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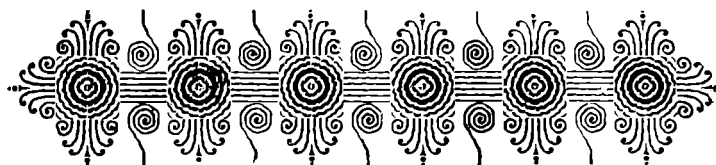
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THE

Sword and the Trowel.

MARCH, 1900.

Christ, the Rock.

A SERMON, DELIVERED BY C. H. SPURGEON, AT NEW PARK STREET CHAPEL, SOUTHWARK, IN 1856.

FORWARDED BY T. W. MEDHURST, CARDIFF.

(Concluded from page 55.)

"And that Rock was Christ."—1 Corinthians x. 4.

I MUST now request your attention to the record concerning another rock, which is given to us in Numbers xx. 1—13:—"Then came the children of Israel, even the whole congregation, into the desert of Zin in the first month: and the people abode in Kadesh; and Miriam died there, and was buried there. And there was no water for the congregation: and they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron. And the people chode with Moses, and spake, saying, Would God that we had died when our brethren died before the LORD! And why have ye brought up the congregation of the LORD into this wilderness, that we and our cattle should die there? And wherefore have ye made us to come up out of Egypt, to bring us in unto this evil place? it is no place of seed, or of figs, or of vines, or of pomegranates; neither is there any water to drink. And Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and they fell upon their faces: and the glory of the LORD appeared unto them. And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Take the rod, and gather thou the assembly together, thou, and Aaron thy brother, and speak ye unto the rock before their eyes; and it shall give forth his water, and thou shalt bring forth to them water out of the rock: so thou shalt give the congregation and their beasts drink. And Moses took the rod from before the LORD, as He commanded him. And Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock, and he said unto

cause for gloom; I have not a pain, and I have no fear. You know where I am going." He also said, "My soul is struggling to be free. Father! Father! I am waiting. Precious Saviour!" At midnight, on January 5th, the summons came; and, in perfect peace, without a pain, and without a fear, he went home to the Lord he loved, and the dear ones who had safely landed on the heavenly shores before him. He felt from the first that it was the Master's call; he had lived so long in Beulah Land that it was only a step into the Celestial City.

Teddington.

W. PAGE.

After Ramadan.

RAMADAN came with January, this year; so, few came for medicine,—287 all told. Everything is overturned in this "holy" month; fasting and dozing by day, feasting and talking by night, are good for nobody and nothing.

Yet Moslems pride themselves upon keeping the fast, for is it not written in their books that those who do so "will be pardoned all their past venial sins," and "when the month of Ramadan arrives, the doors of Heaven are opened, the gates of hell are shut, and the devils are chained"? So, when it is over, one might expect them to be extra good; but this is not the case. It so happened that the first day of the next month was medical mission day at our out-station, Moknine, an entirely native market-town, yet no market was in progress, but scores of youths and boys filled the space outside. They were seated on the ground, in groups of eight or ten, their heads close together as if they were absorbed in something very interesting. What was it? Gambling! The small boys, who could not afford "sous", were playing for handfuls of almonds.

When we spoke to the bystanders about it, they said, "It's all right; we know that card-playing is forbidden; but we have Mohammed, so it does not matter what we do, for he has undertaken to intercede for us, and all is right."

This is the short and easy creed of those around us. The possibility, of anything being wrong with *them* hardly seems to enter their minds. They are as good as others, they think; and a really moral, truthful person would be contrary to all their experience. As we argued, that morning, for holiness, one of the crowd said to us kindly, "Well, you will admit that *you* get drunk, won't you?" Of course, we would not admit anything of the kind; but the question shows what ideas the people have. How much need there is, among those who hold such false notions, to live for and tell of the living and true Witness, who said, "I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto Me."

Soussa, Tunisia, North Africa.

T. G. CHURCHER.

Notices of Books.

Any Book reviewed or advertised in this Magazine will be forwarded by Messrs. Passmore and Alabaster on receipt of Postal Order for the published price.

It seems likely that there will be as many unauthorized and unreliable "Lives" of Mr. Moody as there were of Mr. Spurgeon; but those who desire to have the one	that is issued by authority should secure his son's <i>Life of D. L. Moody</i>, published by Messrs. Morgan and Scott, especially as in that way they will help to perpetuate the great
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