

by her remarks gave him a faint idea of the family skeleton, hitherto carefully concealed from him. He dared not speak again of his desire to go to sea, but sat silent and absorbed during the railway journey and subsequent ride home.

(To be continued.)

THOUGHTS FOR HOLY DAYS.

GATHERED BY

THE REV. W. H. DRAPER, M.A.,
Vicar of The Abbey Church, Shrewsbury.

Circumcision of Our Lord (Jan. 1st).

THE year anew we now begin,
And outward gifts received have we;
Renew us also, Lord, within,
And make us New Year's gifts for Thee.
Yea, let us, with the passed year,
Our old affections cast away;
That we new creatures may appear,
And to redeem the time essay.

GEORGE WITHER (1588).

Epiphany of Our Lord (Jan. 6th).

What's this, my God, the Magi say,
That they have seen Thy Star to-day?
Have all men, then, their proper stars,
On which, in secret characters,
Discern'd alone by skillful eyes,
Are writ all humane destinies?
Was it Thy Spirit, and not their skill,
That did this Heavenly light instill?
Thy Spirit was present, Lord, we know,
But doubt whether Art concurred or no:
However, if such Arts there be
That lead their followers unto Thee,
And of Thy birth and Kingdom show,
Happy are they that use them so:
And happy Arts, if such there be,
That lead their followers unto Thee.

NATHANIEL EATON (1661).

Conversion of St. Paul (Jan. 25th).

LISTEN that voice I upon the hill of Mars,
Rolling in bolder thunders than e'er pealed
From lips that shook the Macedonian throne;
Behold his dauntless, out-stretched arm, his face
Illumed of Heaven:—he knoweth not the fear
Of man, of principalities, or powers.
The Stoic's moveless frown; the vacant stare
Of Epicurus' herd; the scowl malign
Of Superstition, stopping both her ears,
—The whole fierce swam dismays him not; he seems
As if no worldly object could inspire
A terror in his soul; as if the Vision,
Which, when he journeyed to Damascus, shone
From Heaven, still swam before his eyes,
Out-dazzling all things earthly.

JAMES GRAHANE (1765).

AN AUTHOR'S DYING HOUR.—"I have no thought," said Mrs. Oliphant to a friend of many years, who saw her during the last few days of her illness, "not even of my boys—only of my Saviour waiting to receive me—and the Father."

SUNDAY QUESTIONS.

BY THE REV. W. SUNDERLAND LEWIS, M.A.,
QUESTIONS ON THE BIBLE.

1. In which of the Psalms do we find mention of Judah and not of Ephraim?
2. In which, of Ephraim or Joseph and not Judah?
3. In which, of both Judah and Ephraim?
4. In which, of Jacob or Israel?
5. In which, of both Jacob and Israel?
6. In which, of all the tribes, in a sense?

QUESTIONS ON THE PRAYER-BOOK.

1. What kind of likeness to Christ should we always aim at, as baptized persons, and what kind of likeness to Christ may we finally hope for in that case, according to the Collect for Easter Eve?
2. How far are we taught the same truth in the "Epistle" for Easter Day, and in the Services for the Baptism of Infants and Adults?
3. How only can we either desire or do as recommended in the Collect for Easter Eve, according to the Collect for Easter Day and Phil. ii.?
4. Through Whom only is it, according to both the Collects in question, that we can attain the great blessing spoken of in the first of the two?

BURIED TRUTH.

The same thing which, in a Scripture describing the close of a long-continued oppression, is spoken of as being employed by a woman, is described in another Scripture describing heavy judgment to come, as being used by a man. Elsewhere, the same thing is described as made use of at the same moment by two VERY DIFFERENT men in a visibly similar manner. In all these cases the word used is in the singular number. When spoken of in the plural in Holy Scripture, it will be found always to be in some sort of connection with the House or Worship of God.

OUR PUZZLE CORNER.

I.—CONUNDRUMS.

1. Why is a dentist like a glazier?
2. When do sixteen ounces weigh more than a pound?
3. When are soldiers like a useful little plant?

II.—DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

My first supports yon stately tower,
My second lies within the housewife's power,
Three of my third mark every hour.
The Initials downwards make a useful case,
My Finals downwards worn by many a race.

III.—ENIGMA.

I'm only one, and yet I'm double you;
I'm first in woe, yet never seen in trouble cue!

* We repeat our offer of Twelve Volumes, each published at Half-a-Guinea, for the twelve competitors who send the best answers to the Questions inserted in January to June inclusive, and Twelve Volumes, published at Five Shillings, for the twelve competitors who send the best answers to the Puzzles. Competitors must be under sixteen years of age, and all replies must be sent in on or before the first day of the month following publication. The answers must be attested by a Clergyman or Sunday School Teacher. Competitors will please address their replies thus:—"Sunday Questions," or "Puzzles," Mr. FREDK. SHERLOCK, "CHURCH MONTHLY" OFFICE, 30 & 31, NEW BRIDGE STREET, LONDON, E.C.
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