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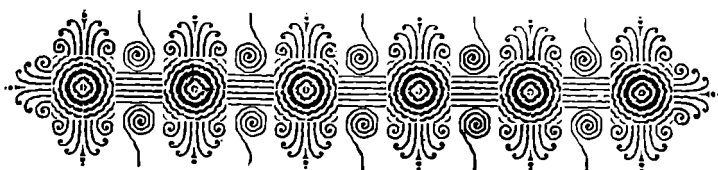
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THE

Sword and the Crowel.

AUGUST, 1898.

' The Young Pastor's "Posy."

MEDITATIONS BY C. H. SPURGEON BEFORE HE LEFT WATERBEACH.

(Continued from page 336.)

XC.—THE CHRISTIAN'S CROWN.

THE golden plate inscribed with "HOLINESS TO THE LORD" was the most conspicuous object on the head of the high priest. So should holiness be ever seen on the forehead of believers, who are a royal priesthood; and it should be the most prominent thing in our lives. But some wear on their brow, for their golden plate, "Experience." Now this is good as a girdle, but not as a coronet. Holiness of life is the Christian's royal crown. Some men wear gilded plates, which were not fashioned by the Holy Spirit of God. Ah, friend! thou wilt not cheat infinite wisdom, nor pass off thy tinsel morality for golden, deeply-engraven holiness. Take my advice, and throw thine own righteousness to the dogs; though even they will not have it. Tear it up, bury it, or burn it, only do get rid of it, and think thyself well off to be clear of it, even if thou hast to use thy couch of carnal ease as the firewood to consume it.

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XCI.—HOUSING THE CORN.

When there is any prospect of a rainy harvest, farmers try to get their corn housed as quickly as possible. This is one reason why

Inside the Dispensary, Sousse, Tunisia.



I WELL recollect the quaint and forcible way in which the beloved President, now in glory, said to me, "Churcher, if I could *preach* to people, I would let others doctor them." This is a very wise rule for England, but the *medical* missionary has a special fitness among fanatical Moslems. My impatient patients at times audibly mutter, "We come for medicine, not for your preaching."

Practically, we find that *the medicine attracts*, for people come from all directions and long distances. *It gains confidence*, for, among the Arabs, the doctor is proverbially the friend of everyone. *It overcomes opposition*. Thus, the gentleman who has broken up my wife's boys' class, and made himself our enemy, finding his infant daughter sick, this week condescended first to send and then to come himself for medicine, finally receiving a missionary visit in his own house.

And what of the man in the picture? He is our native servant, engaged in making up powders. He is the Medical Mission "boy"—a nice fellow, kind and willing; but why does he not become converted, and give up his sins? Ah! why? I asked one of his friends that question just now; he answered me, "We don't believe that Jesus did leave the Gospel with His followers; because, if He had done so, when Mohammed came, long

afterwards, he would not have found people worshipping the cross, and idols, and pictures." Thus, unfaithfulness in the seventh century is still a stumbling-block in the nineteenth. "Be sure your sin will find you out," is true of systems no less than of individuals.

"And do *you* never doubt?" I asked, for we had, just before, read together in the Koran what seemed a gross error.

"The Moslem who has the smallest doubt should, by law, be killed," he answered, and continued:—"The Mufti of — is a very pious man; he pays the expenses of poor men who desire to go on pilgrimage; he feeds poor students, and does many good deeds. Well, he had a son, who studied French, and had many books; and he said to his father, one day, 'Father, I have my doubts about Mohammedanism. The Gospel is older than the Koran, Jesus Christ came before the prophet (Mohammed), and it seems to me that the older religion must be the right one.' The Mufti was very shocked that *his* son should think thus, so he tied him up in one of the rooms of his house. Each day, for a week, he tried to bring him back to Islam; but as he still would not submit, his father, with some other Moslems, secretly killed him."

Whether the story is true or not, I have no means of knowing; but, without doubt, such wicked action would be commended by many pious Moslems. It is an interesting, though sad question, "How wicked might a man be, and yet remain a good, pious Mohammedan?"

What, then, shall *we* do? Leave them to perish? Did God leave us? Nay, for "when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ *died* for the *ungodly*." And our Lord said to His disciples, "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; *as* I have loved you, that ye also love one another." His last command to them was, "Preach the gospel to every creature," and His last assurance, "Lo, I am with you *always*." Surely, not to do "the last thing our Lord has asked us, would be equal to passing a vote of want of confidence in the government of God."

Sousse, Tunisia, N. Africa.

T. G. CHURCHER.

More about German Baptists in Queensland.

BY PASTOR WILLIAM HIGLETT, ALBION, BRISBANE.

ASSUMING that my former article about German Baptists (see *Sword and Trowel*, April, 1897,) was of some interest to English readers, I venture to hope that a further notice may be acceptable. During the recent Easter holidays, the Baptist Association of Queensland, of which I have the honour to be Secretary, held its half-yearly meetings at Engelsburg, by the kindness of our German brethren there. Engelsburg is a small township, about twenty-five miles from the border of New South Wales, and forty miles from the coast; and consists of about a score of houses. The surrounding district is cut up into farms of from 80 to 300 acres in extent. Originally covered with dense scrub, a few years have witnessed quite a transformation. It is almost exclusively a German settlement, and, perhaps through being first in the field, the Baptists are far more numerous than any other religious body. There is a German Lutheran church, and a Roman Catholic meeting-place, which, of course, serves all nationalities. The English-speaking population is supplied by a Methodist chapel and Salvation Army "barracks."

Our German Baptist church is by far the largest; and though seating 250 persons, it is none too large for its ordinary requirements. Its history is an interesting chapter of Colonial life. In 1875, a number of German Baptists having taken up farms in the district, they showed their sturdy