

SLAVES OF THE SOUDAN.

One fair bright day, away back in the early sixties, an excited little group of men, women and children were gathered together in the market place of the town of Aswân, the most southern limit of Egypt, for a new drove of slaves had just arrived from the Soudan, and the dealers, who had torn them from their homes and friends, were bartering away their precious lives for gold. As the day wore on one after the other was bidden for and handed over to new masters. When last of all four little lads, looking very, very tired and oh, so much afraid, were put up and bidding began afresh, there were many there who would have been glad to have procured them, when suddenly above the chatter and the clatter an Englishman's voice rang out a larger offer than had yet been made, and as none seemed able to go higher, the little lads were "knocked down" to him, and at the Aswân slave market that day was seen the strange sight of an English nobleman leading away four tiny unclad, over-driven, terrified black slave boys. What did he need of them, and whither would he take them?

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The beautiful, many-minareted town of Assiut nestling down between the Libyan and Arabian Hills, many, many miles north of Aswân basked in glorious sunshine. Along the white dusty roads might be seen long strings of camels, weighed down under great loads of bricks or stones, while Arabs called lustily to one another, children played with quartz on the road side, and here and there a pedlar would cry his wares or eagerly press them on some good-natured passer-by; all indeed was life and animation and stir. Save for one little

spot, the American Mission Church. Here a sacred quiet prevailed, for a reverent little group had gathered together to see four little black boys received into the visible Church of Christ here upon earth, their kind guardians, the late Lord and Lady Aberdeen—who had given each little lad one of their own Scotch names—standing sponsors for them and voicing the desire of their hearts in prayer that these little lads might one day return to the Soudan as Heralds of the Cross of Christ.

Nor did their interest end that day, for year after year they received the report of the lads' progress, sending money by which they were clothed and educated, and though three of the boys, owing doubtless to their early sufferings,

which had undermined their health, died before they reached manhood, those kind guardians had the great joy of seeing the day when the fourth, having passed successfully through school, became an ordained minister, and returned to his own Soudan, there to proclaim the Gospel of a Saviour's love so



A SLAVE CARAVAN,

beautifully illustrated in his own young life.

FRANCES L. J. BENNETT.

LEGAL POINTS FOR NURSES.

The National Union of Trained Nurses (The Nurses Social Union) has issued a most admirable pamphlet entitled "Legal Points for Nurses." It can be procured from the Central Secretary, 39, Great Smith Street, Victoria Street, S.W., price 6d., postage ½d., and will also be on sale on the Literature Stall at the Dublin Nursing Conference, where every nurse should secure a copy.

The Right Hon. Sir Edward Fry, G.C.B., who contributes the preface, points out that the complexity of life "renders the production of simple guide books through the tangles of law and life more than ever valuable."

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