

er. During 1884 a severe drought prevailed on the Island, and not a few thought he had done something to cause it. The man has no fingers on his hand and no toes on his feet. How he lost them we cannot tell you. He came to see the missionary, and look around the mission house. After a time he sat down on the verandah and repeated from memory John 5th and 24th Verily, Verily, I say unto you He that heareth my word and believeth on him that sent me hath everlasting life and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life. You marked that passage for me said he two years ago. The Holy Spirit had applied it to his heart and now he wished to learn more from God's Word. The missionary asked him about the big sin they said he had been making. That is their word said he but my word is this holding up his fingerless hand This is my one right arm uplifted to declare that I have only one heart for the one true God. After talking with him over an hour, and explaining to him the Scriptures he went away very happy, promising to come again. Rejoicing in the Saviour he enjoyed true pleasure.

Men are dying fast, Souls are perishing. Let us work with zeal and energy. We have commenced a New Year. Work with more earnestness this year for Jesus.

D.

### THE PRINTER BOY.

About the year 1725 an American boy some nineteen years old found himself in London, where he was under the necessity of earning his bread. He was not like many young men in these days, who wander around seeking work, and who are "willing to do anything," because they know how to do nothing. But he had learned how to do something, and knew just where to go to find something to do; so he went straight to a printing office and inquired if he could get employment.

Where are you from? inquired the foreman.

'America,' was the answer.

'Ah,' said the foreman, 'from America! A lad seeking employment as a printer! Well, do you really understand the art of printing? Can you set type?'

The young man stepped to one of the cases, and in a brief space set up the following from the New Testament of

John: 'Nathaniel said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see.'

It was done so quickly, so accurately, and administered a delicate reproof so appropriate and powerful, that it at once gave him influence and standing with all in the office. He worked diligently at his trade, refused to drink beer and strong drink, saved his money, returned to America, became a printer, publisher, author, postmaster-general, member of Congress, signer of the Declaration of Independence, ambassador to royal courts, and finally died in Philadelphia, April 17, 1790, at the age of 84, full of years and honors; and there are now more than a hundred and fifty counties, towns, and villages in America, named after that same printer boy, Benjamin Franklin.

### NEAREST WAY TO HEAVEN.

When Mr. Whitefield was preaching in England, a lady became the subject of divine grace, and her spirit was particularly drawn out in prayer for others. She could persuade no one to pray with her but her little daughter, about ten years of age. After a time it pleased God to touch the heart of the child and give her the hope of salvation. In a transport of joy she then exclaimed: "O mother, if all the world knew this! I wish I could tell everybody. Pray, mother, let me run to some of the neighbors and tell them, that they may be happy and love my Saviour." "Ah! my child," said the mother, "that would be useless, for I suppose that, were you to tell your experience, there is not one in many miles who would not laugh at you and say it was all a delusion." "O mother," replied the little girl, "I think they would believe me. I must go over to the shoemaker and tell him; he will believe me." She ran over, and found him at work in his shop. She began telling him he must die, that he was a sinner, but that her blessed Saviour had heard her mother's prayers and had forgiven all her sins, and that now she was so happy she did not know how to tell it. The shoemaker was struck with surprise, and his tears flowed down like rain. He threw aside his work, and by prayer and supplication sought mercy and life. The neighborhood was awakened, and, within a few months, more than fifty persons were brought to the knowledge of Jesus, and rejoiced in His power and grace.