

Miscellany.

SELECTIONS.

THE GOLDEN PROMISE.

A MILESTONE FOR 1875.

BY ANNA SHIPTON.

"Lo ! I am always with you, even unto the end of the world."—MATT. XXVIII. 20.

Halt ! another milestone
Marks the road we travel ;
Dark the desert pathway
Still before us lies ;
He who bade us follow
Strength and light bestoweth,
For that homeward journey,
Hidden from our eyes.
" *I will never leave thee,*"
Echoes o'er the mountain ;
" *I will ne'er forsake thee,*"
Trust the word He saith,
" For this God is our God for ever and ever :
He shall be our Guide, even unto death."

Stricken and bewildered
In my cruel bondage,
ONE I never heeded
Was watching by my side ;
'Twas the Man of Sorrows
Listening to my anguish,
And the Hand that freed me,
Christ's the Crucified !
All on earth hath failed me,
He will fail me never ;
Trust Him fully, trust Him,
And the word He saith,
" For this God is our God for ever and ever :
He shall be our Guide, even unto death."

Facing, faint and fearful,
Through the mighty waters ;
He who ruled the nations
Dried each falling tear :
" I am with thee always,"
Woke my heart to gladness.
Christ Himself is with me,
Then wherefore doubt or fear ?
" I am with thee always"—
I believe the promise ;
I will trust my Father,
And every word He saith,
" For this God is our God for ever and ever :
He shall be our Guide, even unto death."

Past the pathless river
Deserts lay before me ;
Cloud and fiery pillar
Led me on alone,
Fountains fresh and manna
Tell Who goes before me ;
Thine wait my weariness
When my journey's done.
Christ Himself is smiling
On each faint endeavour.
Forward through the desert !
On from faith to faith !
" For this God is our God for ever and ever
He shall be our Guide, even unto death."

Thorns and briars may wound me ;
He is near to heal me—
Near to fight my battle—
Near to quench my foe—
Near to cleanse my garments
If I careless wander—
Near to sweeten Marah
All the way I go !
Trust Him, only trust Him !
Who the bond can sever ?
Feebly may I follow,
But follow still in faith.