

snow, and the flowers on the prairies had nestled their heads under their leaves, and were asleep, too; when nothing was heard save the roar of the river and the shriek of the night-bird, "Old man V." lay wide awake, and the past came up like the spirit to Eliphaz, or the ghosts of his victims to Richard on Bosworth field. His dead, yet ever-living wife; his praying brother; his neglected Bible and his sins passed before him, and tremblingly he arose and fell on his knees to pray. God listened, and sent His angels down to minister; and, when the morning light shone on the mountains like the sheen of the sun on the hills of paradise, and the flowers had opened their lips to drink in the coming glory, the news had flashed through heaven, that down in that cabin in that beautiful prairie, and under the shadow of those mountains, the dead had come to life again, and the lost had been found.

Father V.—for like Saul he changed his name with his character—arose and travelled fifty miles down the river to tell to other and congenial spirits what God had done for his soul. He returned to gather his neighbours together; and as the old year was passing into the new, he told them of his passing from the old life of sin to the new life of peace and love.

The New Year's morning found many a troubled heart in that hitherto prayerless settlement; and a revival broke forth, which swept over the community with the force of one of its own fires, until hardly a soul was left prayerless or a family without God. Classes were formed, of both whites and Indians; churches were built; a parsonage erected; a resident minister appointed—and all dating from the morning when Father V. came forth from his cabin a converted man!

How the angel wife in glory must have sung the doxology that morning, and how will the praying brother shout when he too finds out that God heard and answered prayer!

Father V. yet lives; and when he puts his hand, as of old, over his venerable head, and with tremulous voice tells of the great love which lifted him up, that he too might lift others, the angels come down again to listen, and perhaps among them one he once called wife.

SOMETIMES the best way to check a scandalous report is to despise it; if we go about to stop it, it will run the faster.