the labours of this genuine good man have been so beneficial to no less than eighty nationalities.

"As members of the British Association the above favour was granted to us, in whose name we beg to express our thanks.

"GRIFFITH JENKINS, Capt. I.N.C.B., F.R.G.S.

"W. JENKINS, Major-General Madras Staff Corps.

"CURSETJEE RUSTOMJEE, of the Sowjee family,
great-grandson of Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy."

In August 1875 Dr. Moon received a visit from

the envoys of the Emperor of Morocco. The somewhat unpronounceable names of these gentlemen were Seyyid Abdullah Fenish, Hajji Abdurrahman el Mujerrÿ, and Seyyid Abdussalam Uzid el Arishi. They were accompanied by Professor Ameuney, of King's College, and expressed themselves as both pleased and surprised at what they saw. They were to take with them on their return to Morocco a book of specimens of embossed reading for the blind, to be presented to the Emperor; and it was hoped that this might lead to some good results on behalf of the blind in that country.

Among Dr. Moon's visitors was the late Rev. C. H. Spurgeon. After Dr. Moon had shown him over the embossing premises, he took Mr. Spurgeon into his study, and related to him several remarkable answers to prayer and instances of God's goodness in blessing his labours for the blind, and went on to say: "I ought to mention that the Lord has seen fit that I should experience many trials and struggles in the prosecution of this work." Placing his hand upon Dr. Moon's shoulder, Mr. Spurgeon made one of his characteristic replies: "Never mind the trials, brother; they have only been as ballast to keep the vessel steady."

RENEWED TRAVELS AND ADDRESSES. LETTERS
TO MRS. MOON. BRITISH AND FOREIGN
BIBLE SOCIETY

CHAPTER XIX

RENEWED TRAVELS AND ADDRESSES. LETTERS TO MRS. MOON. BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY

FROM time to time Dr. Moon continued to make numerous visits to distant parts of England and Scotland. His purpose was to ameliorate the condition of the blind and to draw out sympathy in their behalf.

Visit to Inverness.—In 1872 he visited Inverness in the interest of the work, and addressed a meeting in the Free High Church—Rev. Dr. Black's. The following letter from a home teacher in Inverness is a sample of the gratitude that was shown by the blind to their benefactor :—

“Many of the blind who have been taught to read were very much disappointed that they had not the pleasure of shaking hands with the Doctor who had been the means of such an unspeakable blessing to them. Speaking to one young woman yesterday, seven miles out of Inverness, she said she would walk any distance to shake hands with

dear Dr. Moon, adding, 'I would not exchange my books for the colonel's estate, upon which I am a humble tenant in this small attic.' This is only one of the many instances I came in contact with. May God still bless the Doctor and the great work in which he is engaged."

Address by Dr. Moon in Durham.—As a specimen of the addresses which he was in the habit of delivering during these visits, the following notes may be given of an address delivered in November 1882 in Bishop Cosin's Library, Palace Green, Durham, the Bishop of Durham presiding. Dr. Moon said there were many things in life which they were apt to look upon as afflictions. Now he did not so regard the loss of his eyesight, but he had been able to write upon even this one of God's dealings with him, "God is love." He could now say from the heart that he would change places with no other man in the world. At the present moment his books had been so widely circulated that the sun never set upon them. He then referred to his alphabet for the blind, as well as to the embossing of the books, and to the way in which funds had been supplied for the carrying on of the work, and to the necessity of much more being yet done. Passing next to the origin of home teaching, he mentioned some facts of how Miss Graham and he

had begun this work in London, and how it had spread throughout Great Britain. He believed there were more than sixty such societies in Britain now. Dr. Moon then gave an account of the growth of the system on the Continent, and said that the *Pilgrim's Progress* was now being embossed in Arabic, and the Gospel of St. John in Russian. He earnestly implored his hearers to do all they could to help this noble work.

United Christian Effort.—A gratifying feature of the present time is the drawing more closely together of Christian people irrespective of denomination, content for special purposes to sink their differences and to unite on the essentials of the faith which they hold in common. With such gatherings Dr. Moon felt much sympathy, and was more than willing to help onwards the kingdom of God wherever he chanced to go. In conferences like that annually held at Mildmay he gladly took a part.

Mildmay.—In the programme of the Mildmay Conference for June 28th, 1872, there is this item: "In garden, 5.30 p.m. The Lord's work among the blind. Dr. Moon."

As a specimen of Dr. Moon's addresses on such occasions take the following:—

"I daresay many of you may have read that the

refiner sits by his crucible while the gold is in it, and watches it as the heat is applied, till he sees his face in it, and then the metal is purified. So is it with God's dear children. He sits as a Father by His children, calling them to pass through the fire, yet never forsaking them ; through deep waters, yet never leaving them. Nearly thirty years hath God shut me out from the sight of the objects of the world, shut me in by grace to Himself, and the first object that I am to see will be Jesus. Since God has darkened me as regards this world, the Sun of Righteousness hath shone upon my heart and put into my mind what He would have me do. And God has made me an instrument in His hand of sending the light of His truth to others, and to many distant countries of our globe ; at this moment the sun never sets upon His Word given to the blind. It is worth the sight of a thousand eyes to have this privilege. I would give them up, if I had them, rather than give up that more exceeding weight of glory that awaits me. May I ask your prayers, dear friends, that I may live with a humble heart to serve Him to His glory?"

Prayer was then engaged in by Dr. Moon and by Mr. D. L. Moody, of Chicago.

From the Mildmay Conference in June 1873 Dr. Moon writes :

"MY DEAR WIFE,—The great meetings of the Conference are now over, and very blessed ones they have been. I was not able to attend the one for yesterday morning in consequence of receiving a letter from Lord Hatherley about my embossed reading in the Persian language for H.M. the Shah of Persia, who has not less than twenty thousand blind in his country. The receipt of this letter caused me to go to the other side of London to see Mr. Ameuney about the Koran.

"On Thursday evening Mr. Blackwood asked me to address the meeting, which I did, dwelling upon the two particular commands of God, the one in the third chapter of Genesis and the other in the New Testament. The breaking of the first brought sin into the world, and death by sin ; the second, the keeping of which—viz., believing on the Lord Jesus Christ—brings to all who do so everlasting life."

Manchester.—In 1873 Dr. Moon visited Manchester, and took part in a social gathering of the blind presided over by the mayor of the city. Of this meeting he writes :

"MANCHESTER, May 7th, 1873.

"MY DEAR WIFE,—Last evening we had a large meeting indeed of the blind ; about three hundred were said to be present, and a very large number of guides. Six immense omnibuses were employed to bring those living in outlying districts of the town. You may well imagine how much was eaten and drunk by what a lady told me she saw, sitting at one of the tables with about sixteen of the blind ; she said she was quite sure they drank a hundred cups of tea.

"When I entered the room it was announced by a gentleman that Dr. Moon had just arrived; and you would have been exceedingly amused had you heard how they greeted me with cheering and clapping of hands.

"The chair was taken by the Mayor of Manchester. The meeting lasted about five hours. Towards the end of the meeting quite two hundred parcels of clothing were distributed among the blind.

"Sir Charles Lowther's book of embossed specimens, which I had with me, excited great admiration.

"Your affectionate husband,

"W. MOON."

"MANCHESTER, *October 2nd*, 1876.

"MY DEAR WIFE,—My time is very fully occupied here. Last night, Sunday, I addressed a very crowded audience on the all-important question. There was great attention, and I trust much good may follow. To-day I have to speak again at 12 o'clock at the same place, and in the evening take part in a missionary meeting.

"Lord Radstock comes on a visit here to-day. He will be addressing a meeting this evening, under a large tent. On Wednesday I go to Lord Polwarth's.

"Your affectionate husband,

"W. MOON."

"MERTOUN HOUSE, ST. BOSWELL'S, N.B.

"MY DEAR WIFE,—I reached here last evening, and found Major Malan had returned here again to meet me.

Lord Polwarth is so very kind, and makes quite a study of my wants.

"Lord Radstock and I had a very nice time together. He will have one of my books, *Light for the Blind*, presented to the Empress of Russia.

"Your affectionate husband,

"W. MOON."

"DONCASTER, *October 16th*, 1876.

"MY DEAR WIFE,—I returned to Doncaster to-day. On Saturday evening I addressed a meeting at Conisboro', and another one yesterday afternoon, in the open air. About two hundred people were got together in an hour, and we felt much of the Lord's presence with us. To-day I have been speaking at a mothers' meeting; a large number were present. To-morrow I leave for Edinburgh.

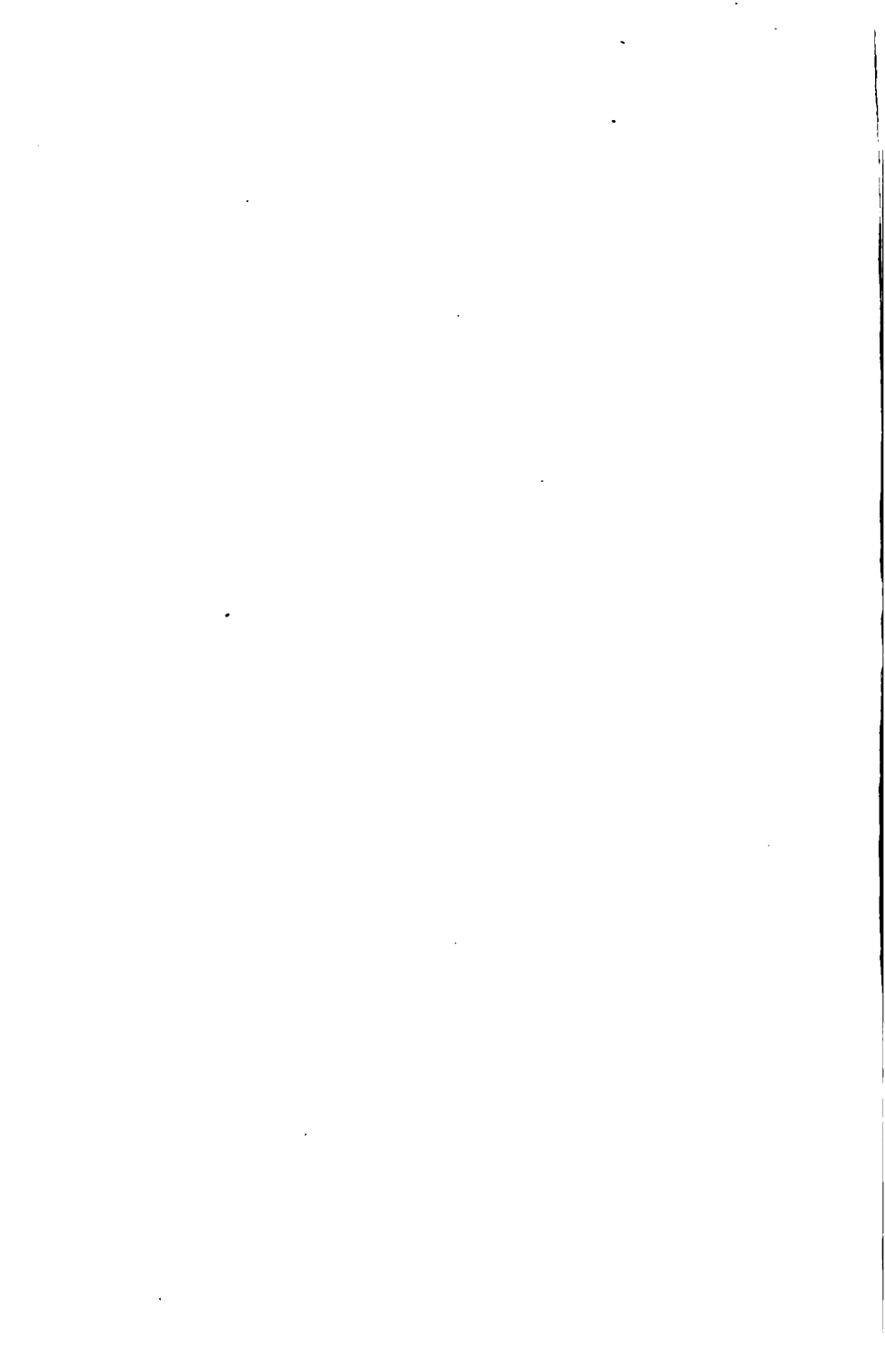
"My labours have been greatly blessed at the various places I have been to, and friends have been exceedingly kind to me."

British and Foreign Bible Society.—The value set upon Dr. Moon's methods by the British and Foreign Bible Society is well shown in their *Monthly Reporter* for April 1881, where they say, "There is no part of the Bible Society's work more truly benevolent than its efforts and expenditure in providing the Word of God for the blind. Dr. Moon, the untiring contriver of this type for the blind, has just been appointed by the Committee as Honorary Governor for Life. He has

now adapted his system to about one hundred and ninety-four languages, and the Lord's Prayer or a few verses of Scripture have been prepared in them.¹ Verses are added as they are required. Portions of the Scriptures in separate chapters have lately been prepared in the Japanese, Malayalam, and Tamil languages ; and the Sermon on the Mount for the Russian blind, who possibly number from 160,000 to 200,000, has been taken in hand."

