

ticipated his wants, as he freely moved amidst the luxurious surroundings of the castle. Familiarity with the most cultivated society gave him the highest polish of manners, and made him familiar with all the etiquette of courts. He was by nature endowed with a fine mind, much amiability of character, and remarkable beauty of person.

Prince Albert thus early became, in personal attractions, in mental culture, in princely bearing, one of the most accomplished gentlemen in Europe. When about eighteen years of age, he visited the royal family in England, to which he was nearly related. In the gorgeous saloons of Windsor Castle and of Buckingham Palace he was an honoured guest. Here he was introduced to a circle of society as brilliant and refined as has ever been known upon earth, and here he won the love of his cousin, the Princess Victoria, the heir to the throne of England.

Their marriage was an event in which not only all Christendom, but every Government on earth, was interested. Ambassadors flocked to London, in honour of the occasion, from all the principal dynasties of Africa and Asia. Westminster's grand cathedral was never before crowded with such an assemblage.

All that earthly ambition could desire was now attained by Prince Albert. He was in the enjoyment of wealth unsurpassed in the visions of romance. He had rank which placed him on an equality with the most illustrious kings. He had power such as few mortals ever possessed, and yet without the pressure of toil and responsibility.

An attractive family of sons and daughters grew up around him. He had no parental anxiety as to provision for their future. As each child was born, the British Parliament voted that child, for the support of the dignity of the royal family, an annual income of about one hundred thousand dollars.

One daughter married the heir apparent of the crown of Prussia. Thus there is opened to her perhaps the highest position which a lady can now occupy upon this globe—that of the Empress of Germany. The eldest son, heir to the throne of Great Britain, married into the royal family of Denmark. Other

brilliant alliances opened before others of the children.

In the midst of all this prosperity, in the meridian of his days, being but forty-two years of age, sudden disease strikes Prince Albert down, and he lies upon a dying bed. The regal couch is draped with an imperial canopy. The splendours of a palatial chamber glitter around the bed. The highest dignitaries of Church and State are present with their sympathy and homage.

But death is the equalizer of prince and peasant. The Queen is but a woman, weeping, broken-hearted, over her dying husband. The royal children are but sons and daughters, sobbing in uncontrollable grief over their dying father. Prince Albert is but a man, gasping, fainting, sinking in death—passing from the shadow of an earthly crown to the tribunal of God, where, like the humblest subject in his realms, he must answer for every thought, word, and deed done in the body. In a moment of cessation from pain, he looked up to the weeping ones around him, and uttered the memorable words:

“I have had wealth, rank, and power. But if this were all I had, how wretched should I now be.

‘Rock of ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in thee.’”

He had, we believe, something more. Faith in an atoning Saviour sustained him. He had a professed faith in Jesus; and all who knew him believed him to be a sincere disciple.

Reader! you will soon be placed upon this dying bed. Have you this faith to sustain you in that dread hour?—*Advance.*

IN SMALL THINGS, says Spurgeon, lie the crucibles and the touchstones. Any hypocrite will come to the Sabbath worship; but it is not every hypocrite that will attend prayer meetings, or read the Bible in secret, or speak privately of the things of God to the saints.

UNIFORM LESSONS.

FOURTH QUARTER—OCTOBER.

- Oct. 5. Parable of the Sower....Matt. xiii. 18—23.
 “ 12. Walking on the Sea.....Matt. xiv. 22—33.
 “ 19. The Cross Foretold,....Matt. xvi. 21—28.
 “ 26. The TransfigurationMatt. xvii. 1—8.