

Friendly and Earnest Words,
or Gathered Pearls.



ASUALITIES are taking place constantly. We know not what will happen when riding with a friend for pleasure, or crossing the river in ferry-boat on business. Life is held by a brittle thread, and all its belongings are precarious. The Chicago *Tribune* counts up 125,000 human lives lost by earthquakes, tornadoes, shipwrecks, fires, mine disasters, and other accidents in 1883.

Reader, are you saved? Are your feet planted firmly upon the Rock of Salvation—Christ? If they are, “then shalt thou walk in thy way safely, and thy feet shall not stumble” (Prov. iii. 23), “for the Lord shall preserve thee from all evil; He shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in for evermore” (Psalm cxxi. 8).

But oh! if you are not saved, what tremendous responsibilities you have taken upon yourselves. Not saved! when your life is so uncertain and hangs upon a thread, which if snapped means eternal ruin for you. The day of grace ends with life.

Shall death come and find you unsaved?

“God commendeth His love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us” (Rom. v. 8). “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friend” (John xv. 13). The Saviour invites you to come to Him for salvation; the Holy Spirit strives with you; the Gospel is sent to you. “Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon” (Isaiah lv. 7).

“Now is the accepted time; now is the day of salvation” (2. Cor. vi. 2). “Him that cometh to Me, I will in no wise cast out” (John vi. 37).

Come just as you are. Do not dream of preparation. There are no barriers round the cross of Christ except such as you raise by your own doubts. No burdened heart is hid from His all-pitying glance, no cares cast upon Him are denied His prompt sympathies.

Salvation is of grace—that is to say, God is wanting to give you it *all for nothing*, without a feeling in payment, without a prayer as the condition of it.

☞ *Thou wouldst be saved! Why not now?* Heed the invitations of divine love. “My son, give Me thine heart.” “Come, let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool” (Isaiah i. 18).

Will you be Christ's? Now, Satan whispers in your ear—“To-morrow.” Oh! man, heed him not; Oh! woman, beware. Oh! child, the Holy Ghost saith—“TO-DAY.” “To-day, if ye will hear my voice, harden not your hearts.”

Fifteen glasses of whiskey in fifteen minutes. A German made a wager to perform that feat in Cleveland recently. The exhibition took place on the Sabbath and quite as appropriately in a saloon. It was a success. It was impossible for it to be anything else. The German drank his whiskey, won his wager, and then died “as a fool dieth.”

The Study Table, New Books and
Exchanges.

In this department we give short reviews of such New Books as publishers see fit to send us. In these reviews we seek to treat author and publisher satisfactorily and justly, and also to furnish our readers with such information as shall enable them to form an opinion of the desirability of a particular volume for personal use. It is our wish to notice the better class of books issuing from the press, and we invite publishers to favor us with their recent publications.

Bible Pictures for little people, illustrating New Test. scenes, by uncle Harry. Published by Sunday-School Union, London, price 1/6. Is well calculated to help mother, in satisfying the little ones, whose curiosity and interest will be awakened by the illustrations to know all about it. The letterpress is of the best, and the book does truly illustrate New Testament scenes. We hope it will be introduced, and find a ready sale.

Scripture Puzzle-Poems. From Alexander & Shepherd, London, E. C., England. We are glad to notice that the author has reached a second edition enlarged. Because, in a very enticing and attractive manner, he draws out scriptural knowledge, and often reveals ones ignorance of very simple Bible facts. A *Sermon to young men*, By a fellow-Student, Archibald S. Brown. It is full of racy and spiritual thought, the essence of gospel simplicity and sweetness.

The Musical Herald, Franklin Square Boston. This Magazine for the musical is gotten up in splendid style.

Acadian Scientist, Editor, A. J. Pineo, Wolfville, N. S. We welcome, and enjoy the notes, scientific though they be.

The Presbyterian Witness, Halifax, N. S. It is to us a new exchange, but not a new friend, it has often spoken very kindly of BUDS and BLOSSOMS. It is true and honestly christian and presbyterian. The Editor puts Christ first, and is loyal as every man should be to his own convictions.

The Watch Tower, New York. Without decreasing the mental, spiritual or material worth of their paper, the publishers have reduced the price of this first class weekly to \$1.00.

The Christian Visitor, Edited by Rev. E. Hopper, D. D. and Rev. E. M. Saunders, D. D. Is as full of vigorous life and, determined energy as ever. Struggling with the manifold difficulties of a denominational organ to give Baptist news and Baptist views. See Advt. elsewhere.

Canadian Baptist, Toronto. Makes a special offer in BUDS and BLOSSOMS. Which shows they not only desire to increase their circulation, but have faith in the value and attractiveness of their paper.

A trip Round the World, by Coop-Exley. Published by H. C. Hall & Co., Cincinnati, U. S., \$1.50.

The book is in the form of a series of letters, written and mailed from various points of interest during a trip around the world, by the above named travellers, who as they journeyed, preached Christ, and considerably noted many things and facts, both interesting and curious, which makes the book useful and spicy reading. It is illustrated with twelve Albertype plates, which must have added very materially to the cost of publishing and curtails the amount of reading.

☞ Very cheering notices are given by the press, and our exchanges. We realize this is no small assistance in developing the circulation of “BUDS AND BLOSSOMS”; we would ask the kindly disposed still to