¹ The number of languages to which Dr. Moon ultimately adapted his alphabet was four hundred and seventy-six.

**VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES. FREE LENDING
LIBRARIES ESTABLISHED. OTHER RESULTS**



CHAPTER XX

VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES. FREE LENDING LIBRARIES ESTABLISHED. OTHER RESULTS

EARNEST requests had for many years been made from the United States for the embossed books, and Sir Charles Lowther had generously presented two thousand volumes, which were distributed in New York, Philadelphia, and Boston. From time to time consignments of the books had been made to blind readers in the principal cities of North America. But the plan of home teaching had not been adopted there ; and Dr. Moon was strongly desired to introduce it.

In 1881 he was visited by Mr. Battles, of the School for the Blind in Philadelphia. From this gentleman Dr. Moon ascertained how large was the number of blind persons in the United States : it is now understood that there are not less than sixty thousand, and probably fifty thousand of these are over twenty years of age. He was also informed that the Government had made

ample provision for the education of blind children in schools and by means of embossed books, but that the types in which the books were printed were too small and complex for the hardened fingers of adults, few of whom, accustomed to labour, were able to read.

Dr. Moon communicated this information to Sir Charles Lowther, Mr. Samuel Gurney, Mr. R. C. L. Bevan, and other friends, who kindly promised that they would present copies of books in Dr. Moon's type to the school in Philadelphia, the Public Library at Boston, and other places.

In order, therefore, to accomplish these ends Dr. Moon, accompanied by his daughter, sailed in April 1882 for the United States, where they made an extended tour.

This visit was most successful. Throughout the whole of his tour Dr. Moon was warmly received by the authorities of the institutions which he visited.

Philadelphia.—At Philadelphia the Bible Society displayed deep interest in circulating copies of the embossed Bible through the agency of home teaching and free libraries. Mr. Rhoads, the treasurer of the Bible Society, called a public meeting, which was held in the Bible House. At this meeting arrangements for home teaching were made; a teacher was shortly afterwards appointed,

and Dr. Moon had the pleasure of seeing the work in progress before his return to England.

Dr. Moon writes :

"Saturday, May 13th. Took tea with Mr. Chapin at the Institution in Philadelphia, and found that he commenced his labours for the blind the same year that I did, 1840. He was Principal of the Ohio School for the Blind, which had seventeen pupils when he began and seventy when he left, about three years later. For the last thirty-six years he has been Principal of the Blind School here. As far as I can ascertain, we have been engaged longer in labours for the blind than any one else at present living—namely, forty-two years.

"One rather interesting incident was told us by the Superintendent of the Institution in Philadelphia. One of the pupils who had been very refractory during school hours in the morning was sent to a room to remain in solitude for some hours as a punishment. When the time had expired and the master went to him, expecting to find him very depressed by the solitary time he had spent, he was astonished to see the lad comfortably sitting at the table reading a book ; and when he had looked at it, he found it to be a copy of one of our books which had been given among a number of others towards commencing a home teaching society in Philadelphia. During the time of punishment

the lad had taken up the book, and immediately began reading without the help of any one.

"Monday, May 15th. This evening we heard from Mr. Battles that sixty-two boys and twenty-six girls had applied for books, and these had been given to them. Some of the boys had already read their books through three times. The children taught themselves to read. They are anxious to have more books given out. Eighty-eight readers in so short a time is very cheering.

"In June we visited Mr. Huntoon at the Printing Establishment at Louisville. He is the Manager and also Superintendent of the Kentucky School for the Blind. Mr. Huntoon very kindly took us over the whole establishment, and gave us several hints as regards more rapid embossing than we have been doing at Brighton, also the putting up of movable type, which we purpose bringing into use."

Chicago.—In Chicago Mr. W. H. Bradley and his son manifested great interest in the plan of home teaching, and called a number of their friends together and laid the matter before them. Twelve gentlemen and as many ladies gave their names as members of a committee, and a sufficient amount was subscribed for a complete set of Dr. Moon's books to form a free library. A teacher was soon to be appointed, and the names and

addresses of all the blind in Chicago were to be obtained. Before Dr. Moon left Chicago he had the gratification of knowing that several of the blind had learned to read.

Boston, etc.—At Boston and New York friends undertook to endeavour to carry out the same methods for the blind of those cities.

In Boston Dr. and Miss Moon visited the Institution for the Blind, and had two interviews with Mr. Anagnos, who interests himself in the printing of books in the Boston raised type. This type is suitable only for blind children and persons of very delicate touch.

Washington.—At Washington General Eaton took the deepest interest in the work, and promised all the assistance he could give. He kindly introduced Dr. Moon to the President of the United States and to several of the senators, all of whom expressed their approval of his plans, and their warmest wishes for their success.

"PHILADELPHIA, June 26th, 1882.

"MY DEAR WIFE,—Just returned from a three thousand miles' trip for our work. The Lord has greatly blessed it. We came back by the Niagara Falls, which were magnificent. The day was a truly glorious one, and added much to the splendour of the scene. We visited the places of interest and went down under the cataract, As I listened to this mighty

fall I was forcibly reminded of the words of Scripture, 'The sound of many waters.' So majestic, perfect in harmony, continuous, soft, full of melody, yet strong; yes, mighty, awful in majesty and grandeur, yet could be gazed upon with admiration, and beheld with wonder without fear. As I thought upon the mighty stream, flowing night and day, and each successive season, I was reminded of the ever flowing love of God; and yet, I thought, the time will come when this stream shall cease to flow, but the ocean of God's love will remain the same.

"Yesterday we went about ten miles from Philadelphia. The drive was very lovely through the park, and the weather very fine. I addressed a large gathering in an immense hotel, where there are about three hundred persons staying. We did not reach home till one o'clock in the morning.

"On Friday we are due at Baltimore, and on Saturday we go to New York, and afterwards to Boston. Our vessel leaves for England July 18th, by which time we shall have done good work for the cause of the blind, and shall be glad to have a rest, as we shall by that time have travelled between eleven and twelve thousand miles.

"With our united love I remain,

"Your affectionate husband,

"W. MOON."

Results.—As a result of this visit of Dr. Moon and Miss Moon to the United States, free lending libraries of embossed books for the blind were established in Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, and

Pittsburg. So recently as December 1896 the *Philadelphia Record* states that the Free Lending Library, formed in 1882 in connection with the Bible House in Philadelphia under the management of Mr. John P. Rhoads, continues its useful and widely extended work. The books are sent by post to blind persons throughout the United States and Canada, and Mr. Rhoads is constantly in receipt of letters from the blind, expressive of their gratitude. These acknowledgments come from Florida, Maryland, California, Ohio, the Carolinas, Connecticut, Washington, Massachusetts, Texas, New York, Georgia, New Jersey, Virginia, and Pennsylvania.

Dr. and Miss Moon returned to England after a tour of three months, full of gratitude that their efforts had been crowned with so much success and that the prospects for the future were so bright and hopeful.

Soon after Dr. Moon's return to England, owing to the great interest taken in the matter by General Eaton, the Commissioner of the Bureau of Education at Washington, the Legislature passed a bill removing the duty on all embossed books for the blind imported into the United States, which has been a great boon, not only to those reading the Moon type, but also to those who read by other systems.

REVISITS IRELAND

CHAPTER XXI

REVISITS IRELAND

IN the autumn of 1884 Dr. Moon again visited Ireland. On September 18th he arrived in Dublin. His diary of this trip to Ireland gives us these particulars :

Dublin.—"I called at the Richmond Institution ; went over it ; conversed with several of the blind about their books. They have a very limited supply ; would like to have more.

"We next went to the Marlborough Street Institution, where we found a large number of books well kept and well arranged."

Belfast.—"Friday, 19th. Belfast. The public meeting for the Home Teaching Society took place at half-past three at the Workshops, Lord Ashley in the chair. The meeting exceeded what was anticipated, and the room was more than full. His lordship made a good opening speech. I followed with an address, which was well attended to. The Bishop of Down and Connor, after some suitable remarks, moved a resolution to the effect

that from what they had heard from my address it was desirable that a Home Teaching Society should be formed for Belfast and its neighbourhood, and that a ladies' committee should be formed to carry it out. The resolution was carried unanimously."

Mr. Fawcett.—In Lord Ashley's speech there was the following passage: "A prominent example occurs to me in that most excellent gentleman and able Minister Mr. Fawcett, the Postmaster-General, whom I have the honour of knowing as a personal friend and as one of the most agreeable companions one could possibly desire, and who, by a strong determination much to his credit, has resolved in spite of such a loss to do what he can; and I think his career has justified his determination. By means of his position and of his talents he has been enabled to make up for his great want. He has three or four people who read to him all the news, social and political, that occurs; and it is a curious thing which I must remark, that when one of the senses is taken away, all the other senses seem to be stimulated to a most extraordinary degree. I have been out with Mr. Fawcett trout-fishing, and it is perfectly marvellous to see the manner in which he puts on his fly and throws it to the other side of the river, exactly where the man who is at his elbow instructs him;

and I have seen him not only throw his fly with wonderful accuracy, but catch the fish and manage it as well as any one in this room. All honour to Dr. Moon: he has discovered a type that the blind can easily make out by the sense of touch, and thus amuse and interest themselves in their solitary hours."

Coleraine, Port Stewart.—"Wednesday, 24th. Coleraine. Every one tries to make us as comfortable as possible. Went to Port Stewart, and addressed a meeting upon the 34th Psalm. The room was quite full.

"Sunday, 28th. Attended service twice. Was asked to give an address each time. In the morning broke bread with the 'Brethren.' In the evening spoke upon the words, 'The precious blood of Christ.'

"Monday, 29th. Wrote an article on 'The will of God; its goodness and perfection.' W—— went out on enquiry about the blind; heard of eight. The weather was very wet, or more would have been ascertained.

"Wednesday, October 1st. Addressed meeting for Miss O'Hara at Port Stewart; the room was crammed. Felt much power in speaking upon 'the power of prayer.' The rector opened the meeting with prayer. Great blessing and presence of God experienced.

"Thursday, 2nd. Went to Misses Owen, Port Ballantrae, near Bushmills. Enjoyed the visit very much. They gathered in ten ladies of the neighbourhood for me to give an address and exhibit my specimen book. They promised to take up the cause of the blind. I engaged to give a small library of chapters, etc. One blind man in this neighbourhood reads the books, and is delighted with them.

"Friday, 3rd. Addressed a meeting of the 'Brethren' in the evening."

Belfast.—"Wednesday, 8th. Left for Belfast.

"Thursday, 9th. I gave an address this evening to a large number of very poor people. We had a good time: many expressed that the Lord was precious to them.

"Friday, 10th. Went over Miss Hobson's workshops; was pleased with all the arrangements. Addressed another meeting of the poor at the 'Friends' schoolroom. The meeting was well attended. We had a good time. The Lord was very gracious.

"Saturday, 11th. In the evening I went to a service of song, held at the Hermon Hall, by Messrs. Fullerton and Smith, two of Spurgeon's evangelists. More than two thousand people were present. The singing was very good.

"Sunday, 12th. Went at eleven o'clock to Mr.

Jackson's. Broke bread with the little company assembled in his drawing-room, and gave an address. Much comfort was expressed to have been felt. In the evening went there again ; had a very pleasant time explaining prophecies respecting the millennium.

"Monday, 13th. At three o'clock I attended the committee meeting of the newly formed Home Teaching Society. Lord Ashley, the president, was there. The society is now in regular work. Twenty-nine blind men have been found ; some are already reading, others learning the alphabet. After four o'clock I addressed a mothers' meeting in the 'Friends' schoolroom, Frederick Street. Forty women were present. Many spoke to me afterwards in a touching manner, and were very grateful for what had been said.

"Thursday, 16th. Went to Donegal Square Church Schoolroom to meet a large number of ladies belonging to the Dorcas Society. Here I had three hours' talking about our work for the blind, prayer, etc., and promised to preach on Sunday evening.

"Saturday, 18th. We close this week of mercies with much praise and gratitude to God for His blessing upon what He has given us to do from day to day.

"Sunday, 19th. Attended services at Donegal

Square Church. Heard good sermon by Rev. J. Donnelly upon Naaman's little maid. Gave address in the afternoon at Mr. Johnson's prayer-meeting. Took tea with Rev. J. Donnelly, and afterwards took part in the services at Donegal Square Church. My address in the afternoon was upon 'the precious blood of Christ'; in the evening upon 'prayer and faith.'"

