

the famishing soul. Nothing but the water of life can quench its burning thirst. Nothing but the peace of God can still the heart's wild throbbing. Nothing but the blessed balm of Gilead can heal the bleeding wounds of sin-sick souls. Oh sweet story of Jesus ! It is heaven on earth to tell it.

Ministers need also the constraining power of Christ's love. We need the "blood earnestness" which Dr. Mason said was Dr. Chalmers's secret of power. The seraphic Summerfield, just before his death, speaking of his recovery, said : "Oh, if I might be raised again, how I would preach ! I have taken a look into eternity." Think of Allein, of whom it is said, that "he was insatiably greedy for the conversion of souls ;" of Matthew Henry, who said, "I would think it a greater happiness to gain one soul to Christ, than mountains of silver and gold to myself ;" of Doddridge, who said, "I long for the conversion of souls more than for anything besides. I could not only labor for it, but die for it with pleasure ;" of John Knox, who broke the stillness of the night with his thrice-repeated cry, "O Lord, give me Scotland, or I die." God gave him Scotland. No wonder that Queen Mary "feared the prayers of John Knox more than an army of ten thousand men." A passion for souls gives a man irresistible power. The Chinese convert was right when he said, "We want men with hot hearts to tell us of the love of Christ." Oh, friends, all about us are souls in sin and death ; we may hear their death-knell sounding. Men and women there are without God and without hope—men and women soon to stand at the judgment-seat of Christ. O God, help us to cry unto Thee day and night for their rescue ! "Let Thy priests be clothed to-day with salvation !"