

Bible. It contains enough for a volume. Mother, is your boy dead? In your tears remember the gate of Nain. Sister, is your brother dead? Remember the well to Bethany and the grave of Lazarus. Friend, is thy friend dead? Remember the rolled-away stone from the new sepulchre of Joseph. God counts, Lot-uses, remembers the tears of sorrow.

### TOILING IN ROWING.

It was the Sea of Galilee and it was after midnight. The disciples were without their Master, and the wind was contrary. The waves threatened their boat, and they seemed to ply their oars in vain. He had parted from them the evening before, and gone up to a mountain for retirement and prayer. He had sent away an admiring crowd of people, always restive under the Roman yoke, and now ready to raise their cry to him, "Hail, King." The disciples themselves, perhaps, would have joined in the cry. He sent the people to their homes, and the disciples He "constrained" to get into the boat and to go to the other side. But it looked as if they would never reach the other side. They seemed to row in vain. But they kept up the "toiling in rowing." It was right for them to be there, for did not He constrain them to embark? Has He forgotten them? No, He saw them toiling and rowing, and in due time and in His own way He came to cheer them, lay the wind, end their toil, and bring them safely to land.

Let us learn the lesson. There are enterprises in which He has constrained us to embark. But the wind is contrary; the progress is slow; the labour is severe, and He seems to take no notice. It only seems. He is on high, ever living to make intercession, as perhaps He was then doing for a people who wanted a carnal kingdom, and not spiritual freedom. But He sees His disciples toiling in rowing. He will come by-and-by, and over the waves and through the darkness will be heard the voice, "It is I, be not afraid."

Teachers at home of self-willed children, in Sabbath schools of thoughtless pupils, with some opposition and little visible success, hold on to your work. Ministers with thinly-attended meetings, and missionary collections so small that it seems hardly worth while to make them, hold on to your efforts. Christians, fired with a true and enlightened patriotism, and indignant at the licensed enemies of all good, at tolerated polygamy, and oppressed Indians, do not abate your efforts one particle. He sees you "toiling in rowing." He constrained you to set out. He will come to you in due time.

Perhaps you need the lessons to be learned in the darkness and among the waves. The disciples had been in a storm before, and Christ with them, so that they had to awaken Him and be secure against harm. Now they advance a step. They are to trust and hope, and row and feel secure, even though He is not seen in the boat. They must do without Him by-and-by, and "endure as seeing Him who is invisible." So he taught them. So he would have you learn. Keep your places; disregard the wind and the waves; heed not the slow progress and the darkness. He sees you toiling in rowing.—*Rev. John Hall, D.D., in N.Y. Christian Weekly.*

PRAYER is the outlet of the saints' sorrows and the inlet of their support.—*Flavel.*

CONVICTION, were it ever so excellent, is worthless till it converts itself into conduct.—*Carlyle.*

THOSE are the best Christians who are more careful to reform themselves than to censure others.—*Fuller.*

THE worst days of darkness through which I have ever passed have been greatly alleviated by throwing myself with all my energy into some work relating to others.

To familiarize; to endear the thought of God, without degrading the conception; to bring Him within the sphere of human affections, without impairing His majesty, is the triumph of the Bible.—*Henry Rogers.*

LORD BACON, towards the latter end of his life, said that a little smattering of philosophy would lead a man to atheism; but that a thorough knowledge of it would lead a man back again to a first cause, and that the first principle of right reason is religion. "After all my studies and inquiries," he seriously professes, "I dare not die with any other thoughts than those taught by the Christian's faith."

### GOSPEL WORK.

#### SINGING THE GOSPEL.

An invaluable adjunct to the preaching of the Gospel has been found in the "Singing of the Gospel." The success of Mr. Sankey in this line came upon the Church like a revelation, and has given a great impulse to sacred song—the greatest probably since the days of Luther. But it cannot be too earnestly emphasized that it is not merely or mainly *good singing* that is wanted, but *divine truth* clearly, effectively and believingly presented, in humble dependence upon God's Spirit. This is the secret of success in many a vocalist less gifted and less famous than Sankey. It may encourage such to mention two cases coming under the observation of the writer in Canada.

In the course of a revival at Galt, a lady who had come from a distance to find the light, suddenly received a great joy during the singing of the 132nd hymn in our new collection—"God loved the world of sinners lost."

The earnest evangelist, the late Mr. McGregor, of Uptergrove, told the writer how one of his flock, a woman whom he had often sought to bring to peace, awakened to its meaning as one day, after another failure, he sat singing to her children, "In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever," etc. a well-known hymn not in our collection.

