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'For a bit of Sunday reading commend me to the "Northern Messenger."—W. S. JAMIESON, Dalton, Ont.

Christ at the Well.

A poor woman went one day to draw water from a neighboring well. As she drew near, she saw a man sitting by the well. She had never seen him before; he looked like a traveller stopping to rest himself in the heat of the day, for it was about noon. When she began to draw, he said, 'Give me to drink.' Instead of directly complying with his re-

I shall give him, shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.'

What kind of water must that be, to drink of and never be thirsty again, mused the woman, regarding the stranger with surprise. 'Give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw.' Instead of at once answering her request, he began to question her about her family; and he showed such an insight into her affairs, that she was alarmed,

rying out to every one she met, 'Come, see a man that told me all things that ever I did. Is not this the Christ?'

Her story spread far and wide. People flocked to see the wonderful stranger. They besought him to come and tarry in their city. He stayed two days, and many believed in him on the testimony of the woman, and many more for what they heard from his own lips.

This unexpected interview of the woman with the Lord Jesus teaches many lessons, and one which it is especially needful for us to remember: it is this, that He is willing to come to us while we are engaged in the common affairs of life. In order to seek and find our Saviour, we are not obliged to make a wearisome pilgrimage; we need not say, 'I am so busy I have no time to attend to religion,' or think we are too poor, or too ignorant, or too small to come to Christ.

No, the Lord Jesus wants you to come just as you are, and just where you are; and He can instruct you, whether you know less or more; He can help you to understand Him by the most common and familiar things. When the Jews spoke to Him of the manna which God gave their fathers from heaven, He said: 'I am the Bread of Life, which came down from heaven, of which, if a man eat, he shall never hunger.'

To the ploughman He says His doctrine are the 'good seed,' which shall spring up and bear fruit a hundredfold. To the woman at the well, He compares His blessings to 'living water,' of which, if one drink, he shall never thirst.

The smallest child can understand Him.

Palestine's Unchanging Proverbs of To-day.

So much of the soul of a people, of the trend and tendency of their world of thought, is embodied in their proverbs, adages, and sayings, that special interest attaches itself to the new collection of Arabic Proverbs that are published in the latest issue of the 'Zeitschrift' of the German Palestine Society, by L. Bauer, himself for a long time a resident of Jerusalem, and which he gathered from the lips of the people in and around the sacred city. These proverbs, two hundred and five in all, illustrate not only the proverbial wisdom of a people akin in descent and mental make-up to the Israelites, but, in particular, reproduce in another shape and form some of the sayings actually found in the Scriptures.

To this latter class belongs the saying, 'No one is able to carry two melons in one hand,' which is the modern reproduction of the biblical 'No one can serve two masters.' The words, 'Whoever is not white by nature cannot be made white by a piece of soap,' and, again, 'Whoever is by nature a dog must bark,' or, again, 'Even if you straighten out a dog's tail a hundred times, it will yet curl up again,' are all three different ways in which the modern Jerusalemite expresses what his predecessor did more than two thousand years ago when he spoke of the inability of the



quest, she began to ask questions. Without satisfying her curiosity, he excited it the more by saying, 'If you knew who it is that says to you, "Give me to drink," you would have asked of him, and he would have given you living water.'

The woman was puzzled. 'Sir,' she answered, 'thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep; from whence then hast thou that living water?'

'Whoever drinketh of this water,' said the stranger, 'shall thirst again; but the water

and exclaimed: 'I perceive that thou art a prophet.'

He then went on to explain to her the nature of true religion, when she, willing to turn the subject, said: 'I know that Messiah cometh; when He is come, He will tell us all things.' What must have been her astonishment when the traveller answered, 'I that speak to thee am He!' Yes, she had met her Saviour at the well!

Convinced and conscience-stricken, the woman forgot her water-pot and ran home,