

THE CHRISTIAN.

young Princesses on days of state—it was sold, and its purchase price was a *barrel of flour*, instead of a country's harvest, which it was well worth. And that barrel of flour was stored away, without other private mark than that the recording angel put upon it, among the thousands that freighted the "Jamestown," on her recent mission of brotherly love to Ireland. That barrel of flour! would that it might be to all the children of want in Ireland what the barrel of meal was to the household of her who entertained the prophet of old. That barrel of flour! would at least that those whom it supplies with bread might know what fingers wrought for their sustenance.

LATRA BRIDGMAN AND HER BARREL OF FLOUR should teach the world a lesson worth the woes of one year's famine. Let all the children of England and America learn that lesson by heart, and Ireland and the whole family of mankind will be the better for this grievous visitation of want.—E. V. of Worcester, Mass.

MUST A SINNER LOVE GOD BEFORE HIS OBEDIENCE WILL BE ACCEPTABLE?

A singular communication of more than *ten* pages has recently been placed in our hands, giving a short history of the state of doubt and uncertainty of mind of the writer. He has for a long time listened to our annunciations of the gospel. Our expositions have been such that his objections have been swept away; but yet there appears to him an insurmountable difficulty between him and the pardoning love of God. Not knowing but that other readers of *The Christian* may have the same difficulties to encounter, we will furnish an extract from the above named communication, and render the writer and all similarly situated all the aid furnished us by the divine word.

Referring to a former illness, the writer says, "I made many promises, should I recover, that I would serve the Lord. If my prayers and tears could have availed I should then have been saved. Had the prayers of the righteous prevailed, these also I had. I had also the prayers of a pious mother, father, and grandmother. *But shall I have the hardihood to say I do not love God?* I do. 'To inform you of this I often called upon you. To say that I am ashamed of this acknowledgment. *I am.* This I was ashamed to acknowledge to you. This I was ashamed to acknowledge to a kin' other, or even to a brother! * * Although I have had the advantages of a religious education, yet even now I am compelled to ask how I may obtain the love of God. * * With a desire to belong to some religious body I joined the church of England, and if the gate of heaven is through prayer, then what more perfect than that form in the church of England prayer book." * *

My dear sir, in another part of your communication you disclose an intimate acquaintance with the general facts and promises of the Gospel. You confess that you believe that the Lord Messiah is God's own son—that he died a sin offering, that he rose again for the justification of the obedient believer; that he will receive, pardon, and grant salvation to all who by him are reconciled to God. But you have correctly