

Miscellany.

SELECTIONS.

HE LIVETH LONG WHO LIVETH WELL.

He liveth long who liveth well !

All other life is short and vain ;
He liveth longest who can tell
Of living most for heavenly gain.

He liveth long who liveth well !

All else is being flung away ;
He liveth longest who can tell
Of true things truly done each day.

Waste not thy being ; back to Him

Who freely gave it, freely give ;
Else is that being but a dream,
'Tis but to *be*, and not to *live*.

Be wise, and use thy wisdom well ;

Who wisdom *speaks* must *live* it too ;
He is the wisest who can tell
How first he *lived*, then *spoke*, the True.

Be what thou seemest ; live thy creed ;

Hold up to earth the torch Divine ;
Be what thou prayest to be made ;
Let the great Master's steps be thine.

Fill up each hour with what will last ;

Buy up the moments as they go ;
The life above, when this is past,
Is the ripe fruit of life below.

Sow Truth if thou the True wouldst reap ;

Who sows the false shall reap the vain ;
Erect and sound thy conscience keep ;
From hollow words and deeds refrain.

Sow love, and taste its fruitage pure ;

Sow peace, and reap its harvest bright ;
Sow sunbeams on the rock and moor,
And find a harvest-home of light.

—Rev. H. Bonar, D.D.

THE UNSEEN HAND.

A JEWISH LEGEND.

ELI BEN AMRAM was one of the richest of his tribe. He had risen from humble circumstances to high honour—from poverty to great wealth. His ships floated on many seas, his merchandise was the produce of numerous lands, his fame resounded through all his nation. Yet did not the fortunes of Eli Ben Amram cause him to forget the God of his fathers. He was learned in the law of Moses, and in the traditions of the elders. He observed every feast and every fast. He paid tithes and gave alms. Moreover, he built a synagogue. Rich was the smoke of his morning and evening offerings, and frequent were his devotions.

But where is the perfect man ? One precept did Eli Ben Amram forget to cherish in his memory—"Beware lest thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of my hand hath gotten me this wealth." He had sustained his aged parents in comfort ; he had given his sister Keturah in marriage with a princely portion ; he had bestowed on his younger brother Jorah a thousand pieces of silver wherewith to traffic : many had he befriended, and he thought himself better than they, inasmuch as he had wisdom to amass riches. He praised his God for blessings bestowed, while yet his soul vaunted itself in that he had turned those blessings to his own advantage—not remembering that the Lord his God had given him power to get wealth.

When Jotham, Ben Amram's only son had attained the age of manhood, his father gave him a purse of gold, and bade him go and make merchandise therewith. "Be diligent, my