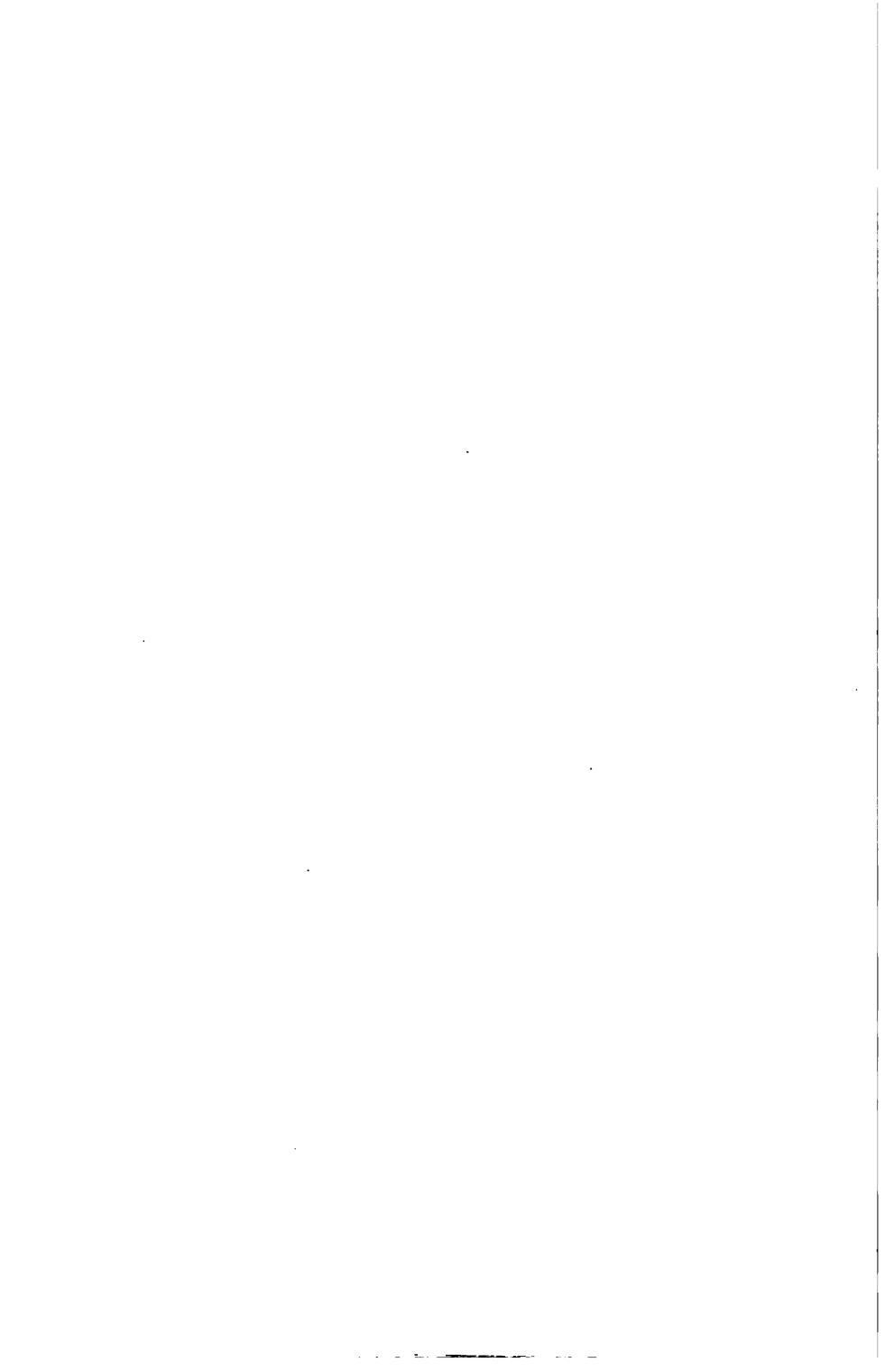
Dublin.—"Monday, 20th. Left for Dublin.

"Tuesday, 21st. Went to Marlborough Street about the home teaching. Went to Molyneux Institution. Afterwards to the University. Saw Mr. Trench, the librarian.

"Wednesday, 22nd. Went to the Molyneux and saw Dr. Neligan; spent a long time with him. Afterwards went to Marlborough Street; saw Miss Giffen and Mr. Davis. Settled about the home teaching. I promised to send them more alphabets, etc., to commence the work, and they promised to urge it with the rest of the committee. Afterwards took tea with Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell. Mr. Maxwell is blind, and is a Scripture-reader and lecturer for the Irish Society."

Here Dr. Moon's diary of this visit to Ireland breaks off abruptly.

SWEDEN



CHAPTER XXII

SWEDEN

DR. MOON'S attention had long been turned to the subject of faith healing, and in the hope that it was possible through faith to be cured of his blindness, he undertook a journey to Sweden. What finally caused him to decide on this visit was that there was now in Stockholm a person named Herr Boltzius, and from the favourable report which he had heard of his work, Dr. Moon hoped that by means of the anointings and laying-on-of-hands of Herr Boltzius, he might recover his sight. Dr. Moon spent about six months in Sweden.

His visit did not, however, bring about the result he had so earnestly longed for. The desire to see the light of day must be intense when for forty-five years knowledge had been at one entrance quite shut out. It was a great disappointment into which we who have eyesight cannot wholly enter. But now more than ever he learned obedience by the things which he suffered, and

was enabled to accept the will of God not only with resignation but with love.

In February 1885 Dr. Moon left Brighton for Sweden, accompanied by his attendant. Some extracts from the diary which he kept of his stay there may be of interest.

"February 8th. Reached Gottenburg."

Stockholm.—"February 9th. In Stockholm.

"Sunday, February 16th. In the evening I addressed five hundred persons, at the Young Men's Christian Association, from John xi.

"February 18th. Called on the Countess Caroline Rosen, who is blind.

"February 22nd. Gave address at the Young Men's Christian Association upon the words, 'The heart is deceitful,' etc. (Jer. xvii. 9). The room was very full; probably six hundred were there.

"February 23rd. Attended public meeting on behalf of the new Society for the Blind for teaching them to read at their own homes. Gave an address, and was asked to do so again. Sixty of the blind from the Manilla Institution were present to sing.

"February 27th. Had a very pleasant time with the Baroness Holtermann at the Old Palace this morning.

"March 1st. Addressed a crowded meeting at

Alandsgaten in the morning, and some soldiers in the afternoon at Smala Grand.

"March 2nd. Addressed a meeting in Miss Borg's Home. About one hundred and fifty persons were present, including the children and Biblewomen."

And so the days and weeks went past, Dr. Moon never forgetting either his work among the blind or the preaching of the Gospel. These two objects were the occupation and the joy of his busy life.

"March 7th. Went to Mr. Lidholm, at Nodhammar, about forty miles from Stockholm. Drove from the station to his house in a sleigh. We travelled about six miles on a lake; the travelling was very easy. The whole country was covered with snow. I addressed a meeting in the evening upon Jeremiah xvii.

"March 8th, Sunday. Addressed a meeting in the morning at twelve o'clock, and another at five: in the morning from the words, 'He will save us'; in the evening from the words, 'Ye are the temple of God' (1 Cor. iii. 16). The meetings were crowded.

"March 9th. Returned to Stockholm, crossing the lake again in the sleigh, the day being very pleasant and fine; the ice is about eighteen inches thick. Went to the Palace in the evening to the Baroness Holtermann.

" March 13th. Gave first address in the Moravian Church, and spent the rest of the evening at the Palace.

" March 15th, Sunday. Gave address at the Palace in the morning on John xi.; and another in the evening at Alandsgaten from 1 Corinthians iii. last verse: 'Ye are Christ's, and Christ is God's.' Mr. Holmgren interpreted. The place was exceedingly hot, being terribly crammed.

" March 20th. Preached in the Moravian Church upon Acts xxvii. 23: 'Whose I am,' etc.

" March 22nd, Sunday. Gave address at the Palace from Acts x.

" April 6th. Preached in the evening in Blasöholm Church, and gave an address in reference to the blind reading. Mr. Löwenhielm said there were about four thousand persons present.

" April 14th. Gave an address at a bazaar held for the stereotyping of the Swedish Bible for the blind. Spoke upon Psalm xxxiv. 1.

" April 26th. Gave address at Baroness Holtermann's in old Palace.

" April 27th. Investigated Urdu alphabet.

" April 30th. Wrote to Brighton giving instructions about the new Urdu alphabet.

" May 1st. Went to Mr. Löwenhielm's; had conversation in reference to stereotyping, etc., of Swedish Bible.

"May 2nd. Dined with Direcktor Borg. As Mr. Borg speaks but little English, we conversed in German and French. Mr. Borg has been engaged in the work of teaching the blind with the deaf and dumb at Manilla since 1846. He has numerous diplomas from exhibitions and congresses, besides a bronze medal from Paris Exhibition, 1870, and a silver one from Philadelphia Exhibition, besides some smaller bronze ones. He has also photographs of delegates of teachers of the blind at congresses held in Vienna, Leipzig, Stockholm, Berlin, etc.

"May 3rd. Special day of prayer. Went to the Palace, and gave an address on 'tabernacle and temple.' At six preached in Bethlehem Church on John xiv. 14-16, remarks having special reference to prayer and faith and their applicability to this special day of prayer for the blind. Mr. Löwenhielm gave a masterly translation of the address.

"May 8th. Called on Countess Caroline von Rosen. Discussed fully the principles and practice of home teaching for the blind and the application of the system to Stockholm. The countess expressed the delight and comfort afforded her in the reading of the embossed type.

"May 22nd. Went to Palace. Met Miss Bodisco, and left article on 'Communion with God' for her to translate.

"At 5.30 p.m. had audience of H.R.H. Princess Eugenie, sister of His Majesty Oscar II., King of Sweden. The princess met us at the door of the drawing-room, and whilst shaking me by the hand she said, 'I welcome you, Dr. Moon, with much pleasure to the Palace; by-and-by we shall meet each other in the palace above.' I replied, 'Yes, when the great King shall call us to court.' Her Royal Highness was deeply interested in looking over the book of specimens of embossed reading, etc., for the blind, and in hearing an account of my work. She expressed a hope that my visit to Sweden would prove a great benefit and blessing to the blind; and after conversing upon this and kindred subjects for an hour and a half, said that my visit had afforded her much pleasure.

"Spent the evening with the Countess von Rosen.

"May 24th. Gave an address at the Palace on the 'vine and fruit,' referring specially to the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. v.).

"June 15th. Mr. Freiderfeld came; he brought with him a printed notification that I was elected a member of the new society for the welfare of the blind of Sweden.

"July 16th. Left Stockholm for Karlskrona by boat. It was a rainy day; and there are few

things more depressing than parting from friends upon a steamboat in wet weather. While in Karlskrona was the guest of Captain Nordenskjöld, commandant of the harbour.

"July 19th, Sunday. I addressed the servants on 'God is great.' After dinner we all looked over the interior of the Admiralty Church, which holds four thousand persons. There are four sand-glasses on the pulpit, one for every quarter of an hour. The cloth covering the chalice was of red velvet, with devices of corn and wine worked in gold.

"July 22nd. Captain Nillson dined with us to-day, and described many points of interest in his voyage round the world in the *Varnadis* with the princes on board. It occupied eighteen months, then only allowing flying visits to many places. He said that the King of the Marshall Islands dined with the officers at their mess, dressed in a uniform he had procured from Germany.

