



### GEMS RE-SET.

**S**TRAITHT talk against sin is like rubbing salt on a green wound.

**T**HE fear of man will make us *hide* sin, but the fear of the Lord will make us *hate* it.

**N**EVER despise humble services; when large ships run aground, little boats may pull them off.

**W**ORDS break no bones; but God alone knows how many hearts they have broken.—*Anon.*

**I**F once infidelity can persuade men that they shall die like beasts, they will soon be brought to live like beasts.—*Dr. Smith.*

**T**AKE God into thy counsel; heaven overlooketh hell. God can at any moment see what plots are hatching there against thee"—*Gurnell.*

**A** SINNER tries to improve himself by lopping off this or that branch of his sin. Ah, little does he know that by so doing he is nourishing the evil root within him.

**I**T is a great matter to attain to that personal and habitual communion with Christ our Lord in prayer, that we can, as it were, see Him face to face, and be guided by His eye.

**A** SOLDIER on the battle field said, "It is a glorious thing to die looking up." But it is also a glorious thing to *live* looking up. Friend, remember 1 Cor. 2: 9. We are labourers together *with* God.

**I**F your Christianity has got to be bolstered up all the time by external evidence, and you have no internal evidence in your heart, then your Christianity is not worth bolstering up. Let it go down with a crash and begin again.

**F**ASHIONABLE and luxurious churches are pretty things to look at; but, estimated by their efficiency in the deadly combat with ignorance, vice, and crime, their usefulness may not rank so high as their social pretensions.—*Zion's Herald.*

**F**AITH ha two offices—first, it takes Christ, *once for all*, and we are justified and clear before God; this is our *standing*. Secondly, it takes Christ, *moment by moment*, and we grow up into His lovely likeness. We "grow up into Him in all things" This is our *sanctification*, and to this we are called.



### ITEMS OF INTEREST.

**M**R. GEORGE WILLIAMS has become President of the Young Men's Christian Association in succession to the late Earl of Shaftesbury. As one of the founders of the Y. M. C. A., Mr. Williams is undoubtedly the right man in the right place.

**T**HE circulation of the Scriptures in the whole world since the beginning of the present century is estimated at 200,000,000 copies, of which 120,000,000 are placed to the credit of the British, 50,000,000 to the American, and 30,000,000 to all the other Bible societies.

**T**HE British and Foreign Bible Society and the National Bible Society of Scotland are to issue a new edition of the Chinese New Testament, with Japanese points or Krenten. There never were as many indications before, that the large circulation of Christian literature is beginning to tell on China.

**A**CCORDING to official statistics, France now has 650,000 Protestant inhabitants and 870 parishes. Of these, 550,000 belong to the Reformed and Calvinistic branch, 80,000 to the Lutheran and 15,000 to 20000 to the Free Church. The Methodists have about 30 regular and 100 lay preachers engaged in the French work, while the Baptists and Darbyists are also represented.

**E**LEVEN Young Men's Christian Associations are in operation among the Indians in Dakota. At the Conventions of Associations of Minnesota and Dakota, which met in St. Paul in December last, the Indian Associations were admitted to full membership. They have meetings for young men only, and have the usual committees for their work. They contribute for the support of missionaries among their own people, and hold two conventions each year, the one in the fall being the principal meeting.

**T**HE LAPSEID MASSES.—The Bishop of Bedford said the other day that the number of persons who attended Divine worship in one district in London was only three thousand out of sixty thousand; and that in others the attendants were not above 1 per cent. of the population. The Bishop, in the course of his remarks, insisted upon the great need of "simple, straightforward, manly preaching, and more plain, expository sermons." He further stated that one noble lady had offered him £2,000 a year for the rest of her life, in aid of mission preachers and mission rooms.