

that may rival even the vast wealth of this great nation? Were we only more as one in our desires for the Christianizing of the world, and more frequently mindful of what we are bound to do as a Church for the glory of Messiah, our inroads on heathenism, both at home and abroad, would be more notable than they are.

Even the single, solitary prayer that arises at home for the devoted servants of the Lord in foreign lands, has its effects on the supplicant, and on those for whom it is lifted. It is "twice blest." It is a portion of the daily incense of prayer that ascends to God, as duly as the vapour-dust rises from off the vale and the hill; and duly as it arises, must it descend in showers of blessings on the servants of God, in obedience to the wise and beautiful laws of His providence and grace.

—H. & F. M. Record.

Calvin's Liturgy.

From Princeton Review.—Article, Presbyterian Liturgies.

As Calvin's liturgy is the basis of those adopted in other Reformed Churches, we think our readers will be glad to see so much of it as is given in the work before us.

"THE FORM OF CHURCH PRAYERS.

"On week-days the minister uses such words in prayer as may seem to him good, suiting his prayer to the occasion, and the matter whereof he treats in preaching.

"For the Lord's Day in the morning is commonly used the Form ensuing. After the reading of the appointed chapters of Holy Scripture, the Ten Commandments are read. Then the minister begins thus:

"**INVOCATION.**—Our help is in the name of God, who made heaven and earth. Amen.

"**EXHORTATION.**—Brethren, let each of you present himself before the Lord, with confession of his sins and offences, following in heart my words.

"**CONFESSION.**—Lord God! Almighty and Eternal Father: We acknowledge and confess before thy holy majesty, that we are miserable sinners; conceived and born in guilt and in corruption, prone to do evil, and unfit for any good; who, by reason of our depravity, transgress without end thy holy commandments. Wherefore we have drawn upon ourselves, by thy just sentence, condemnation and death. But, O Lord! with heartfelt sorrow we repent and deplore our offences; we condemn ourselves and our evil ways, with true penitence beseeching that thy grace may relieve our distress.

"Be pleased then to have compassion upon us, O most gracious God! Father of all mercies; for the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. And in removing our guilt and our pollution, grant us the increase of the grace of thine Holy Spirit; that acknowledging from our inmost hearts our own unrighteousness, we may be touched with sorrow that shall work true repentance; and that thy Spirit, mortifying all sin within us, may produce the fruits of holiness and of righteousness well-pleasing in thy sight: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

God the grace of his Holy Spirit, to the end that his word may be faithfully expounded, to the honour of his name, and to the edification of the church; and that it be received in such humility and obedience as are becoming. The form thereof is at the discretion of the minister. Prayer which the ministers are accustomed to make.

"**FOR ILLUMINATION.**—Most gracious God, our heavenly Father! in whom alone dwelleth all fulness of light and wisdom: Illuminate our minds, we beseech thee, by thine Holy Spirit, in the true understanding of thy word. Give us grace that we may receive it with reverence and humility unfeigned. May it lead us to put our whole trust in thee alone; and so to serve and honour thee, that we may glorify thy holy name, and edify our neighbours by a good example. And since it hath pleased thee to number us among thy people: O help us to pay thee the love and homage that we owe, as children to our Father, and as servants to our Lord. We ask this for the sake of our Master and Saviour, who hath taught us to pray, saying: Our Father, &c.

"At the end of the sermon, the minister having made exhortation to prayer, beginneth thus:

"**INTERCESSION.**—Almighty God, our heavenly Father! who hast promised to grant our requests in the name of thy well-beloved Son: Thou hast taught us in his name also to assemble ourselves together, assured that he shall be present in the midst of us, to intercede for us with thee, and obtain for us all things that we may agree on earth to ask thee. Wherefore, having met in thy presence, dependent on this promise, we earnestly beseech thee, O gracious God and Father! for his sake who is our only Saviour and Mediator, that of thy boundless mercy thou wilt freely pardon our offences; and so lift up our thoughts and our desires toward thyself, that we may seek thee in a manner acceptable to thy holy and reasonable will.

"**FOR RULERS.**—Heavenly Father! who hast bidden us pray for those in authority over us: We entreat thee to bless all princes and governors, thy servants, to whom thou hast committed the administration of justice; and especially * * * May it please thee to grant them the daily increase of thy good Spirit, that with true faith acknowledging Jesus Christ thy Son, thy Saviour, to be King of kings and Lord of lords, unto whom thou hast given all power in heaven and on earth—they may seek to serve thee and exalt thy rule in their dominions. May they govern their subjects, who are the creatures of thy hand and the sheep of thy pasture, in a manner well-pleasing in thy sight; so that as well here as throughout all the earth, thy people, being kept in peace and quiet, may serve thee in all godliness and honesty; and that we, being delivered from the fear of our enemies, may pass the time of our lives in thy praise.

"**FOR PASTORS.**—Almighty Saviour! we pray for all whom thou hast appointed pastors of thy believing people, and intrusted with the care of souls and the dispensing of thy holy Gospel. Guide them by thy Spirit, and make them faithful and loyal

ministers of thy glory. May they ever hold this end before them: that by their efforts, all poor wandering sheep may be gathered in and made subject to the Lord Jesus Christ, the Shepherd and Bishop of their souls, and in him daily grow up and increase in all godliness and truth. And, O Lord! deliver thy churches from the mouth of ravenous wolves and hirelings, who seek only their own ambition or profit, and not the exaltation of thy holy name, and the safety of thy flock.

"**FOR ALL CONDITIONS OF MEN.**—Most Gracious God, Father of all mercies: We beseech thee for every class and condition of our fellow-men. Thou who wouldst be acknowledged as the Saviour of all mankind, in the redemption made by thy Son Jesus Christ: Grant that such as are yet strangers to thy knowledge, and in the darkness of captivity to ignorance and error, may, by the enlightening of thy Spirit and the preaching of thy word, be led into the right way of salvation; which is to know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent. May those whom thou hast already visited with thy grace, and enlightened with the knowledge of thy word, grow daily in all godliness, and be enriched with thy spiritual gifts. So that we all, with one heart and one voice, may ever praise thee, giving honour and worship to thy Christ, our Lord, Lawgiver and King.

"**FOR AFFLICTED PERSONS.**—God of all comfort! We commend to thee those whom thou art pleased to visit and chasten with any cross or tribulation; the nations whom thou dost afflict with pestilence, war, or famine; all persons oppressed with poverty, imprisonment, sickness, banishment, or any other distress of body or sorrow of mind: That it may please thee to show them thy fatherly kindness, chastening them for their profit; to the end that in their hearts they may turn unto thee, and being converted, may receive perfect consolation, and deliverance from all their woes.

"**FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS.**—More especially we commend to thee our poor brethren scattered abroad under the tyranny of Antichrist, who are destitute of the pasture of life, and deprived of the privilege of publicly calling on thy holy name. We pray for those who are confined as prisoners, or otherwise persecuted by the enemies of thy gospel. May it please thee, O Father of mercies! to strengthen them by the virtue of thy Spirit, in such sort that they faint not, neither fall away, but constantly abide in thy holy calling. Succour them, help them as thou knowest they may need; console them in their afflictions; maintain them in thy safe keeping; defend them against the rage of devouring wolves; and augment within them all the graces of thy Spirit, that whether in life or death, they may glorify thy name.

"**FOR THE CONGREGATION.**—Finally, O God our Father! Grant also unto us, who are here gathered in the name of thy Holy Child Jesus, to hear his word [and to cele-

This does, shall be sung in the congregation a Psalm; and the minister shall begin afresh to pray, asking of