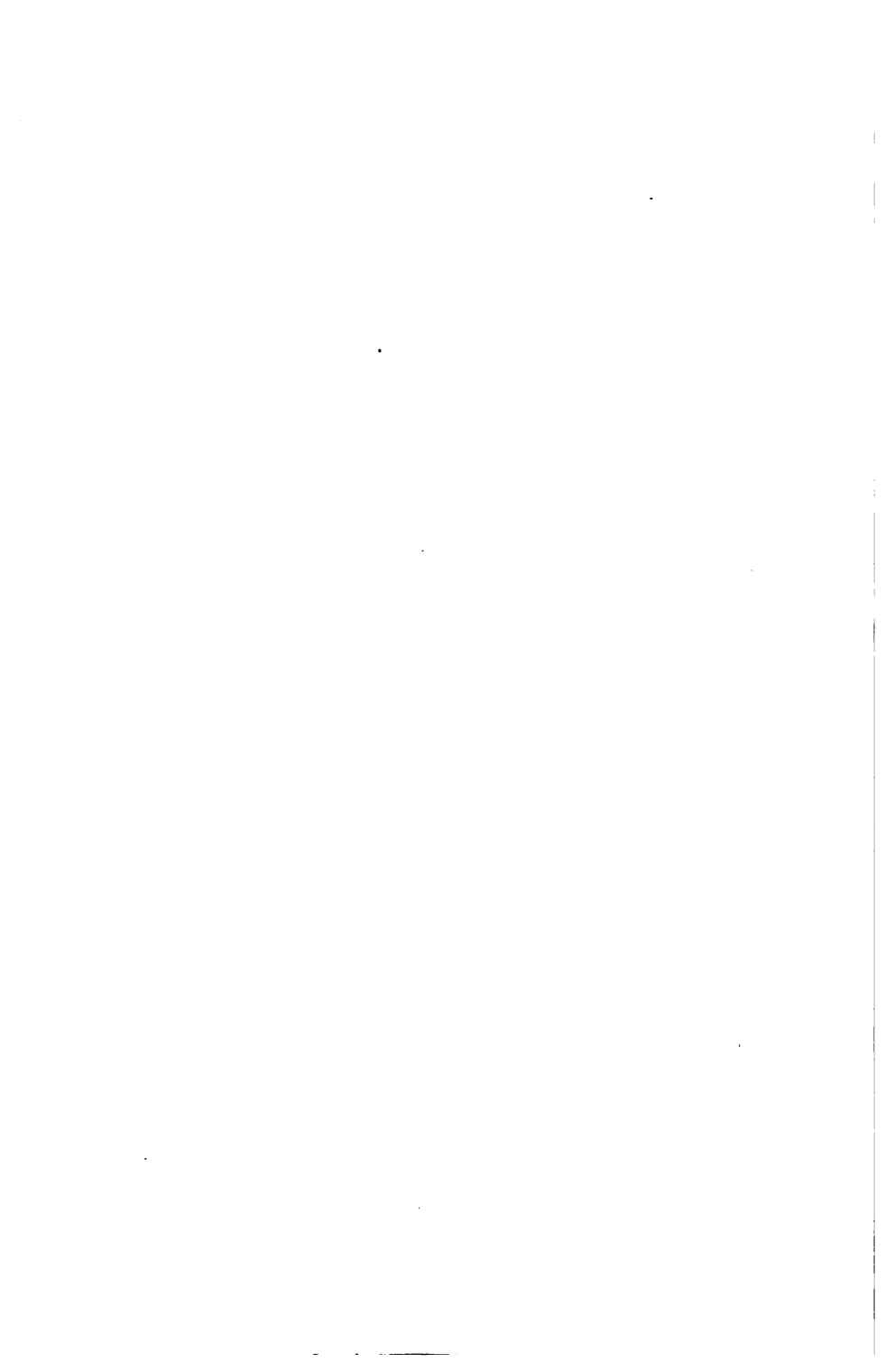
"August 2nd, Sunday. I addressed family and servants in garden from Luke xiv. 17: 'Come, for all things are now ready.'"

From Karlskrona Dr. Moon returned to Stockholm, but before leaving for England he and his son had the honour of an audience of Her Majesty

the Queen of Sweden. On August 25th he paid his last visit to the Baroness Holtermann, who was staying at Drottningholm Palace during the summer months. On his arrival he found that the queen had expressed a desire to the baroness to see him on her return from Haga Palace, where she was gone that morning to take breakfast with the Princess Theresa. The queen returned about four in the afternoon, when she sent Fröken Stjernkrona to bring Dr. Moon into the blue drawing-room, which she shortly afterwards entered. Her majesty received them very graciously and kindly, and conversed with them for over an hour. She examined the book of specimens which Dr. Moon had with him, and expressed great pleasure with what she had seen and heard about the work which he had done for the blind, and which God had so greatly honoured and blessed.

After spending a few pleasant days at Madame de Ramsay's delightful and hospitable residence at Jönköping, Dr. Moon left Gottenburg for London, where he arrived safely on September 5th, 1885.

**BRIGHTON BLIND RELIEF AND VISITING
SOCIETY. VISIT OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION**



CHAPTER XXIII

BRIGHTON BLIND RELIEF AND VISITING SOCIETY. VISIT OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION

WHILE Dr. Moon lived for the blind, without distinction of race or class, and rejoiced that his system was adopted throughout the United Kingdom, as well as in foreign lands, he felt that the blind in Brighton had ever a first place in his regard. Home teaching for them had been in operation from those early days when, soon after losing his own sight, he had sought them out and gathered them together to be taught in a class; but it was not till 1860 that he organised a society for systematically visiting and relieving the blind of Brighton. This society provides a missionary, who periodically visits the blind of the town and of the surrounding districts in their own houses. They speak of his visits as "bringing sunlight to their homes."

Meetings of the blind for Divine worship have also been held on Sunday afternoons, the service

being concluded with a substantial tea. In these services Dr. Moon ever took a deep personal interest, and made it a point that when he was in Brighton he should always be present and preside. It is Miss Moon's aim, as her father's successor in the work, to keep these services on the same lines as those so long followed by him—the proclamation of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the practical relief of suffering by providing food, coals, and clothing to the needy blind.

Dr. Moon's Account of the Origin of this Society.

—The following account of the origin and work of this society for the relief of the blind in Brighton is by Dr. Moon himself, and therefore acquires additional value. He says :

“ In January 1864 I commenced Sunday afternoon meetings for the blind of Brighton. The first meeting took place at Crown House, Western Road, in a room lent for the purpose. Eight of the blind attended, and after prayer and the reading of the Scriptures an address was given, followed by a substantial tea. This practice has been repeated on every Sunday since that time.

“ After a few Sundays the meetings were removed from Crown House to the Town Hall, where they have been held until the present time. In bringing the blind together I soon discovered

that many of these afflicted ones were in great distress, and often knew not where to obtain their daily bread ; and it was found that with some the meal that they partook of on Sunday at the place of meeting was the first food they had eaten that day.

“ For several years, at Christmas time, I raised a little fund among my friends, to give the blind some meat for their Christmas dinner and other articles of food, clothing, coals, etc., for which they were very grateful. As the number of blind coming under my notice annually increased, I resolved in 1872 to make a general appeal in Brighton, to raise sufficient funds not only to defray the expenses of the meal at the Sunday meetings and the little comforts at Christmas, but to allow the very poor blind two loaves of bread each, weekly, throughout the year, and whatever other necessities the funds would admit of. This appeal met with a hearty response, and a society was afterwards formed, with Sir Charles Lowther, Bart., as president, I being the treasurer, and my daughter the honorary secretary.

“ In 1879 I engaged Mr. Chinnery as a missionary, regularly to visit the blind at their own homes, to teach those to read who were desirous of learning, to exchange their books

to read to such as might be in ill health, and to report necessitous cases to me, so that help as far as possible might be afforded them. In a few months this faithful missionary was suddenly removed by death. The vacancy thus caused was filled in the following March, and in 1888 Mr. Jesse Andrew, a blind man, was appointed, who is prosecuting his work with great success.

“This missionary branch of the work has been particularly blessed ; many of the blind who have died having testified to the comfort they had received through the visits and prayers of the visitor.

“In reviewing the blessings that have attended the fourfold object of this branch of our work—viz., the home teaching, the free libraries, the Sunday afternoon meetings, and the distribution of food, coal, clothing, etc.—I desire not only to record my grateful thanks to those kind friends by whose benevolence I have been enabled to accomplish so much, but more particularly to our Heavenly Father for the great spiritual blessing He has vouchsafed to the labours of the missionaries and to the Sunday meetings.

“Of the fifty-seven blind persons who have died, all except two may be truly said to have died in the faith, and they left the sweet



ELECTROTYPING ROOM.

[To face p. 225.]

testimony that they passed from earth to heaven.

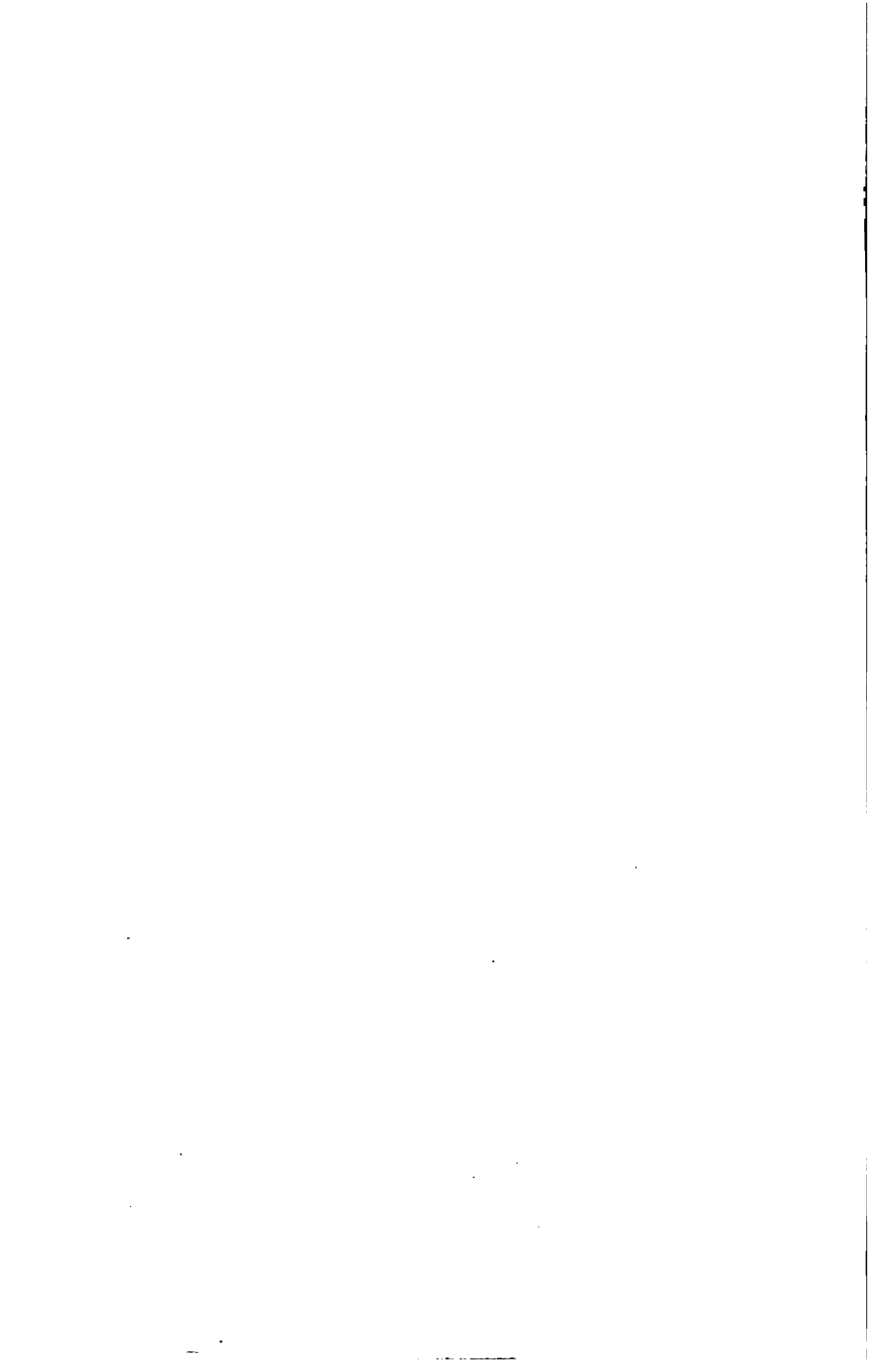
"At present about ninety-nine of the blind of Brighton and its neighbourhood are visited fortnightly, and it is hoped that the funds will sufficiently increase to allow of some pecuniary assistance being afforded every week to each of them."

Visit of the Royal Commission.—In May 1887 a visit was paid to Dr. Moon's establishment by the Royal Commission, initiated by the late Mr. Fawcett, and appointed to enquire into the condition of the blind, the deaf and dumb, and imbeciles. The party consisted of Lord Egerton of Tatton, Mr. B. St. John Ackers, Dr. T. R. Armitage, Mr. E. C. Johnson, Rev. C. M. Owen, Rev. W. B. Sleight, Dr. T. Robertson, M.P. for Brighton, and Mr. C. E. D. Black, Secretary. After inspecting the work carried on by Dr. Moon for the blind, the Commissioners expressed themselves both surprised and gratified at the extensive premises and the great work carried on. Dr. Moon and his daughter conducted the gentlemen round the works, and explained the means by which the stereotyped plates are manufactured, and the books, maps, music, etc., printed. One of the compositors was setting up a Russian Primer, another the Gospel of St. Luke in Hindustani, a

third an English dictionary, a fourth the History of Rome, and a fifth a portion of the English Scriptures.

Dr. Moon was examined by the Commissioners in reference to reading and writing and various other matters in connection with the blind.

FIFTY YEARS' WORK FOR THE BLIND





THE CROFT, FULKING. DR. MOON'S SUMMER RESIDENCE.

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CHAPTER XXIV

FIFTY YEARS' WORK FOR THE BLIND

DR. MOON'S Jubilee.—A very gratifying incident which occurred in 1890 was the presentation to Dr. Moon of an illuminated address, along with a timepiece and a purse containing £250. It was with no small pleasure that he accepted these gifts, as they were tokens that his life-long work for the blind was recognised as one which had indeed been productive of very great good. The following extracts from the Brighton newspapers of April 17th of that year give an account of the presentation :—

“Fifty years ago Dr. Moon, whose face is thoroughly familiar to Brightonians, and whose name and reputation are well known, not only throughout Great Britain, but in far distant lands, had the misfortune to lose his sight. Such a calamity might be considered sufficient to make any one give up in despair all life's projects ; but Dr. Moon, like other men whose names are remembered with affection by Brightonians—notably

for one, the late Mr. Fawcett—did not allow his affliction to shut him out from a life of usefulness. Blind himself, he determined to labour for the blind. He set to work at once. He was then twenty-one years of age—he is now seventy-one. The intervening fifty years have been years of constant toil in carrying out his one set purpose. How far he has succeeded in his philanthropic object, not one, but thousands can testify. He has placed within the reach of his fellow-sufferers the means of making the hardness of their lot less irksome, the means of amusing themselves, and at the same time of acquiring knowledge. What led him to seek for an improved system of reading was his practical experience in teaching; for, as soon as he became blind, he made himself master of the various systems of embossed type in use, and, having himself learned to read them, sought to teach others. He found, however, that they experienced great difficulty in learning, and after much thought and prayer he invented the system known under his name.

