

to Jesus. You have had blessed seasons when your heart was melted by His love and softened into patience, and the Spirit stirred you to the glorious impulse to give yourself right up to Jesus. Then was the time to do it. It was the accepted time for you to accept the Saviour. But that arch-tempter Procrastination, persuaded you to say "Go now, and come again to-morrow," when thou hast everything by thee. The faculties were they right by you, the opportunity was there, and the melted heart and the Divine Spirit was by you also, pressing you up towards the great decision. But alas! delay killed everything. God said to you "to-day"; but your foolish, guilty heart replied to Him "to-morrow."

"I often think of the illustration of the beautiful dove which flew into the chimney. A few prompt, strong flaps of the wing would have carried it out into the air and the sunshine. But it fluttered down into the dark sooty flue, and soon, blinded and suffocated by the smoke, it dropped into the flames of the grate beneath. This is a vivid picture of a human soul. If you will make the quick, strong effort of obedience to the call of Christ, you may rise heavenward. The help, the grace, the strength are offered you. But if you do not obey Him quickly, you will find yourself sinking into the darkness and blinding delusions which will end in the flames of remorse. This is the way that millions have sunk into the fires that are never quenched.

Let us set it down then, that all good impulses grow weaker and die by decay. Sin grows stronger at every victory. Under double process the heart hardens towards God. In these wintry days the sun loses its power, and the earth freezes rapidly as it draws towards sunset. Time is not in your favor in the great matter of securing your salvation; it is against you. To-day Christ will save you if you accept Him. But as Dr. Cheever has forcibly said: "*Faith in to-morrow instead of Christ, is the devil's decoy-net to perdition.*"

We are all now standing on the crumbling edge of another year that will soon disappear into the ocean of eternity. It is a good time for "new departures," for Christians to lay hold of duties that lie nearest them, and for backsliders to return to their "first love." In these Christmas days you may have a Saviour born in your own soul, my friend, if you will give your heart to him. Then indeed will you know what it is to have such a "happy New Year" as you never knew before.

Europe.

A Waldensian church has lately been opened in Rome.

The Sunday-school work is making grand progress in Germany, especially in Berlin.

At Spire an unknown benefactor has given 200,000 marks for a Protestant Cathedral there.

The population of Bavaria is about five millions, of whom three-fourths are Roman Catholics.

The utter and total collapse of the Protestant Church of Geneva is one of the saddest of ecclesiastical events.

Bull-fights absorb the Sunday evenings in Nîmes, and pilgrimages enliven various cities and shrines in France.

There are seven places of worship in Rome where the Gospel in Italian is freely preached. An eighth is in course of erection.

The Free Church Presbytery of Italy has acquired a site upon which to erect a church close to the Palazzo Barberini in Rome. A floating Bethel is to be built at Leghorn.

As the result of Waldensian Missions in Italy nearly 500 new members have been added to the Church of Christ during the past year, and these are mainly from the Church of Rome.

The British, American, and Belgian consuls at Milan, Italy, appeal in the London "Times" for funds to build a church there to accommodate English and American students and artisans.

Two of the Methodist missionaries in Norway have been brought before the courts accused by clergyman of the State Church, and fined for receiving members into their church.

The Church of England Temperance Society celebrates its twenty-fifth anniversary this year. All the bishops, several thousands of the clergy, and 432,672 members are now enrolled.

The Czar's coronation decree granting liberty of worship to dissenters affects only 1,000,000 of so-called registered dissenters. There are 14,000,000 still unrelieved of their religious disabilities.

A remark made some time ago since by Mr. Spurgeon, that he considered the Scotch people owed much of their strength of character to the regard paid to the Book of Proverbs, has led a French Christian to print and circulate widely a copy of the Proverbs of Solomon, as an