

more wing, they would be all the better.—Verbiage is to devotion what chaff is to the wheat. Precious things lie in small compass, and all that is real prayer in many a long address might have been uttered in a sentence as short as that which burst from the soul of the sinking apostle.

*Our extremities are the Lord's opportunities.* Immediately a keen sense of danger forces an anxious cry from us, the ear of Jesus hears, and with him ear and heart go together, and the hand does not long linger. At the last moment we appeal to our master, but his swift hand makes up for our delays by instant and effectual action. Are we nearly engulfed by the boisterous waters of affliction? let us rest assured that he will not suffer us to perish. When we can do nothing Jesus can do all things; let us enlist his powerful aid on our side, and all will be well.—*Rev. C. H. Spurgeon.*

#### THE SABBATH-SCHOOL MOVEMENT IN GERMANY.

We have several times noticed this, which to human view, has become almost the last hope for the future of Germany. Some idea of the embarrassments of the enterprise, on the one hand, and its hopefulness on the other, may be gained from the following account of the inception of an effort in the city of Halle, the place of the teachings of Tholuck. We take it from the correspondence of the *Christian World*: "It was not found difficult to convene upon short notice a large meeting at Halle. Mr. B. here made a powerful appeal. He warned them to consider the Sabbath-school as Heaven's last expedient to awaken them from the grave of guilty indifference and unbelief. The German prejudice against the co-operation of women as religious teachers was met by quoting the cases of the woman of Samaria; the commission given by the angel at the tomb of Jesus to be the first preachers of the resurrection; Priscilla, who is mentioned as a teacher to the eloquent Apollos, and Phebe, who went from Cenchrea as a message-bearer to the brethren at Rome. Some seed here fell into good ground, and brought forth an hundred-fold. At the close of the meeting, two of the principal and most gifted ladies of Halle approached us, saying: 'Sirs, we have seen the Sunday-schools of England, and we know they are wanted in Germany. If we could have the pleasure of your company at our house to tea to-morrow evening, we will inquire further whether it be possible to commence them here.' Be assured the invitation was not declined, but at the supper table a hint was given that one of the ladies would not be permitted to go into the work. She informed the other that her prayers for its success could not be pre-

vented, and promised that if she would undertake the labor of the organization, she would pray for it. This offer was cheerfully accepted. The effort was made, and it was successful. Two hundred girls were soon under Sabbath-school instruction in Halle, and a career of usefulness commenced by several young ladies in Halle, whose graces to this day continue to brighten in the best and most appropriate of all charities."

A theological student in the University, an American, entered into the enterprise, and soon added two hundred boys to the same school.

#### BOOKS.

A clergyman wishing to address every portion of his flock in a manner to impress them most deeply, gave notice that he would preach separate sermons to the old, to young men, to young women, and to sinners. At his first sermon the house was full, but not one aged person was there. At the second, to young men, every lady in the parish was present, but few for whom it was intended. At the third, a few young ladies attended, but the aisles were crowded with young men. And at the fourth, to sinners, scarcely any one was there, except the sexton and organist. So everybody goes to church to hear his neighbour scolded, but no one cares to be spoken to plainly, and faithfully addressed: but give a man a good book, and if he read it at all he must feel that it speaks to him, and it may produce lasting and saving impressions. The press is not the rival of the pulpit, nor a substitute for it, but it is an efficient, though silent, helper; and every pastor, and every Christian, should feel a deep interest in the circulation of religious books and tracts. These will preach where the living voice is never heard, and they say to every reader—Thou art the man!

#### HASTE IN MARRYING.

The late John Angell James thus frankly expressed the result of his observations as to a great evil. We could wish it was confined to England:—

It has long been my opinion that the comparative failure of many of our ministers in their public career is owing to unsuitable marriages. They are in haste to be married, and frequently make most unwise selections. Unhappily some of them had formed juvenile engagements before they entered upon their studies, which they could not very honorably dissolve, though very much below them, while others have most incautiously allowed themselves to be entangled while at college. It is but rarely that a student makes a wise choice.—The result is, a frivolous, weak, moneyless.