“The value of the system was quickly shown in the readiness with which pupils who had stumbled and failed over other systems learned it; and as soon as its value was determined its fame quickly spread.

“Dr. Moon's next step was to found an esta-

blishment where books could be embossed in his new type. With the aid of friends he successfully accomplished this step, and the establishment exists at 104, Queen's Road.

"The work has gone on apace, increasing year by year, and it appears that the number of volumes which have been turned out at these premises exceeds already one hundred and eighty thousand. This—the vast number of volumes completed—is not, however, the most wonderful part of the work. The type has been adapted to over four hundred different languages and dialects, and books have gone hence to give pleasure and instruction to the blind in all parts of the world. The books are accessible to the poor as well as the rich, and associations have been formed for the express purpose of teaching them to read these books. It is said that there are eighty such associations with free lending libraries in Great Britain alone, and that they are supplying regularly with books ten thousand blind people; the number of books annually lent from the free libraries being about two hundred thousand. Surely that is a work which few men are privileged to accomplish! Dr. Moon has not only been generous with his ability, time, and energy, but he also gave the land on which the enlargement of the premises in Queen's Road was built; and this, with the buildings and

the entire plant, has been placed in the hands of trustees, for the benefit of the blind for all time.

“ Dr. Moon has thrown himself, one may say, body and soul into his work. He has spared himself nothing. He has used the rare gifts with which he is endowed in the service of others. What wonder that he should be held in the highest esteem ! Whose efforts could be more deserving of recognition ? His efforts have been recognised. As far back as June last, at the Annual Conference of the Scottish Out-door Blind Teachers' Union, which was held at Kirkcaldy, a suggestion was made by Mr. Brown, of Edinburgh, that as this year would complete Dr. Moon's jubilee in his work for the blind, it would be a fitting opportunity of acknowledging his noble services. Mr. John Macdonald, of Glasgow, the secretary, took the matter in hand, and with the assistance of a committee raised a handsome testimonial. Dr. Moon's work being a national one, subscriptions were invited from all parts of the kingdom, and they flowed in freely.

“ The testimonial consisted of a very handsome chiming clock, a purse of £250, and an illuminated address. It was presented to Dr. Moon on the evening of April 16th, 1890, in the Emmanuel Church Schoolroom, Brighton, by the Rev. J. G. Gregory, a member of the committee. Mr.

Gregory mentioned in the first place that several of their friends in the neighbourhood had written expressing their regret at being unable to attend, as had many from a distance. Speaking of the object of the meeting, he said that they had present with them a dear brother in Christ, whose work was well known, and whose holy faith had spread through all the Churches in all the land. He referred, of course, to Dr. Moon. For fifty years had he been labouring on behalf of the blind. He had been God's instrument in doing an amount of work which otherwise than through his blindness he probably would not have undertaken.

"Referring to the many languages and dialects to which the type had been adapted, he observed how many hearts had been made happy, and lives, which seemed to have been stricken with misery, brought into comfort and joy by Dr. Moon's work; how much light within had been shed to compensate for the darkness without. Might God bless him for many years in his work! Fifty years of hard toil! Darkness around, but light within.

"He then explained how the testimonial originated in Scotland, and that as Dr. Moon lived in Brighton the promoters asked him to undertake the presentation, a duty he was very pleased to

perform. He then read the address, which was beautifully illuminated on a morocco scroll, and ran as follows:—

“TO WILLIAM MOON, ESQ., LL.D., F.R.G.S.

“DEAR DR. MOON,—We, the undersigned, in name and on behalf of numerous friends of the blind, heartily congratulate you on the happy occasion of your jubilee in your beneficent and self-sacrificing labours for the blind. With profound reverence we recognise the wonderful way in which an all-wise and merciful Providence prepared and qualified you for the special work to which you were called, by depriving you in early manhood of your own sight, and so placing you in a position the better to know and understand the feelings and requirements of the blind, and also by endowing you with many rare gifts and graces, all of which were freely consecrated to the service of your Divine Master. We are filled with devout gratitude to God for the signal success which has attended your labours in the amelioration of suffering humanity by the invention of a system of embossed reading which in simplicity and tangibility far excels all previous systems, and that you have been so long spared to prosecute this good work, which, by your persevering energy and skill, has developed from very small beginnings to its present large dimensions and world-wide fame. It is extremely gratifying to know that there are now upwards of ten thousand of the blind of the United Kingdom able to read, and that your type having been adapted to many foreign languages your books are eagerly sought

for and highly appreciated by the blind in all parts of the world, in whose homes your name has become a household word. The highest honour and most enduring tribute which you can receive in this world is to live in the grateful memory of your fellow-sufferers, whose lives have been brightened by the extensive Christian literature you have provided for them, and especially by the wide diffusion of the Word of God, which makes known the glad tidings of a Redeemer, and inspires with that faith and hope which lift the heart to the true source of all consolation and to the land where the eye shall never grow dim. We deem the present interesting occasion a fitting opportunity of conveying to you, in tangible form, our high appreciation of your personal worth and your valuable services in the cause of the blind; and we beg to offer for your acceptance this beautiful timepiece, along with a cheque for £250, as a small token of our love and esteem. We earnestly pray that you may be long spared to us in health and happiness, and that the influence of your Christian character and the benefits of your life-work may go down to many generations.

“Signed on behalf of the Committee,

“A. MOIR, *Chairman*.

“JOHN BROWN.

“W. G. MCKENZIE.

“JOHN GALT.

“J. MACDONALD, *Convener*.’

“The clock was then unveiled, and the purse was presented to Dr. Moon amid the applause of the audience; the scroll was also handed to him.

“‘But,’ Mr. Gregory added, ‘our work is not quite done yet. Miss Moon has been associated with her father as a most diligent partner in his work, and it has been the wish of the Committee not to pass over that noble part which she has for so long maintained. They ask Miss Moon’s acceptance of a Scotch brooch—a very small recognition of her great services, but, small as it is, she will understand that the heart that offers it is large.’

“Dr. Moon, who met with a very hearty reception, replied with evident emotion, and said that this was one of the happiest moments of his life. His heart was full of gratitude to the Divine Master who had honoured him so much in his labour, and also because his friends had given him this demonstration of love and kindly feeling. He was very grateful to them for thus remembering him. He felt that God had honoured him in enabling him to adapt reading for the blind. He had been greatly cheered in the knowledge of the good that the books had done, and he believed that many blind readers were now in heaven, these embossed books having been the means of leading them out of darkness into the marvellous light of the Gospel.

“Again thanking the donors for their gift, and praying for God’s blessing upon them, Dr. Moon mentioned with evident pleasure that some of

the people who had been working for him for many years were present. There was one who had done so for forty-one years, and had set type in more than four hundred languages; one had been with him thirty, one twenty-five, and another twenty-one years. It would thus be seen that he had several who had been many years in his employment, and they hoped by-and-by to share the reward with him.

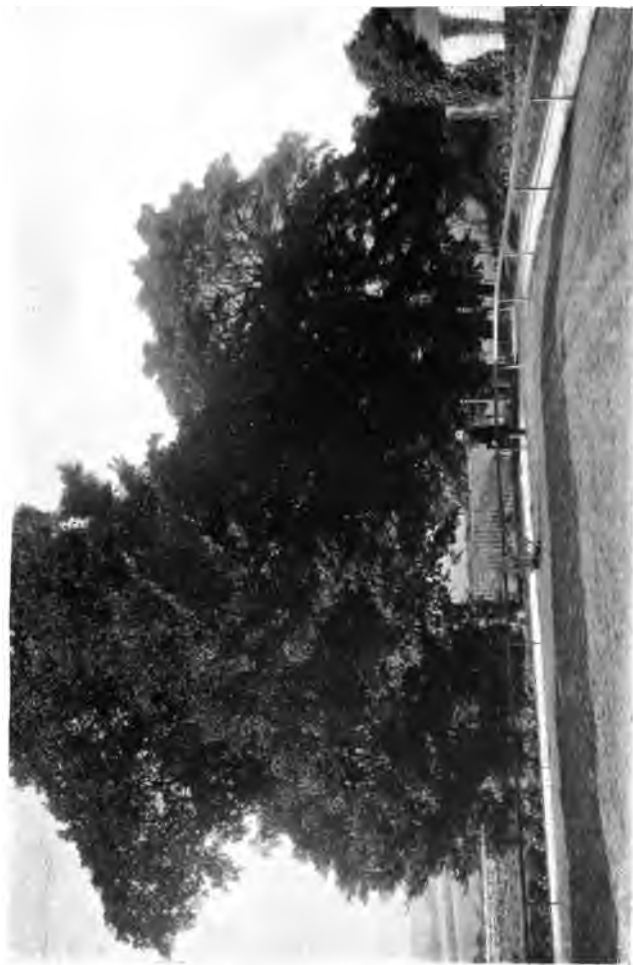
"At the conclusion of Dr. Moon's reply, Mr. Gregory offered prayer, the doxology was sung, and the benediction pronounced."

The Echo.—The *Echo* newspaper of May 9th, 1890, speaking of Dr. Moon and his character and work, made these remarks:—

"Dr. Moon is now celebrating the jubilee of his great work. He is a short, grey-haired, very active, clever man, who does not look anything like his age, which is over seventy. He is always singularly cheerful and happy, and never for a moment idle. He is full of new ideas and of anecdotes of the people on whose behalf he has laboured for so many years. Readers of his books may be found in almost all the civilised centres of the world. His work is entirely a work of charity. No profit is derived from the sale of the books, as they are sold below the cost of their production.

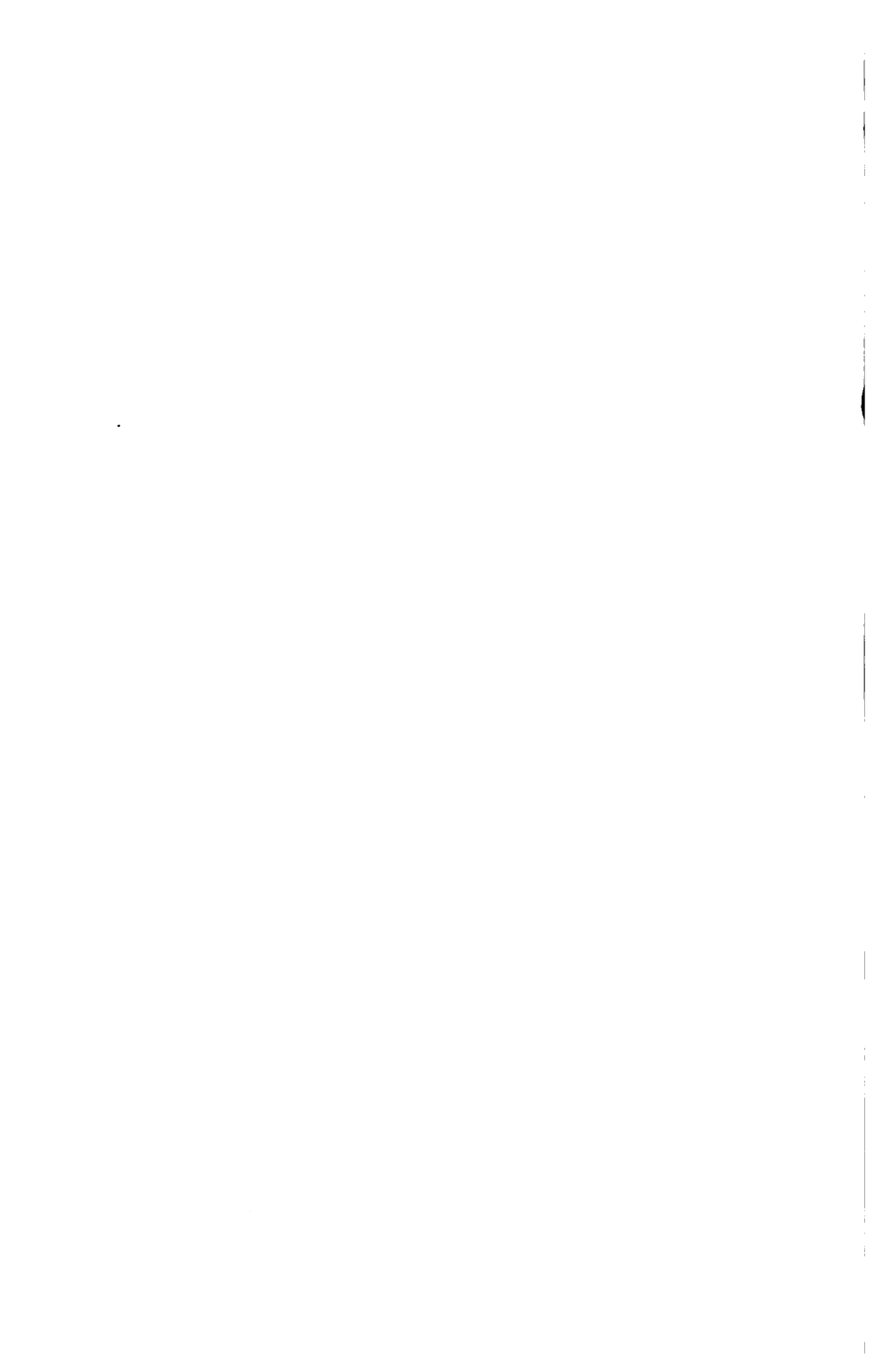
Dr. Moon and his devoted daughter give their services gratuitously. Their lives are consecrated to the service of the blind. Out of the weakness of the noble life of this blind man are many made strong, whilst in him is exemplified the progress that comes of suffering nobly borne."

