

**Though your sins
be as scarlet, they
shall be as white as
snow; though they
be red like crimson,
they shall be as
wool.**

Isa. i. 18.

WHEN we read the Bible we must always remember that, like the holy water seen by Ezekiel, (chap. xlvii) it is in some places up "to the ankles," in others, up "to the knees," in others, up "to the loins," and in some, "a river" too deep to be fathomed, and that "cannot be passed over." There is in the Bible, light enough to guide the humble believer to heaven, and obscurity enough to confound the unbeliever. (Cecil.)

A DISCUSSION arose between some members of a Bible class, in reference to the *first* christian exercise of the converted soul. One contended that it was penitence and *sorrow*; another that it was *fear*, another *love*, another *hope*, another *faith*; for how could one fear and repent without belief? Elder G—, overhearing the discussion, relieved the minds of the disputants with this remark:—"Can you tell me which spoke of the wheel moves first? You may be looking at one spoke, and think that it moves first, but they all start together. Thus when the Spirit of God operates upon the human heart, all the graces begin to affect the penitent soul, though the individual may be more conscious of one than another."

THERE is gold in the rocks which fringe the Pass of the Splugen, gold even in the rocks which mend the roads, but there is too little of it to be worth extracting. Alas, how like too many books and sermons! Not so the Scriptures. They are much fine gold: their very dust is precious (Spurgeon.)

SAILING ORDERS.

To CAPTAIN CARELESS, of the *Ship* PROFESSOR, now lying at anchor in the Bay of MORALITY.

FROM your repeated neglect of orders, Jer. vii. 13: Isa. lxxv. 12, we beg once more to caution you of the imminent danger to which you are exposed, Jonah i. 6, by continuing to lie in the Bay of Morality, Rom. iii. 20. You are, therefore, directed by the Admiral in Command, to weigh anchor, 2 Cor. v. 20, and sail for the Point of Conviction, John xvi. 8, which lies in the latitude of Acts v. 31. And in attending to these instructions, we take leave to apprise you that the ebb tide runs strong off this Point, James i. 14, 15, into the Bay of Calms, Acts xxiv. 25; xxvi. 28, where many a vessel has been lost, Prov. i. 24—31. You will, therefore, be careful to take advantage of the flood-tide, Isa. lv. 1, 6, 7, get into the harbor and open the dispatch contained in Matt. xviii. 3; and until you become perfectly acquainted with your instructions there, you are not to proceed any farther.

SELF-EXAMINATION.

FIRST examine *how* you examine yourself. When a tradesman is about to weigh his goods, he must first of all *adjust the scales*.

ONE of the most disastrous experiments which a Christian can try, is to see how far from God and how near the world he can live, and still escape perdition. And yet there are many persons who are doing this very thing.

PERTINENCE and ignorance, may ask a question in three lines, which it may cost thirty pages to answer."

COMPARE Scripture with Scripture. False doctrines, like false teachers, agree not among themselves.