



Vol II.

JANUARY 16, 1886.

No. 9.

### Frances Ridley Havergal.

THE name of Frances Ridley Havergal has become to thousands of Christians, in all parts of the world, a household word. She has spoken to us in her writings so personally as to be a real friend of all. The Memorials of her life have brought us yet nearer to her, and explained the power of her words by showing her lowly walk with God.

Born December 14, 1836, she was the youngest daughter of Rev. W. H. Havergal, then Rector of Astley, Worcestershire, afterwards of St. Nicholas, Worcester.

She was a singularly bright, clever child, early giving promise of the gifts so fully developed in later years. The little book in which she wrote her childish hymns and rhymes begins with verses written at the age of



seven; from nine years old upwards she wrote long and amusingly descriptive letters in perfect rhyme and rhythm. She seems to have had deep religious impressions during childhood, both at home and at school, but could not fix any actual time as the date of conversion. From 1851, she knew what it was consciously to trust in Jesus, and to find the sweetness of the Word of God.

All her life henceforth was filled with blessed work for the Master, in Sunday-school, Bible-classes, cottage visiting, Y. W. C. A. meetings and many other things. More than once she was laid aside for a time through severe illness, and "under His shadow" learning more and more

of the love of Him who laid her low; and made to feel the pressure of His hand, she was further trained in that wonderful sympathy with, and tenderness for