

## SELF-DENIAL.

WHEN Agassiz visited Oken, the great German naturalist, the latter showed to the young student his laboratory, his cabinet, his magnificent library, and all his varied and costly apparatus. At length the dinner hour approached. Oken said to Agassiz, "Sir, to gather and maintain what you have seen uses up my income. To accomplish this I have to economise in my style of living. Three times in the week we have meat on the table. On the other days we dine on potatoes and salt. I regret that your visit has fallen on a potato day." And so the naturalist, with the student Oken, dined on potatoes and salt.

We have in this world a few infallible people; and from the Pope downwards, they are the most difficult to get on with. With rather more shortcomings than other folks, they esteem themselves unusually wise, and are quite prone to become dogmatic and emphatic. Cherishing full faith in their own ideas and plans, they are not quite able to see how other people are not sacredly bound to submit to their godly and unerring judgment. The situation of these infallibles is unfortunate, for such is the obtuseness and pig-headedness of men in general, that they will not accept the *dicta* of these born popes, and then there ensues a conflict. To dispute the decisions of popes is the most mortal of sins. Do they not give utterance to the will of God? And how can society have rest while the orders of these peculiar people are not obeyed? The entrance of these infallible people into a community, a church, or a household, is a most unfortunate affair; broils are sure to follow. Banish the popes, if you want peace!—*Zion's Herald*.

## FOR CHRIST'S SAKE.

Oh, what shall I give to the Saviour  
For what He hath given for me?  
I'll give Him the gift of an earnest life,  
Of a heart that is loving and free from strife,  
As He hath given for me.

And what shall I do for the Saviour  
For what He hath done for me?  
I'll pray for the sick, and the evil doer;  
I'll make my friends among the poor,  
As He hath done for me.

And what shall I bear for the Saviour  
For what He had borne for me.  
Remembering I'm His constant care,  
Whatever He sends me I will bear,  
As He hath borne for me.

And what shall I be for the Saviour  
For what He hath been for me?  
Longsuffering, kind, unselfish, pure,  
To bear, believe, to hope, endure,  
As He hath been for me.

## A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN.

In a little white house on a hillside green,  
Lives a beautiful woman as ever was seen;  
In the sixty-five years that she's lived, I may say,  
She had been growing more beautiful every day.  
You do not believe it? Ask Susie, my sister,  
She's the very first person that ever had kissed her.  
And if she'd not nursed her by night and by day,  
Poor Sue would have been in a very bad way.  
I can bring other witnesses whom you may face,  
They will tell you the same—they were in the same case.  
"Was she lovers?" Yes, surely! No less than eleven!  
She has seven on earth, and four more up in heaven.  
Her hair is so beautiful—faded and thin,  
There are beautiful wrinkles, from forehead to chin.  
Her eyes are as charming as charming can be,  
When she looks o'er her glasses so fondly at me,  
And I know by her life, which has beautiful been.  
She is like "the king's daughter"—"all glorious within."  
Ah, you have guessed who it is! It could be no other,  
I'm sure, than my beautiful, darling old mother.

## OUR NOTE BOOK.

A LARGE memorial church, to cost at least £60,000, is to be erected to the memory of John Knox. The site of the building is on the Thames Embankment. The scheme will embrace a pile of other buildings as well as the church, which it is proposed to call the John Knox Memorial Church and Institute. Lord Gordon has promised £1,000 to start a subscription.

Mr. Spurgeon has again been briefly laid aside through illness, and has been prevented both from preaching and from starting on his Highland tour at the time fixed. He is now recovering, and has, we believe, left for the north.

The Bishop of Manchester, preaching before the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of London at St. Helen's, Bishopsgate, said that three or four years ago he found one-third of the benefices of the country were of less value than £200 a year. They all knew how far £200 a year would carry a man with a wife and the average number of children, and often a house to rent. He was quite certain that there were many of the clergy who did not taste meat oftener than an agricultural labourer, and who were glad to get left-off clothes.

Dr. Culross, having received an invitation from Glasgow to take charge of the pastorate of one of the Baptist churches in that city, has taken farewell of his church and congregation at Highbury Hill, where he was regarded with the most loving esteem, and where he ministered for seven years.

Preparatory committees have been sitting in connection with the Wesleyan Conference at Bradford, and by the time we go to press the Conference will have assembled, and the president for the coming year will probably have been elected, and the vexed question, whether it is to be Dr. Rigg or the Rev. Samuel Coley, settled.

The *Irish Times* says that Methodism now takes a new place amongst sister churches, and will occupy numerically, but still more, morally, a higher position than before. The ministers of the United Body will number about 270, and their adherents probably about 100,000 persons. With a staff of working clergy, aided by lay agents of intelligence and zeal, a new career is predicted for Methodism in Ireland.

The ceremony of the consecration of three bishops in St. Paul's Cathedral was of an imposing character. Drs. MacLagan, Croner Roberts, and Stanton, were consecrated respectively to the bishoprics of Lichfield, Nassau, and Queensland. There was an unusually large congregation, numbering many church as well as state dignitaries, and there were twenty prelates in the procession.

The Methodist New Connexion Conference concluded its sittings at Ashton-under-Lyne with the usual votes of thanks and a resolution recording the gratitude of the Conference to Almighty God for an increase of 563 members and of 1,142 probationers, and exhorting the churches to renewed devotion to the work of seeking the conversion of the young and of those who are indifferent to religious influence. It was decided to hold the next Conference at Huddersfield.

The Primitive Methodist Conference which was held this year at Manchester was well attended, and gave its attention to numerous schemes of religious, educational, and legislative advancement. Further returns having come in, it was reported that the numerical strength of the body had been increased by an addition of 2,030 members. This, of course, includes foreign and colonial returns. It was resolved to hold next year's Conference at Leeds, the sittings to commence on the 11th of June. The memorial stones of a new Theological Institute, for the training of students for the ministry, were laid near the Alexandra Park.

The death of Dr. Hodge, of Princeton, United States, is announced. Dr. Hodge was well known on both sides of the Atlantic as a theologian, and his works have been in great demand. As a leader of the Presbyterian Church in America his loss will be felt greatly. He was in his 81st year, and had been a professor in the Princeton Theological Seminary fifty-six years.

During the last five years the school accommodation for children in Scotland has greatly increased. In 1873 there was accommodation for 524,650 scholars. There is now accommodation for 682,439.

At the allotted age of threescore years and ten, after a life of unusual activity, and after exercising a benign moral influence over men and women's minds, both by pen and speech, for a considerable number of years, Mrs. Clara Lucas Balfour