

give, a fretful man patient, a grumbling man willing to be lowly. The baptism of the Holy Ghost can do it all !

A farmer in January plants a garden with peas, potatoes, onions and vegetables. In a month he goes out with a little rake, bought in some toy store, with a nice handle to it, and with a water pot ; and he goes to rake it very diligently. "What are you doing, farmer?" "I have some seed planted down here, and I am trying to EDUCATE them to sprout, grow and bloom." He scratches away, but the more he scratches the more they die. "Farmer, lay aside that rake, get the sun to come up from the tropic zone and pour down tons of red-hot sunlight, and a baptism of sunshine will make things sprout." The sun sends his baptism of fire, and the sunbeams go down into that soil deeper than that rake can go, and if there is any latent seed, the sunbeams will find them and make them grow.

Well, do you know that through our land—if you will open your eyes you can see it, how many gardeners there are in God's vineyard going hither and thither with a little rake, trying to educate you to pray in public, trying to rake, with a little pointed rake the garden of God, and make it sprout and bloom with Divine verdure? Oh, would God that this folly might all be laid aside, and that the Sun of Righteousness might arise with healing in His wings! The baptism of fire falling on the pulpit would waken every dead church in Christendom. The baptism of fire falling on the official brethren would waken up every dead church member in the Christian Church. The baptism of fire falling on the members would consume the dross of sin and set the whole church sprouting, and growing, blooming, and bearing fruit for God and heaven. The baptism of fire is a Divine remedy, and what is not a Divine remedy is a failure.—*Standard*.

"A. CHRISTIAN TO-DAY."

About fifteen months ago I met one of my workmen in the country, a few miles from home. He was a man of about fifty years of age, generally kind and indulgent to his family in the use of the unusually large wages that he earned by his trade, but often profane in his language, and subject to fits of violent passion. In one of these he had, a few weeks before, driven his family from the house, and beaten his youngest son, till his Christian wife, in fear for the boy's life, had to interpose. and resolutely say that he must strike her before he should again assault the boy. He was a peculiarly interesting, open-hearted man, but had so long withstood the claims of Christ in the midst of a religious community, that there seemed little hope of his conversion.