Mr. Moody related the following recently in Edinburgh, respecting the hymn commencing "Come! come! come!" "I remember when this hymn first came out. I was preaching in Baltimore for seven or eight months, and one time we had a meeting of men. There was a man whose friends had been trying to get him to the meetings, and he finally consented to come if they would not ask him to come again. When he arrived the house was full, and they were singing, "Come! come! come!" and he said he never heard such nonsense. He thought they must be off their heads, so many people singing "Come! come! come!" He went home, and could not get the words out of his mind, "Come! come! come!" He stepped out into a public house, and thought that he would drink it down, but it would not stop ringing in his ears. He went into another public-house, but still the words kept coming up, "Come! come! come!" He went home again and got to bed; he tried to sleep; but the words would be whispering "Come! come! come!" He came again to the meeting, and heard me give out the hymn. He got a little hymn-book, and found it out, and read it over, and said, "This is all nonsense. Why should this be a trouble?" and he put it into the fire. But he could not burn that little word "Come!" out of his memory. He cursed the meeting, me, the singers, and everything else. He did not get any sleep the next night; but, although he had sworn the first night that he would not come again, and his friends were discouraged and disheartened because he would not, still he came again. It is not a bad sign when a man wakes up mad; the most difficult people to do anything with are the drowsy ones, when you cannot wake them up. He was very angry, and swore against the preacher, the singing, and everything else. The next night I had given out again, and they were singing "Come! come! come!" He said, "There is that cursed hymn again," and he wished that No. 88 was blotted out. When we had got through, I asked those who were anxious to rise, and eighty-eight stood up, and he said he had a good mind to rise, just to make the eighty-ninth! He was at last converted, and was known as the "Eighty-ninth man." I hope that some one will be converted to-night by singing this hymn. There is enough truth in it to draw every one of us. If you cannot sing it, say it, open your lips, and the chorus will sing itself."

A MAN who died a few weeks ago at Cork is reported to have been the richest man in Ireland. He was a distiller.

A LAW has been passed in China exempting all converts to Christianity from the religious taxes for the support of idol-worship.

A CORRESPONDENT of the New York "Observer" says: "I have found that those who have a pride in making their religion very broad, generally get it amazingly thin."

THE Rev. C. Chiniquy is in New York, assisting the Rev. P. A. Séguin, pastor of the French Baptist Mission, in a series of meetings for the benefit of the large French population of that city.

### MISSION NOTES.

THE estimated value of the lands, buildings, chapels, printing-presses, etc., held by the American Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions for the use of its Missions is \$777,500.

SOME one has strikingly depicted the lot of women in India: "Unwelcomed at birth, untaught in childhood, enslaved when married, accursed as widows, unlamented when they die."

REPORTS come from Barmah that after five years labour of the native Karen missionaries among the Kakyens, a peculiarly hardened race, six of that people and one Shan give evidence of conversion.

THE "Missionary Review" says that Canon Farrar is the son of a missionary to Western India, and was born on the banks of the Godavery, near Nassick. His father did excellent service in Bible translation.

NATIVE Christian ladies in Calcutta conducted a periodical called "Christo-Mobila," which is printed in Bengal, and is a remarkable proof of the power of the Gospel to elevate the mind and heart of the women of India.

WHAT nobler tribute could be paid to the memory of any man than the following, which is inscribed on the tomb-stone of Thomas Williams, missionary to the Island of Raratonga, in the South Pacific: "When he came, there were no Christians; when he went away, there were no heathen."

A YALE student, who was to be a Foreign Missionary, was rather jeeringly asked by a classmate six years ago for "the first bushel of idols" he should persuade the heathen to give up. He went to Japan, and has already collected and sent home barrels full, which were furnished for the purpose by converts.

MISS EMILY MURRAY writes in regard to the interesting work at Figueras, Spain: "During the last few months a Provident Society has been formed in this small Roman Catholic town, and the rule on entering is that the members neither go to confession nor take the communion in the Roman Catholic Church. Eighty persons have already joined."

THE building of a church in Turkey requires a special firman from the Sultan, and this is attended with much trouble and expense, and often with years of delay. As the chapels are used for schools as well as for worship, they have been built mostly under the name of schools, but a recent decision of the Government declares that even these must have a special order from Constantinople.

INTELLIGENCE has been received of the death of Mr. Adam McCall, the leader of the Livingstone Inland Mission. About two years ago Mr. McCall left England, with several fellow-labourers, to establish mission stations on the river Congo. Three stations had been set on foot when Mr. McCall was overtaken with illness. He set out for England, but had to halt at Madeira, where he breathed his last.

A FEW months ago a mob attacked the premises belonging to the American Presbyterian Mission at Trianfu, in the Province of Shantung, China. The mob was greatly excited, and, led by prominent persons, threatened to destroy the property purchased by Rev. Mr. McIlvane, and to prevent, if possible, the location of the Mission on any main street or convenient quarter of the city. The missionaries stood their ground with the authorities, demanded protection, and secured it, the house being occupied by soldiers. The people then endeavoured to purchase the property. Finally an arrangement was made by which the premises were to be exchanged for a site equally good, and quiet was restored.

A MISSIONARY, writing from Mexico to the "Christian Weekly," says: "I am more and more impressed with the honour that has been put by God upon printed truth in the work thus far done in Mexico, and never was the demand greater for its multiplication than now. God has joined together for the uplifting of Mexico the consecrated press and the pulpit. The crowds that stand in front of the Bible Depository, reading the open volumes in the windows, and sometimes asking that the leaves may be turned so that they may read farther; this, together with the gratitude shewn by the people on the street and in the parks, and by the hack drivers when I have given them tracts, is all in the same direction with the past of our work. It shews that the real pioneer agency for Mexico is the truth on paper."