

Holy Spirit are heard and recognized. Will the sinner absolutely refuse? No; he dares not. He can only say, *Not yet*. That is enough. The Spirit is grieved, and is gone. Man's extremity is God's opportunity; but man's convenient season is God's abhorrence.

Another says, "Good Master, I am ready to be a Christian now." The Saviour explains what it is to be a Christian; and the young man sorrowfully adds, "But *not quite*." *Not yet!* and *not quite!* Fatal words! They are Satan's equivocating synonyms for *never* and *not at all*. They look toward heaven, and take hold of hell.

Fellow-Christians, let us, in self-examination, ponder these words. When the Master says, "Take up thy cross and follow me;" "Seek first the kingdom of God;" "Go, preach my Gospel;" "Love thine enemies;" "If thy right hand offend thee, cut it off;" when the Holy Spirit shows us sins to be mortified, and duties to be done; when conscience awakes and talks to us, let us listen, lest, perchance, in the recess of our hearts may be heard the echo of these sinful words, *Not yet—Not quite*.—*Christian Treasury*.

Science and Art.

LATE INTERESTING DISCOVERIES.

AT JERUSALEM.—An account of Signor Pierotti's discoveries in the subterranean topography of Jerusalem, has been published. Employed by the Pacha as an Engineer, he has discovered that the modern city of Jerusalem stands on several layers of ruined masonry, the undermost of which, composed of deeply beveled and enormous stones, he attributes to the age of Solomon, the next to that of Zorobabel, the next to that of Herod, the next to that of Justinian, and so on till the times of the Saracens and Crusaders. He has traced a series of conduit and sewers leading from the "Dome of the rock," a mosque standing on the very site of the altar of sacrifice in the Temple, to the Valley of Jehoshaphat, by means of which the priests were enabled to flush the whole temple area with water, and thus to carry off the blood and offal of the sacrifices to the brook Kedron. The manner of his explorations was very interesting. He got an Arab to walk up through these immense sewers, ringing a bell and blowing a trumpet, while, he himself, by following the sound was able to trace the exact course they took. About two years ago he accidentally discovered a fountain at the pool of Bethesda, and, on his opening it, a copious stream of water immediately began to flow, and has flowed ever since. No one knows from whence it comes or whither it

goes. This caused the greatest excitement among the Jews, who flocked in crowds to drink and bathe themselves in it. They fancied that it was one of the signs of Messiah's coming, and portended the speedy restoration of their commonwealth. This fountain, which has a peculiar taste, like that of milk and water, is identified by Signor Pierotti with the fountain which Hezekiah built, and which is described by Josephus. The measurements and position of most of these remains accord exactly with the Jewish historian's descriptions. Some of the Signor's conclusions are disputed, but no other has succeeded in so disinterring the relics of the Holy City.

AT ROME.—Interesting discoveries have recently been made in Rome.—Signor Fortunati, whose name became celebrated three or four years ago by the discovery of the ancient Basilica of St. Stefano, has been again fortunate in archaeological researches in a vineyard adjoining the ancient Prætorian camp, having brought to light, among other relics of the past, twelve inscriptions of monuments erected to Prætorian soldiers. These epigrams are highly prized, as illustrative of historical and geographical details interesting to the antiquary, and demonstrative of the fact that the Prætorian Guards were levied in distant provinces, such as Pannonia, Mæsia and Thræce, of which the provinces, cities, boroughs and streets are exactly specified.