

cerned from two or three off-hand extracts from Stanley's recent letters to private friends. "So far there have not been any angry words exchanged between us and the natives," he says; "and the best of all is, the most conservative chiefs seek our alliance, and furnish us with carriers. About 400 natives convey goods for us now, where it took us nearly a year to induce the most stubborn ones to give us one." And again: "I am safer here than you are in London. A revolver or a rifle I never look at scarcely." And still again: "You will read in my book, 'Through the Dark Continent,' about the 'infuriates of Irebu.' Fancy the change when I am appealed to by them to stop an internecine war."

This testimony has appeared from time to time during the past few months, which confirms the fact that Stanley's mission, under the auspices of the Belgian Association, has resulted in the complete pacification of the important region in which he has been operating. The importance of this tract of hitherto unknown country may be estimated from the fact, stated by Stanley, that, "the population of the Lake Mautumba district, one of his latest discoveries, is so dense that were it uniform throughout the Congo basin, we should have about 49,000,000 souls, or fifty-five to the square mile."

The substance of Mr. Stanley's letter to the British Association may be forcibly stated in his own language: "It was Livingstone, an Englishman, who discovered this river; it was Anglo-American money which explored it and made it known; it was international money, partly English, which began the task of making it useful to all the world." Hence he appeals to the Christian and commercial sentiment of the British public, against the designs of the Portuguese, which would deliver the country to "hell and slavery," and the ambitions of the French, as represented by M. de Brassa, which, however, according to the latest reports, have been completely overthrown by De Brassa's bad management. But that good will come from the triumph of Stanley is now certain.

The importance of the Stanley explorations ought not to be limited to the interests of trade. It is to these interests that Mr. Stanley chiefly appeals in his communication to the British Association. "English goods, products, and man-

ufactures," he writes, "enable us to move on, and win the love of the Congo nations." Human experience shows that trade is usually the most responsive to its advantages. Yet to the Christian, to the man who sees in conquests of the unenlightened human soul moral gains which outweigh the percentages of commerce, there is, or ought to be, a peculiar interest in the opening of the great centre of the "Dark Continent."

"When you consider its magnificent tributaries [the Congo], which flow on either side, giving access to civilization to what appeared hopelessly impenetrable a few years ago, the reality of the general utility and benefit to these dark tribes and nations fills the sense with admiration." This is Mr. Stanley's appeal to the ledger of trade. What shall Christian men say to the spiritual opportunities and conquests, to which the indefatigable explorer has opened the door?—*Christian at Work.*

THE WHOLE BIBLE.—"You are not going to lose the Bible, for you don't read it now. Few read it all. I hear now and then of a man who has read it through and is still in good health." This is what Mr. Beecher said to his people last Friday evening, and it is this kind of talk that lowers the tone of reverence for the Word of God, which in many quarters is too low already. It may be a sad fact that too few read the Bible all through, but everybody ought to do so, and they would then understand better what revealed religion is. Mr. Beecher's language is calculated to produce the feeling, in young minds especially, that much of the Old Testament is useless lumber, trash, and that they need not read or study it. "Still in good health," after reading the Bible through! It sounds very much like vulgar slang. Has Mr. Beecher ever known anybody to get sick and die from the reading of God's Word? Is it a rare thing to survive the perusal of the whole sacred volume? Why, some men have even written commentaries on it and are "still in good health." We found the late venerable Dr. B. C. Taylor one day in his study with his Bible before him. "I have made it a practice," he said, "for many years past to read God's blessed book through at least once every year in regular course. I am now going through it for the third time this year, and O,

how increasingly precious it becomes every time. I have been studying the lives of the patriarchs, and I am more and more impressed with the richness and beauty of the Old Testament." Contrast this language with the flippant talk of the "Prince of American Preachers," and judge who is the more worthy of respect as a religious teacher. The truth is that such want of gravity, sincerity and reverence in some brilliant preachers has done more to degrade the pulpit than all their splendid talents can do to elevate or adorn it.—*Christian Intelligencer.*

Original Contributions.

WOMEN HAVE RIGHTS ENOUGH.

MRS. V. A. GILLAM.

It seems to me that there is very little being done to oppose the Woman Suffrage movement. Those in favor of it have been laboring for years to convince the people that it will be a benefit to them, and we have been sitting idly by, as it were, doing nothing. If every Christian woman would take the Bible for her guide, and study it as she ought to, I think she certainly could see that "voting" is not a part of her duty. If we do all that we are required to do we will have our hands full, without trying to take the men's work away from them. So far as I know, the leading ones who are advocating Woman Suffrage, are women that care more for political honor than for a true religious character; and they have made many an innocent woman believe that it is right, and that it is a privilege they have hitherto been denied. Like Eve, they are holding out the tempting fruit, and making it appear as lovely as possible. And while they are enticing the men to partake, they are saying, by their actions, that they are more capable of ruling than men are. They would likely deny it, but if they did not think so, what would be the use of their becoming politicians? "Actions sometimes speak louder than words." They will tell you that some women are more capable of making laws than a good many men are. That is no doubt true, but that is no argument in their favor. If a woman is blessed with superior talents she ought to use them to a better purpose. There is nothing more noble in woman than to raise her children to be respectable, religious men and women.

And if we teach our boys good honest principles, (and teach them to have nothing to do with any intoxicating drink), they will go out into the world better calculated to make and enforce laws than we are. A good many of our best men have attributed their success in life to the teaching of a good mother. That is praise enough for any woman; but our work does not stop here, we have more or less influence over our husbands and others around us. While we are doing our own duty, we are also helping others to do theirs, and we can do it without taking the reins in our own hands. I have heard preachers say their wives helped them to preach. How did they help them? Not by going into the pulpit with them; but by encouraging them to go, and by staying at home and taking care of things there; and by using their influence in many ways, for the good of the cause their husbands were advocating. We can all find more to do than we have time to do, if we will only look around for it. We should try to let our actions through life, be such, that they will be approved of by our Heavenly Father, and thus be prepared to inherit those mansions which our Savior has gone to prepare for those that love and serve him.

Now I must say a few words to the men. If you love peace and harmony at home, and wish to maintain the respect and protection for your wives and daughters they now receive from men, let me exhort you to shield them from the coming evil by using your influence against it. Christian women are now honored and respected far above the lower class of men; but if they go to the polls to vote, they will be placed more on an equality with them, and will be treated more like men than they are at present. A man can mingle with the lower class of his own sex without receiving any taint upon his character, but it is not so with woman. I am not in the habit of writing, but my heart goes out in sympathy for all true women; and it is the interest I have in them, and in the cause of my Master, that has prompted me to write what I have, for I cannot look upon the subject of Woman Suffrage in any way but what it seems to me that it will bring evil instead of good. May the Lord help us all to choose the right way, and to walk in that straight and narrow path that leads to life everlasting, is the prayer of your sister.
McMinnville, Or.