

May said as she looked upon him, "The good time is come to Jim."

I knew that he was happy in heaven, but oh! I wondered if the poor widow would have long to wait for her good time. I wondered whether it would not be a very bad time for her too, now that Jim was gone, but Aunt May said that I might pray for Widow Pritchard and wait and see. I went home soon after that and never knew for a long time how Jim's mother fared, but one glad, bright day in spring-time, Aunt May came, and I who loved her so very, very much, ran out to meet her. "May," and she smoothed back the tumbled hair from my forehead, "you look as though you were having a good time." Then, childlike, I remembered the widow, and asked if anything good were come to her.

"Yes, my darling, for after Jim was taken from her she felt that she must rouse herself and not lean so entirely upon others—in fact she had none to lean on save baby Joe. So she struggled with her grief and kept the house, and then as friends grew tired of helping her she worked bravely for her living, and now she calls life a good time, because she is busy and content. As for Jim, she says it is best as it is, for the boy had borne a heavy load for her and now he is happy, and she, while working and waiting, looks forward hopefully to the good time of heaven."

I was glad! I had prayed for this. Children, will you not pray for good times both for yourselves and others? To walk bravely in duty's path is our good time on earth, and brings with it a joy, even the joy of a clear conscience. Pray that others may tread that path as well as yourselves, and in the end enjoy the never-ending good time of eternity.

OLIVER CROMWELL'S LETTER

TO HIS SON, RICHARD CROMWELL.

"DICK CROMWELL,

"I take your letters kindly. I like expressions when they come plainly from the heart, and are not strayed nor affected. I am persuaded it's the Lord's mercy to place you where you are. I wish you may own it, and be thankful, fulfilling all relations to the Glory of God. Seeke the Lord and his face continually; lett this bee the business of your life and strength, and lett all things be subservient and in order to this. You cannot finde nor behold the face of God, but in Christ, therefore labor to knowe Christ, w^{ch} the Scripture makes to bee the sum of all, even life eternall. Because the true knowledge is nott litterall or speculative, but inward, transforminge the minde to itt, its untinge to, and participating of the Divine nature. Its such a knowledge as Paul speaks of, Philip the 3.1. S. 9. 10. How little of this knowledge of Christ is there amongst vs. My weake prayers shalbe for you. Take heede of vaine

an inactive spirit, Recreate youre selfe wth Sr Walter Rauhleyes historie, it's a bodye of historie, and will add

of storie

much more to your vnderstandinge than fragments. I intend to vnderstand the estate I have settled, it's your concernment to knowe itt all, and how itt stands. I have heretofore suffered much by too much trustinge others. I knowe my Brother Major wilbe helpfull to you in all this. You will thinke (perhaps) I need not advise you to love your wife; the Lord teach you how to doe itt, or else itt wilbee done illfavorably. Trough marriage bee noe instituted sacrament, yett where the vndeified bedd is, and love, this union aptly c

resembles Christ and his Church. If you truly love your Wife, what doth Christ beare to his Church, and every poore soule therein, whoe gave himselfe for itt, and to itt. Com' ad mee to your Wife, tell her I enterly love her, and reioyce in the goodness of the Lord to her. I wish her every way fruitfull. I thanke her for her lovinge letter. I have presented my love to my Sister and Cousen Ann in my letter to my Brother Major. I would not have him alter his affaires because of my debt. My purse is as his, my present thoughtes are but to ledge such a sum for my two little gyrls, it's in his hand as well as any where. I shall not be wantinge to accomodate him to his minde. I would not have him sollicitous. Dick, the Lord blesse you every way, I rest

"Your lovinge Father

"Aprl. 2d. 1650.
"Carricke."

"O. CROMWELL."

OUR NOTE BOOK.

IT has never fallen to our lot to chronicle a calamity of so shocking a character as that which, during the earlier portion of last month, formed the principal topic of every journal and almost every pulpit of the kingdom. Following closely the awful railway catastrophe at Sittingbourne, with its frightful details of suffering and death, the collision near Woolwich of the Rywell Castle and the Princess Alice, and the sinking, in mid channel, of the latter vessel, by which some 700 lives were hurried into the gulf of eternity, might well make men—even the most worldly—pause and ponder on the uncertainty of human life. Without daring to characterise these events, which arise from preventable causes, as Divine "visitations" or "judgments," they are not inappropriately employed as admonitions to such as are too much given up, if not wholly absorbed, in the pleasures and pursuits of a transitory state.

The eighth Triennial Conference of Young Men's Christian Associations has been held at Geneva, representatives and delegates attending from many countries, European, American, Australasian, etc. The business and subjects of discussion were sovarious, relating to aggressive work, collective and individual, as well as to the cultivation of the spiritual life in the hearts of the members, that we cannot give even an outline in our limited space. Agreeable excursions were taken on the lake, and the personal intercourse thus afforded established friendships and left pleasant memories not easily effaceable. The conference was the largest of its kind ever held.

Mr. George Muller and Mrs. Muller have returned from America, and have arrived at the Orphanage at Ashley Down. Notwithstanding his advanced age, Mr. Muller has laboured hard in evangelistic work, with visible success, during his transatlantic tour, itinerating over some thousands of miles and visiting most of the principal cities of the United States.

A conference of Scottish Young Men's Christian Associations was held on September 3, 4, and 5, at Aberdeen. Important and interesting papers were read, and discussions followed on the work of Young Men's Christian Associations, etc. Evangelistic meetings and united prayer meetings were held, together with meetings of a purely business character, for the presentation of reports, election of executive committees, etc.

Elbow Church, with which the name of John Bunyan is associated, is to be restored. The "immortal dreamer" was wont to attend this church in his youth, and was distinguished by being appointed to the post of bell-ringer. Apart from these associations, the church is considered worthy of restoration from its architectural beauty.

The following are amongst the most recent statistics of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland:—There are 36 presbyteries, with 626 ministers, who have the charge of 559 congregations; there are 106,110 communicants, and 2,155 elders; there are 1,099 Sabbath schools, with 72,909 children in attendance, and the latter are taught by 8,510 teachers.

Since the opening of the Paris Exhibition in May over 600,000 portions of Holy Scripture have been issued from the kiosk of the Crystal Palace Bible stand. These were in twenty-two languages, European and Asiatic. The authorities have countenanced the movement, and have granted special permission for the employment of colporteurs at the various entrances outside the Exhibition.

The death of Mrs Favell Lee Mortimer is announced. Mrs. Mortimer was the authoress of the deservedly popular work, "The Peep of Day," which has passed through many editions, and is still held in high favour with young people.

The Church Congress will hold its annual sittings this month (October), in Sheffield, commencing on the first Tuesday and terminating on the following Friday night.

Dr. Pakenham Walsh, Dean of Cashel, a well-known preacher and lecturer to young men in the Irish Protestant Episcopal Church, has been elected to the bishopric of the vacant see of Ossory.

The Rev. Archibald G. Brown, of the East London Tabernacle, has spent a month in the prosecution of evangelistic work in the counties of Bedford and Hertford. He has thus practically carried out the plan suggested by himself at the meeting of the Baptist Union in May last, which was that of sending forth several of the most gifted and well-reputed ministers of the body for work of an aggressive character, for the revival of the churches, and the calling of sinners to repentance. For such work Mr. Brown has already proved himself to be eminently fitted.