DR. MOON'S PERSONAL LIFE



THE CROFT, FULKING. DR. MOON IN GROUNDS.

(To face p. 241.)



CHAPTER XXV

DR. MOON'S PERSONAL LIFE

HIS Personal Life: its Prayerfulness.—When we come to consider Dr. Moon's personal life, one of its chief characteristics was prayerfulness. In prayer he offered up his requests to God with simplicity and also with a marked definiteness for all that he needed, both personally and also in connection with his work among the blind.

"This great work," says Dr. Moon, "has been carried on with prayer and faith; and by simply resting on the gracious promises of the Word of God, I have been wonderfully supported under the various trials in connection with the work, and have received the supplies necessary for its support. Year after year as its operations extend its pecuniary wants are increased; but the bank of faith never has failed, and I believe never will fail to meet all its varied needs. A week in one of the sixties was commenced without a penny towards the expenses that would have to be provided for, and several sums were needed to meet special

requirements in addition to the workmen's wages. But day after day passed, and nothing came. Still, having laid it before the Lord in special prayer, I felt confident that the need would be supplied, and my mind was kept in perfect peace and hopeful assurance that the Lord would in due time, and in His own way, send a gracious and timely help. My hope and trust were not disappointed, neither did the promise fail, for about eleven o'clock on the Saturday morning a lady, who was a perfect stranger to us, called and brought me a cheque for £50, at the same time asking if I should like to know how she came to bring it, seeing she was a stranger to me. Upon my replying that I should, she related to me the following circumstance:—

“On the previous Thursday morning, after having dressed, she went into her drawing-room to have a little reading and prayer alone before she called her servants to prayers; and as soon as she knelt down to pray, a voice said to her, ‘Make out a cheque for £50 and give it to So-and-so,’ mentioning my name. She replied, ‘Lord, is it the person who is blind?’ The voice again said, ‘Yes; make it out and give it to him without reserve.’ She brought the cheque to my house the same day, but as I was engaged at the time she called she came again on Saturday morning.

"Does not this prove that God has not changed since the Bible days, as some would have us believe?

"Yes; He is the same: He changeth not. Trust Him, call upon Him, and believe His Word. Call upon Him in simplicity and in truth, and you will find Him to be a prayer-hearing and a prayer-answering God.

"At another time, when I was in great straits about the work, and while I was waiting on the Lord in special supplication about it, a gentleman brought me a cheque for £150, with the following words: 'The Lord will provide.'

"The same day I received £50 from another gentleman, and £36 from a third—the late Rev. W. Pennefather.

"Once, I remember, the week was about to close and there was no money in hand with which to pay the workmen, and just before the time for their leaving I prayed that the money might be sent, when a person called with a note from the proprietor of one of the hotels in Brighton, enclosing two bank-notes which two ladies, who had been staying there, had left with him a few days before for our work, but he had forgotten to send the money sooner.

"At another time when I wanted money for the men's wages a £10 note came by post from

an anonymous friend a few minutes before the time for paying them.

"At the close of another week, when our funds were exhausted, a lady who had never before subscribed to the work called, and gave me £100. Never was money more needed than at this very time.

"In the summer of 1852, when the funds for my work for the blind were very low, I had contracted a debt of £22 for printing and stereotyping materials belonging to the work. The person to whom the debt was owing requested payment by a certain day. After much prayer I felt I might promise to do so. We had reached the night previous to the day on which I had promised to pay the money, but none had come wherewith to discharge the bill. Still I continued to pray, and felt confident that the Lord would send it in due time, although I did not know in the least whence it would come. I determined, however, that no one besides my wife and the parties to whom I owed the debt should know aught about it. I was fully confident the Lord would send it, so that I felt I had nothing to fear.

"The next morning a blind lady, Miss O——, then living in Brighton, who had a short time before learned to read my embossed books, awoke about four o'clock, and, taking up a volume of the

Psalms, she read the 34th Psalm till she came to the sixth verse: 'This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles.' On reading this verse she became suddenly impressed that I had some pecuniary difficulties in my work. She offered a short prayer asking the Lord to show her if I had any such difficulty, and also whether she should help me. She then fell asleep. At eight o'clock her servant came into her bedroom with her breakfast. She awoke again with the impression that I was in some pecuniary difficulty, from which she ought to relieve me. When dressed, she went to her cash-box and took out a £5 note, which she felt was not sufficient. She then took a second, a third, a fourth, and, feeling that these would suffice, she placed them in her purse, where there were two sovereigns which she had received in change from a bank-note she had paid away the day before. Accompanied by her companion, she soon made her way to my abode, and desired to see me a few minutes alone.

"On being shown into my study, she enquired if I were in any difficulty about money matters connected with my work for the blind. As I had determined to make no one acquainted with the fact besides the Lord, I asked her kindly to excuse my saying anything which might lead her

to suppose that I had or had not any such difficulties; and although she pressed me much respecting it, I still declined to say anything that would lead her in the least to think that I had. She then asked me to reach out my hand, and, feeling for it, she placed in it her purse, saying that I was to take the contents and put them to the use that I thought best. When I had counted the money, and was informed of the value of the notes, I found there the exact sum I had to pay away that evening. At the same time she placed the purse in my hand she had forgotten that the two sovereigns were there. Without these the amount required would not have been complete.

“Such is the wonderful way by which the Lord has led me from the commencement of the work to the present time. Many other incidents similar to the foregoing might be referred to, but sufficient have been given to show that it is the Lord’s work and that He is a prayer-hearing God, ever faithful in the fulfilment of His promises.”

Fifty pounds had been given him for a particular purpose, the acceptance of which—owing to special circumstances—he felt would eventually embarrass his work. A friend whom he met at the Barnet Conference advised him to pay regard to his impression in the matter and return the money,

and after much prayer he decided to do so ; and accordingly handed it back. After the lapse of two or three days, one morning, while engaged in prayer before leaving his room, he heard some one tap at the door, and on opening it the same friend placed a piece of paper in his hand, with the words, "The Lord will provide." On showing it to his son, who was with him at the time, it was found to be a cheque for £300.

Dr. Moon had a keen realisation of the things that are unseen and eternal ; he daily lived by faith in the Son of God. He was accustomed to go to God in prayer with all his affairs, and to seek counsel and direction as to what the will of the Lord was in every matter. Therefore, no apology is needed for publishing these private memoranda, as he who wrote them is now at rest with God, and they reveal what the secret was of the life he lived and of the work he accomplished for the good of his fellow-men.

"Tuesday morning, May 25th, 1886. This morning I awoke early and got up about three o'clock and dressed, and had a strong impression that some one was praying for me, and that I ought to get up and pray too. I came down to my study, and there I had a very precious time wrestling with the Lord in prayer, and gave

myself wholly to the Lord, body, soul, and mind ; and received a very blessed assurance from Him ; and about six I went to bed again, and had a good sleep. My season of prayer this morning was very precious. All around was silent ; I was alone with God. I felt a solemn awe, but my heart was full of joy and peace ; I was in communion with my Father and my God. I pleaded for more holiness, more separation from the world, more Divine love and stronger faith, simple, child-like confidence. I gave my entire body, soul, and mind to the Lord, my blindness and every other infirmity, all entirely into His hands. I asked for the fulness, power, and indwelling of the Holy Spirit ; and asked the precious Saviour to abide ever with me and keep me by His protecting care. I felt so happy, peaceful, and joyful. Yes, it was indeed delightful."

"June 20th, 1886, Sunday morning. This is the forty-ninth anniversary of the accession of our beloved Queen Victoria, and I was praying for her at three o'clock this morning—the time she became Queen. She has now entered upon the jubilee of her reign. May God grant her to reign many more years, if it be His Divine will and for His glory ! May this be the richest year of grace she has ever known, and the most full

of Divine love! May she be preserved from all harm, and kept under the shadow of God's almighty wing!

"I remember well her proclamation and coronation, and was in London at the latter, and went to the fair which was held three days in Hyde Park. The coronation day was a very fine one. I went to the Bayswater Tea Gardens, and had tea with a friend. Coming home to Blackfriars Road through Hyde Park, I knocked my forehead against the railing that runs round the park walks, and bruised myself over my right eye. It was occasioned by my not stooping sufficiently low to pass under the rail, and it was getting dusk.

"Long live the Queen!

"W. M."

"July 30th, 1886. Last night I found it difficult to get to sleep when I went to bed. I lay quiet till two o'clock; then I got out, and had a sweet, but earnest, season of prayer, and felt great power with the Lord in all that I asked. I remembered my wife, daughter, son, work, and other things. Then I got into bed. I felt Jesus so near, so loving, and so precious; it was like heaven below. The feeling was inexpressible; it could only be known by experience; I felt truly the foretaste of

heaven. I was quite awake, but felt the immediate presence of Jesus, and talked to Him. I thought I realised what John felt when he leaned on the bosom of Jesus: yea, more, it was like what I thought would be the happiness of heaven, a delight more than earthly. Then I fell asleep, and slept soundly till about eight o'clock. O precious Jesus, grant me another gracious visit! My soul longs for it again. Come, dear Jesus; come again quickly. Amen."

"104, Queen's Road, Brighton, June 1st, 1887. This day forty years ago the first embossed book in my type for the blind was issued. Since then what wondrous things the Lord hath enabled us to do! How greatly He has blessed the work! How widely the books have been spread! The sun now never sets upon them, and the blind never cease to read them. The light of the glorious rays of the blessed Gospel is always spreading, and there is no more night. The glorious Sun of Righteousness has risen with healing in His wings, and thousands who once sat in darkness and the shadow of death, now, by faith through the reading of the Word, behold Him who is altogether lovely and the chief among ten thousand. They see Him, and call Him Jesus their Saviour, their Lord, and their God.

"In reviewing all that the Lord has enabled us to do, we would say, 'I am lost in wonder, love, and praise.'

"W. MOON.

"This month we commemorate the glorious jubilee of our beloved Sovereign the Queen.

"What a blessing it would be to the blind if a 'Jubilee Fund' could be raised to aid our work, and enable us to extend the use of our type for the blind still more extensively throughout the world!"

"December 18th, 1888. This day I am seventy years of age and in good health and strength, able to walk eight miles per day, and require it to keep me in health. I have laboured forty-nine years in various ways for the blind. First, in founding and carrying on the School for the Blind in Brighton. Secondly, in preparing books, etc., for the blind. Thirdly, in organising the Blind Relief and Visiting Society for the blind of Brighton; and the home teaching and free libraries established in 1862."

"The embossing was commenced in June 1847, and the school in 1840. For the success of all this I thank God, who has blessed each with a blessing greater than I at all anticipated at the first; and to Him I would ascribe all the glory.

"My dear daughter has been a great helper to me, for which I also thank God. She has as much been called to the work as myself, and will share with me the reward at last. She has borne with me so much of the heat and burden of the day ; and to her the blind owe a great debt of gratitude.

"My son has also done much for the preparation of the books in foreign languages, as well as the maps and diagrams.

"I once more dedicate all my powers anew to the service of God in all these objects, intending by God's help to spend and be spent in His service as long as health and strength shall be continued.

"Dear and loving Father, help me by Thy grace to dedicate all my powers anew to Thy glory. May the remainder of my days be crowned with still greater success in my labours for the blind ! May all that is needful be supplied ! May the demand for the books be increased, and the number of readers year by year be multiplied, and the conversions through the reading of the books be daily increased ! May my dear daughter's health and strength be daily renewed, and the work prosper under her hand and care ! May we continue to work harmoniously together and for Thy glory ! Free us from all debt, and send a

large supply of paper, copper, and all other things needful for carrying on the work, and we will give Thee all the praise."

