

## Gleanings.

### PRAYING IN SPIRIT.

BY HARRIET McEWEN KIMBALL.

I need not leave the jostling world, '  
Or wait till daily tasks are o'er,  
To fold my palms in secret prayer,  
Within the close-shut closet door.

There is a viewless, cloistered room,  
As high as Heaven, as fair as day,  
Where, though my feet may join the throng,  
My soul may enter in and pray.

When I have banished wayward thought,  
Of sinful works the fruitful seed ;  
When folly wins my ear no more,  
The closet door is shut, indeed.

No human step approaching breaks  
The blissful silence of the place ;  
No shadow steals across the light  
That falls from my Redeemer's face !

And never through those crystal walls  
The clash of life can pierce its way ;  
Nor ever can a human ear  
Drink in the spirit-words I say.

One hearkening, even, cannot know  
When I have crossed the threshold o'er,  
For He alone who hears my prayer,  
Has heard the shutting of the door !

IT KEEPS IT IN MY MIND.—It would be hard for most people to give a better reason than this for attending on the social means of grace. A clergyman writing for the *American Messenger* says :

Several little girls were in my study, seeking counsel to aid them in becoming christians. One of them, a dear child not much more than eleven years old, said :

"I haven't been to two or three of these meetings lately."

Desiring to test her I answered,

"It don't make make us christians to attend meetings, Lizzie."

"I know that," she replied at once, "*but it keeps it in mind.*"

AGED MINISTERS.—On this subject, the *Watchman* remarks :—It seems little less than ridiculous that the ministry in respect to age should be made an exception to all the other professions and to all the spheres of political and business life. The lawyer, the jurist, the physician, the merchant, the statesman is deemed to be, when sixty years old, in the full meridian of his strength, and so the temporal rewards of his calling are never more promising, usually, than at that age. But the christian minister, never half rewarded on earth for his self-sacrificing labors for the highest good of men, is placed among worn-out antiquarians when he reaches what in other vocations is the fulness of intellectual and moral vigor. The children of this world are in their generation verily wiser than the children of light.