

The Back and the Burden.

JOHNNY was standing with open arms, receiving the bundles which his father laid upon him. His elder brother, Frank, cried out "Johnny, you've got more than you can carry." "Never mind," said Johnny, in a burst of child-like trust, "*Father knows* how much I can carry."

Just so. Our Father who is in heaven is the best judge of how much we ought to do and suffer; and as He has the allotting of it, we shall not be overburdened. What a wealth of comfort lies in that simple fact! We see cars on the railway marked to carry so much and no more; and the Great Ruler of all things has ordained for each of us such a load as we can safely carry, and not an ounce more shall be piled upon us. None of the powers of earth or hell can overload us, for it is written, "As thy days, so shall thy strength be." Our Father is too good and kind to crush a child of His beneath bundles of care. We too often forget the infinite tenderness of the Lord, and think of Him as if He were an Egyptian task-master. He will try our strength, but He will not strain it; He will educate us with service, but He will not allow that service to press us into slavery. Wherefore be of good courage, thou that art heavy laden: thy Father will have pity upon thee.

UNDERSTAND WELL THE FORCE

OF THE WORD,

A **GOD**, a **MOMENT**, AN **ETERNITY**.

A **GOD** WHO **SEES** THEE.

A **MOMENT** WHICH **FLIES** FROM THEE.

AN **ETERNITY** WHICH **AWAITS** THEE.

A **GOD**,

WHOM YOU SERVE SO ILL.

A **MOMENT**,

OF WHICH YOU SO LITTLE PROFIT.

AN **ETERNITY**,

WHICH YOU HAZARD SO RASHLY.

To Every Creature.

NOT to one only, not to ten thousand, or ten millions; but to each one; that is, to every individual—to ME, YOU, or anyone else—is God's message of pardon given. There is no exception, or limitation respecting it: free grace is for whosoever will receive it.

Christ died for sinners; therefore, for every sinner there is a saviour. No quality or quantity of sin is expressed; but all sinners are invited, be they black,

white, big or little sinners. None are too black, none are too big for the cleansing power of the blood of the Lamb of God who taketh away the sin of the world.

To the very worst character that lives in this world is the word of this salvation sent; for the cry of the Spirit of God is COME! COME! COME!

"This was compassion like our God,
That when the Saviour knew
The price of pardon was His blood,
His pity ne'er withdrew."

DAJLY BIBLE STUDY IN JAPAN.—This is an interesting organization in Japan known as the *Nippon seisho notoma* (Friends of the Bible). It was formed in 1883, and, though but little over a year old, numbers about eighteen hundred members, of whom about four hundred are from Tokio, the rest being scattered through many towns and villages of the empire. Its object is to promote the study of the Bible, and the only qualification for membership is an application, accompanied by a promise to read daily a fixed portion of the Scriptures. The list of readings is prepared, and thus a large number of the Japanese are united in the daily study of a particular portion of the Holy Scripture. This is another sign of the times as to the remarkable awakening in Japan.

Self Control.

A YOUNG Karen girl, who was a trouble to others by her bad temper and language, suddenly changed, and from being hated became quite a favorite with her companions.

Being asked how this came about, she said, "When bad words rise I pray to God, then shut my teeth tight, and choke them as they come up."

Might not some of us learn a lesson in this from this poor half-taught heathen girl?

Rest.

Bear not a single care thyself,
One is too much for thee;
The work is MINE, and MINE alone,
Thy work is REST IN ME.

"Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him."

Psalm 37: 7.

I AM just beginning to realise that His promises are not mere words, written for the instruction of our minds, or merely for repeating with our lips, but certainties to go by; and the assurance of one of them is better than the presence of an army,

MY prayer is, that I may know more the blessedness of being saved, and what it really means—that we are chosen of God, and precious; that Christ being ours, all things are ours in reality, not in word merely; and what we are now called upon to do is to live a life of simple faith and praise.