"December 8th, 1893, Friday. I thank Thee, dearest and loving Father, for the health and strength Thou art giving to my dear daughter and myself; but we are greatly needing more—yes, much more means than we at present have for our embossing work. Be pleased, loving Father, to send great means, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

"I am earnestly looking up to Thee, holy and loving Father, to fulfil Thy gracious promise in reference to these things. Oh, give me grace to look for and expect what I asked! My dear daughter is often very nervous about it; and I thank Thee that Thou hast given her to me as a great comfort and helper."

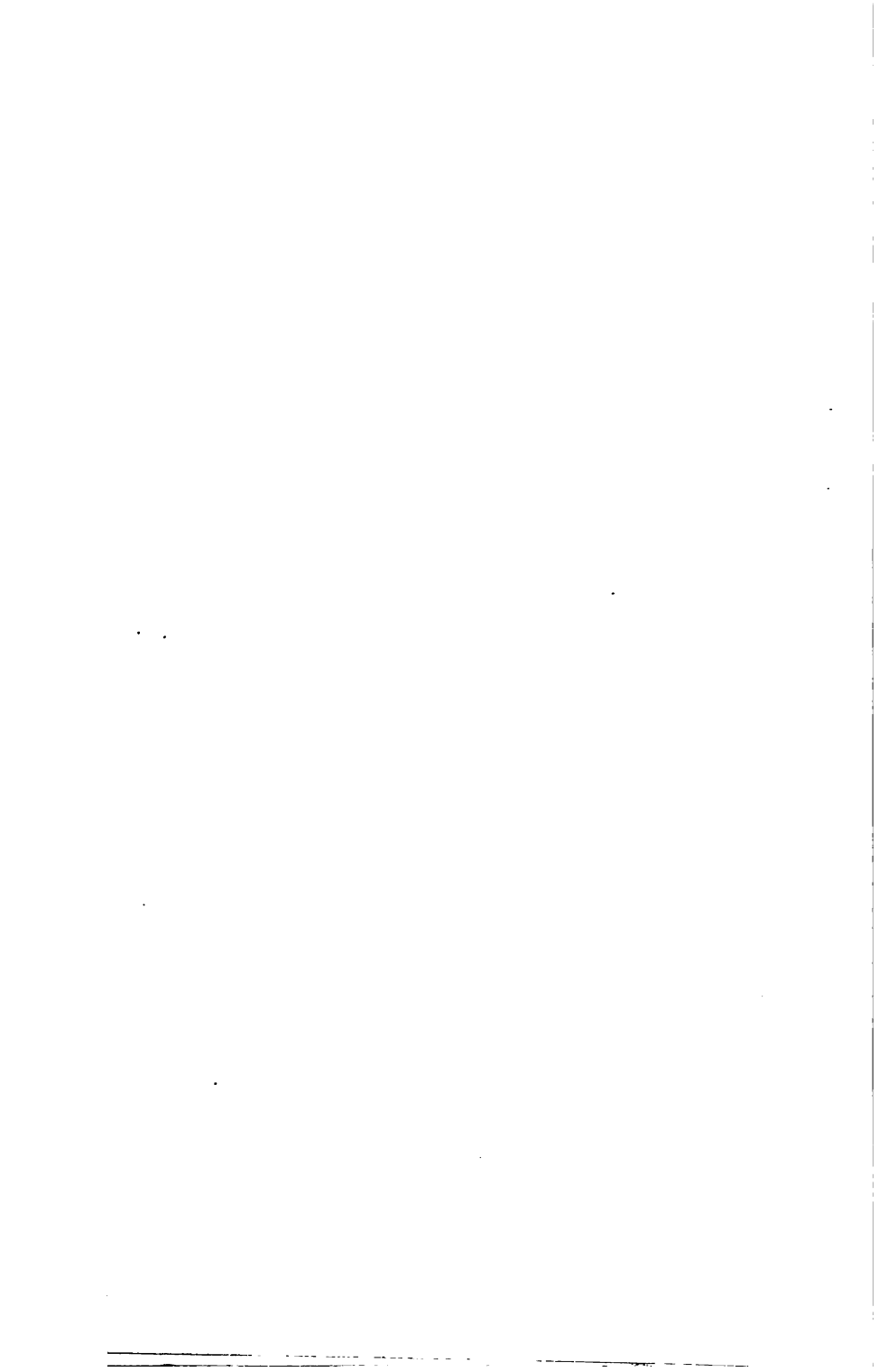
"December 18th, 1893. Dear and loving Father, Thou hast graciously brought me through another year, watched over me night and day, and hast been continually doing me good. Thou hast blessed the work that Thou hast given me to do. And now, O loving Father, accept, for Jesus' sake, my love and gratitude for what Thou hast enabled me to do; and accept again all my

powers to be devoted to Thy service *as long as I shall be spared in the year upon which Thou hast permitted me to enter.* Give me wisdom and understanding, and teach me by Thy Holy Spirit all that Thou wouldst have me to do, and give me grace to perform what Thy Spirit shall teach, and crown it all with Thy blessing to Thine own glory and for the good of them for whom I labour. Give my dear daughter health and strength, wisdom and understanding, to assist me in all that Thou wilt give me to do, and accept my thanks for giving me so good a child. Bless and reward her in all that she has hitherto done, and, when her life and labours are ended, give her a crown of life in the world to come; and grant that our united efforts for the blind may all tend to Thy glory and the great good of those for whom so many years of labour have been devoted.

“Hear me, loving Father, in these petitions and thanksgivings, for Jesus’ sake. Amen.

“To-day I am seventy-five years of age, and well in health; thanks be to Thee, O loving Father.”

THE LAST ILLNESS. THE LAST SUNDAY
THE END



CHAPTER XXVI

THE LAST ILLNESS. THE LAST SUNDAY. THE END

IN the last extract there are these words, "As long as I shall be spared in the year upon which Thou hast permitted me to enter." They were premonitory that the end was not far off, for it proved to be the year of Dr. Moon's death.

Illness. Fulking.—Early in the autumn of 1892 he was attacked by an illness which turned out to be a slight paralytic stroke. He was at the time staying at his country residence, "The Croft," which he had built at Fulking, a quiet village nestling under the South Downs, about eight miles from Brighton; and by the advice of his physician he at once gave up many of his public engagements, and was dissuaded, for the time at least, from speaking in public. Although he acknowledged the wisdom of yielding to this advice, nevertheless, as soon as he was able to go about again, he earnestly begged to be allowed to tell the "good tidings" once more in the Mission House which adjoined his grounds; and it was thought that it would

be a comfort to him if he were permitted occasionally to give some public addresses to the people of the village, as well as to his "dear blind," as he delighted to call them, when they assembled on Sunday afternoons at Brighton.

He spent the winter of 1892 in Brighton, returning to "The Croft" as soon as the weather would permit in 1893. In order that he might take exercise easily whenever he chose, his daughter caused a perfectly level walk to be constructed around the lawn. This path was provided with a handrail, and by placing his hand upon it he could walk alone and with safety. In this way his health seemed to be re-established, and his lively concern for the work in Brighton and in all other places continued unabated. New projects for their benefit were constantly occupying his mind, and among these was the preparation of a comprehensive embossed English Dictionary in some ten volumes. Even so near the end as the summer of 1894, when he returned to Fulking, he eagerly listened to the reports constantly brought to him from Brighton by his daughter, on whom there had lain for some time the chief burden of the work.

His Last Sunday's Work.—On Saturday, October 6th, he returned to Brighton, feeling so much refreshed by his stay in the country that he was

able to meet and address his blind friends at the Town Hall the next day. It had been his custom for many years to address this meeting every Sunday that he was at home. On that day, which proved to be the last Sunday of his life, he came as usual to the room where the little congregation of the blind was assembled. As he entered, the hymn was being sung "God be with you till we meet again." This hymn had been chosen because one of their number intended to leave Brighton the next day. Dr. Moon was so pleased with the hymn that he immediately said, "Please sing that last verse again." This was done, and he then proceeded with the service in the usual order.

At the close of the meeting Dr. Moon said, "Now let us have that hymn again—'God be with you till we meet again.'" So once more they all joined in it, after which he bade them farewell. This was his farewell both to those blind friends and also to his work on earth.

The End.—After that last Sunday Dr. Moon continued well, until the Wednesday following, October 10th, 1894. On that day, having taken tea, he went out as usual with his attendant for a walk, returning about six o'clock. Soon afterwards his breathing became laboured, and his physician was immediately sent for. But in a few moments he was unconscious, and by half-

past six he passed gently away. His desire had always been for a sudden translation, and it was granted to him. As the result of nervousness, he had had an instinctive dread of the act of dying. The Lord knoweth our frame, and He granted even this desire for ease in the act of death.

He had earnestly prayed that he might be enabled to work to the very end of his life; and in this also he was accepted. He died in harness, ceasing simultaneously to labour and to live. And there was no need of last words of testimony from one whose life had been throughout a constant and consistent testimony to the grace and mercy of Christ, his Redeemer.

An incident which occurred the same week showed how dear he was to those "dear blind" of his. As soon as it was known that their benefactor was dead, one of the blind men ascertained where the casket was being prepared in which there should lie all that was mortal of their revered and beloved friend. He then went to the place, and asked if it were still there, and when told that it was, he said, "Do let me feel round it, please."

The expressions of grief over Dr. Moon's death were widespread and sincere, and they touchingly testified to his sterling worth. For weeks afterwards references were made to him and to his



DR. MOON'S STUDY.

(The room in which he died, 10th October, 1894.

[To face p. 260.



life-work in periodicals all over the world, showing how widely a knowledge of his labours had extended and how marked was the influence which he had exerted.

Funeral.—Devout men carried William Moon to his burial at Brighton, and made great lamentation over him. At the grave the mourners sang a hymn which was a great favourite of Dr. Moon's :

“Blessèd assurance,—Jesus is mine !
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine !
Heir of salvation, purchase of God ;
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.”

It is not those who are defeated who sing, but those who are the conquerors. “O grave, where is thy victory ?” *

Not very long before his death he had handed over to trustees the freehold site, valued at £3,000, upon which are built the more recent of the extensive embossing works.

Death of Sir Charles Lowther.—In less than a month after the death of Dr. Moon, Sir Charles Lowther, his friend and fellow-labourer in the

* It is an interesting fact that the words of “Blessed assurance” were composed by an American lady—Miss Fanny Crosby—who was blind almost from birth. She will long be remembered as a writer of helpful hymns, among which are “Safe in the arms of Jesus,” “Pass me not, O gentle Saviour,” etc.

work, also died. Sir Charles' health had long been failing, and he had reached the advanced age of ninety-two. In his death, as in that of Dr. Moon, the blind lost one of their dearest and best friends. For many a year he had given generous support to the work; and both he and Lady Lowther were ever ready to co-operate with Dr. Moon in every new effort to promote the welfare of the blind. Sir Charles Lowther was a staunch supporter of the "Moon" type, as from his own personal experience of blindness he knew its value, and through long years he knew the benefit it afforded to the blind at large.

In his earlier years the bent of Dr. Moon's mind had been toward the ministry of the Gospel, but God had other ways of using him in the ministry of light and peace to those who literally sit in darkness. The one aim to which he steadily pressed forward was to provide a literature which the blind, both old and young, could read everywhere.

It is not always that those engaged in philanthropic work are allowed to see the fruit of their labour as Dr. Moon was permitted to do. And it was with joy of heart that he witnessed the work develop from a very small beginning until it extended throughout Britain, and sent out its branches to many parts of the world. His was

a long and useful and honoured career, which has made his name a household word among the blind of the United Kingdom and even in lands beyond the sea.

Speaking of the growth of the work, Dr. Moon writes: "Although the work was at its commencement but as a grain of mustard seed, yet by the Lord's blessing it has become a great tree, and the branches stretch to the utmost boundaries of the earth, bearing much fruit to the glory of God and the good of immortal souls. Surely we may indeed say, 'Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.'"

The best testimony to the memory of the founder of the "Moon Society" will be for friends to rally round the institution and its representative, Miss Moon, who is one of the trustees, the others being the Right Hon. the Earl of Chichester, the Right Hon. James Lowther, M.P., and Gerald W. E. Loder, Esq., M.P. for Brighton,—so that the work may continue to prosper and to increase without the burden of financial embarrassment.

Call to Prayer for the Blind.—For many years Dr. Moon issued annually a call to prayer and thanksgiving on behalf of the blind. The whole spirit of the man reveals itself in these definite requests, in which he asked his friends to unite. This is an extract from the leaflet issued in 1894 :—

"(1) That it may please our Heavenly Father to accept our humble and united thanksgiving for the great mercies vouchsafed to our labours for the blind during the past year, and that He will continue to raise up helpers, and so dispose the hearts of His people to give of their substance, that we may be enabled to send forth the Bible and other books still more extensively to the millions of blind of every nation and tongue.

"(2) That He will abundantly pour out His Holy Spirit upon the blind who have already learned to read, that they may be enabled with joy to receive the Word of Eternal Truth into their hearts ; and that while they are rejoicing in the consolations of the Gospel thousands of others in this and foreign lands may speedily become partakers of the same blessings.

