



GATHERING PERUVIAN BARK.

conciled to God, and some ministers are much more noted for collections than they are for conversions.

Some persons seem to look upon their gifts to good causes as a sort of atonement for their sins, and often when Christians importunately solicit funds of sinners, it is to be feared they lose more in moral power than they gain in financial strength. There were some kinds of money which the Lord anciently would not accept, or allow to be cast into his treasury; but the financial pressure and necessity caused by the denominational rivalries of to-day, make it frequently seem necessary to get all the money that can be obtained by whatever means, and from whatever source. They give, but they are sure in some way to get their money's worth, either in influence, show, praise, self-righteousness, or immunity from appeals and reproofs. "Thy money perish with thee," was the awful rebuke uttered by the Great Apostle when one thought the gift of God could be purchased with money; and a little more independence and truth-telling reproof at the present day, might not bring as much money, but might be far more effective in winning *men*. When men are converted to God financial matters give but little trouble; but money without men accomplishes very little for the good of the world or for the glory of God.—*Selected.*

PERU.

OF all the states or divisions of South America the most interesting perhaps is Peru.

Down the west coast of it are the lofty Andes, capped with perpetual snow, while below are lovely shrubs and flowers, with sweetly singing birds among the branches.

On account of the frequent snow-storms which are encountered in attempting to cross the mountains, houses of refuge are built at intervals, with thick brick walls and loop-holes only for windows; but even with this shelter many travellers have been frozen to death.

The gathering of Peruvian bark, which is used for medicinal purposes, is an important industry of the country, and so is digging and shipping of guano, which, as a rich manure, is in great demand.

It is simply a deep deposit of matter left by sea-birds, never washed away, because Peru has scarcely ever known such a thing as rain. But still it is rich, rich in products, and gold and silver, as the well-known verse testifies:

"I would not change my native land,
For rich Peru with all her gold;
A nobler prize lies in my hand
Than East or Western Indies hold."