"(3) That He will richly endue the committees of home teaching societies and schools, all teachers and kind friends engaged in the work, with such wisdom and holy zeal as they may severally need in seeking out and teaching the blind to read ; and that He will abundantly bless their labours to the glory of His name and the salvation of many souls.

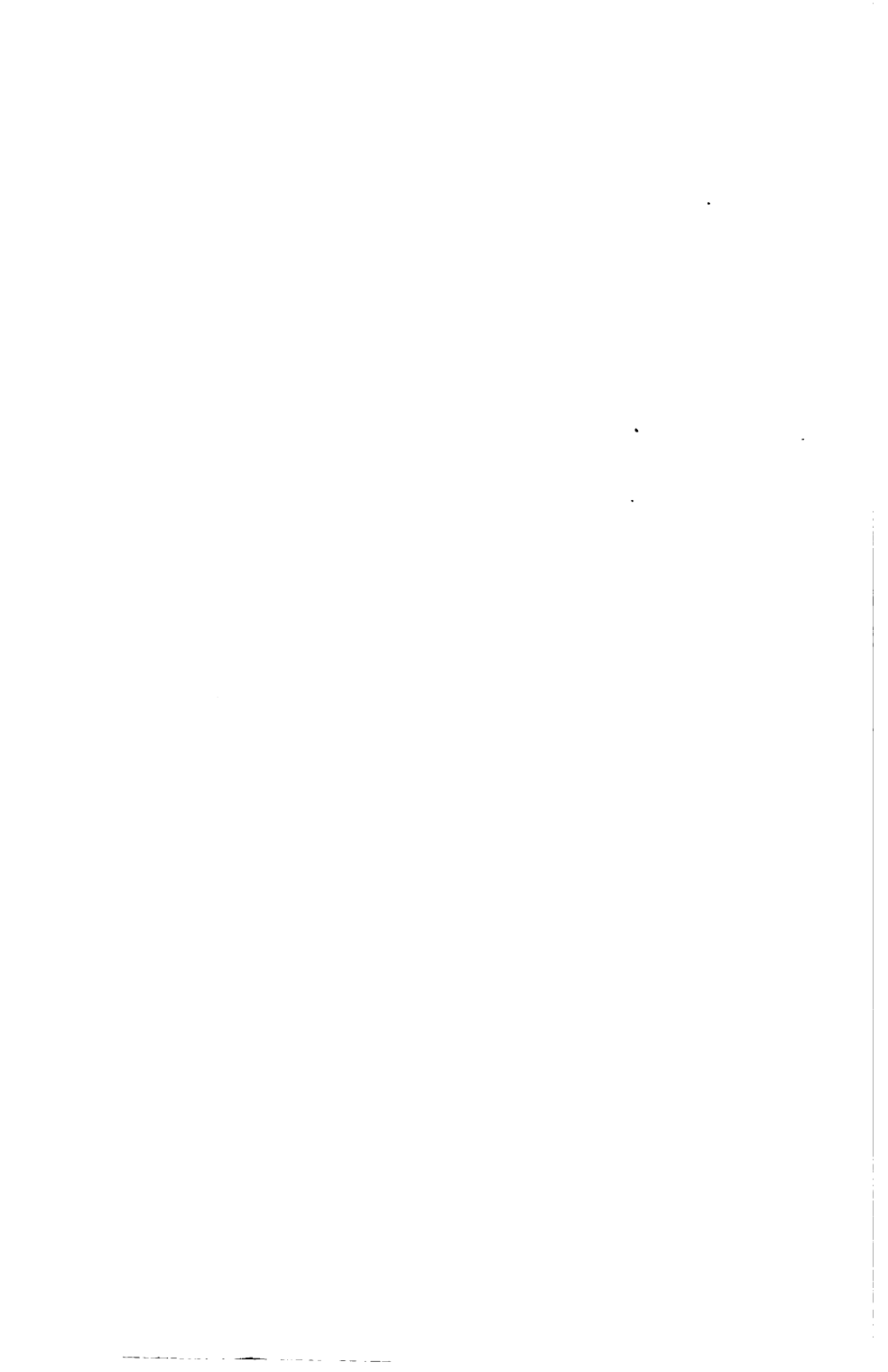
"(4) That God will bless every effort made on behalf of the blind, both for their spiritual and temporal welfare, throughout the world.

"(5) That He will bestow on me the needed health and strength for the important and increasing work in which I am engaged, and to enable me with a humble heart to perform it faithfully to His glory."

Even with all the ameliorations of blindness which are to be found in civilised countries, loss of sight places the blind at an immense disadvantage. It can never be forgotten that through his system of embossed type William Moon was instrumental in restoring to multitudes of the blind the happiness of being able to read the Word of God with their own fingers, and giving them the other advantages and joys which reading brings with it.

"Fading away like the stars of the morning,
Losing their light in the glorious sun :
Thus would we pass from the earth and its toiling,
Only remembered by what we have done.

"Oh, when the Saviour shall make up His jewels,
When the bright crowns of rejoicing are won,
Then shall His weary and faithful disciples
All be remembered by what they have done."



APPENDIX A

DR. MOON was elected Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society on June 15th, 1859, and Fellow of the Society of Arts on January 27th, 1864.

At the International Exhibition held in London in 1862, Honourable Mention was awarded to Dr. Moon by the International Jury for Class XXIV.

In recognition of Dr. Moon's life-long work for the blind, the honorary degree of LL.D. was offered him by the American University of Philadelphia, which he accepted in May 1871.

On May 30th, 1879, Dr. Moon was made an Honorary Member of the *Société Internationale pour l'Amélioration de sort les Aveugles*, founded by *Le Congrès de Paris*, 1878.

APPENDIX B

It is gratifying to state that since Dr. Moon's death all the branches of the work have been fully maintained. In the stereotyping and electrotyping departments special attention has been given to the preparation of plates, from which, in future years, any number of copies can be embossed, and also to the setting up of types from which various books can be printed for those who are in circumstances to purchase any volume they may desire, as well as for the thousands of the poorer blind who avail themselves of the lending libraries and who

are being visited by the home teachers all over the kingdom and in foreign countries.

Thirty or forty years of work have considerably worn the stereotype plates of the Bible; and hence arose the need of producing new plates, and this is being done by means of electrotyping. The new electroplates, if carefully used, will, it is believed, be as perfect a hundred years hence as they are now.

There are now more than fifty-six thousand electrotyped and stereotyped plates preserved for the future use of the Society; and 216,000 embossed books have been sent out from the embossing presses since the commencement of the work, including those issued in 1897.

The work of home teaching throughout England, Scotland, and Ireland, as well as in Australia and America, has largely developed. New books are eagerly read by the blind, and the home teachers are asked, "What new book have you got for us?" There are now more than eighty societies in Great Britain and Ireland, in addition to those in Australia, Tasmania, America, etc. By these societies the blind are sought out, are taught to read, and are supplied with books at their own homes.

There are at least 200,000 volumes circulated annually by the various home teaching societies.

There are at least one hundred thousand English-speaking blind in the world, and not less than three millions who speak other languages. What vast numbers of these afflicted ones still need the Word of God to be given to them! And in heathen and Mohammedan countries the state of the blind is most pitiable, as they are unable to earn their own living, and are largely shut out from the joys of life.

APPENDIX C

THE following is a List of places in the United Kingdom and other countries where Home Teaching Societies and Free Lending Libraries have been established ; in some places Libraries only.

Aberdeen	Deptford
Accrington	Derby
Ashton-under-Lyne	Devonport
Bangor	Doncaster
Barnstaple and N. Devon	Dublin
Bath	Dumfries
Belfast	Dundee
Birmingham	Edinburgh
Blackburn	Fife and Kinross
Bradford	Forfarshire
Brighton	Gateshead
Bristol	Glasgow
Burnley	Halifax
Bury	Hanley
Camborne	Huddersfield
Cardiff	Hull
Carlisle	Inverness
Carnarvon	Ipswich
Cheltenham	Lancaster
Chester	Leeds
Cockermouth	Leicester
Colchester	Liverpool
Cork	London
Cornwall	Luton
Coventry	Macclesfield
Criccieth	Manchester
Croydon	Newcastle
Darlaston and Tipton	Newport (Mon.)

North Shields	Stockport
Northumberland and Durham	Sunderland
Oldham	Swansea
Oxford	Taunton
Perth	Wakefield
Plymouth	Walsall
Richmond	Wednesbury
Rossendale	West Cumberland
Sheffield	Whitehaven
Shetland	Wolverhampton
Stirling and Clackmannan	Worcester
	York

Free Libraries of Moon's Books are also in Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Stockholm, Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, Tasmania, Paris, and Turin.

APPENDIX D

LIST OF WORKS PUBLISHED IN DR. MOON'S TYPE FOR THE BLIND

To be had on application to Miss Moon, Hon. Sec., 104, Queen's Road, Brighton

ENGLISH LIST

BIBLE

The Old Testament, complete in 47 vols.

New Testament, complete in 13 vols.

60 Chapters and Psalms for beginners.

SUGGESTIONS IN THE CHOICE OF BOOKS FOR LEARNERS

For persons with ordinary touch, the following are recommended :—

The Alphabet and Lord's Prayer, Cards with Texts, and Wide Line Single Chapters.

For persons with very hard fingers are recommended the

extra large or Giant size Alphabet, Nos. 1, 2, and 3 Cards, with Texts, and the following books, viz. :—

Psalms 103, Psalm 51, Psalms 25 and 115, Psalms 34 and 86, the Crucifixion, the Resurrection and Ascension, and Hymns, "Sun of my Soul," etc.

These are all in extra large or Giant size type.

The Life of Christ in Scripture Words, in 3 vols., is embossed in wide lines, in ordinary type for aged persons, instead of using the Four Gospels, which are embossed in closer lines.

FOR BEGINNERS

Embossed in wide lines

Alphabet and Lord's Prayer.
 Spelling Lessons, 1, 2.
 Reading Cards, Nos. 1 to 8
 (Nos. 1, 2, 3, are in extra
 large or Giant size type).
 The Golden Casket, Nos. 1, 2,
 or packets of Cards with
 Texts.
 John, chaps. 1, 3, 14, 15, 16,
 and 17.
 Life of Christ in Scripture
 Words, 3 vols.
 First Lesson Book.
 "He Died for Me."

FOR THE AGED AND SUCH AS
 HAVE VERY HARD HANDS

Extra large or Giant size type

Alphabet.
 Cards with Texts, Nos. 1, 2,
 and 3.
 Psalm 103.
 Psalm 51.
 Psalms 25 and 115.
 Psalms 34 and 86.
 The Crucifixion, Matt. 27.
 The Resurrection and Ascen-
 sion, Matt. 28.
 Hymns, "Sun of my Soul," etc.

RELIGIOUS WORKS

Large size vols.

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 Christian, vols. 1, 2.
 Christiana, vols. 3, 4, 5.
 Scotch Metrical Psalms, 4 vols.
 Scotch Paraphrases.
 The Prayer-Book Psalms, 3 vols.
 Morning and Evening Prayers
 and Litany.
 Epistles in Liturgy, 2 vols.
 Grace and Truth under Twelve
 Aspects, 5 vols.

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 Life through the Living One,
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 mons by—vols. 1 to 4; vol. 1,
 small size.
 Daily Remembrancer, by Rev.
 J. Smith, selections for one
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 Daily Prayers and Promises
 from the Holy Scriptures.
 Leaves from my Note Book
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 Stalker, D.D., 3 vols.
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 The Negro Servant.
 The Young Cottager.

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 Church Catechism.
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 ment.
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 { ky's).
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 Miles Standish.

Burns' Poems (selections),
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 The Lady of the Lake, 2 vols.
 Tennyson (selections), vol. 1.

Small size vols.

Bull's Hymns, 3 vols.
 (Vol. 1 from the Olney
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 Sankey's Hymns (selections),
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 Longfellow's Poems (selec-
 tions), vols. 1 and 2.
 Willis' Poems (selections).
 Scottish Hymnal (selections).
 Children's Hymns.
 { Morning Hymns (by a Lady).
 { Evening Hymns (by a Lady).
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 { Hymn of the Blind.
 { Hymns on Resignation.
 { Hymns, Hours of Sorrow.
 { Hymns, Ashamed of Jesus, etc.
 { Hymns, All is known to Thee,
 { etc.
 { Hymns, Precious Promises, etc.
 { Hymns, Need of Jesus, etc.
 { Keble's Christian Year (selec-
 { tions from).
 { Herbert and Quarles (selec-
 { tions from).
 { School Life.
 { Revival Hymns, parts 1, 2.
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 { Starless Crown.
 { Christ our Example.
 { The Old, Old Story.
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 { When to Trust Jesus, etc.
 { Cottar's Saturday Night.
 { The Stranger at the Manse.
 { The Father's Message to His
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 { Little Will.
 { The Beautiful Home.
 { Safely Home, etc.
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 The Aged Believer at the
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 etc.

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 quisition.
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 Three Remarkable Diamonds.
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 doned, etc.
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