

Beyond.

It seemeth such a little way to me

Across to that strange country, the beyond ;

And yet, not strange, for it has grown to be

The home of those of whom I am so fond.

They make is seem familiar and most dear,

As journeying friends bring distant regions near.

So close it lies, that when my sight is clear

I think I almost see the gleaming strand.

I know I feel those who have gone from here

Come near enough sometimes, to touch my hand.

I often think, but for our veiled eyes,

We should find heaven right round about us lies.

I cannot make it seem a day to dread,

When from this dear earth I shall journey out

To that still dearer country of the dead,

And join the lost ones, so long dreamed about.

I love this world, yet shall I love to go

And meet the friends who wait for me, I know.

I never stand above a bier and see

The real of death set on some well-loved face

But that I think, "One more to welcome me,

When I shall cross the intervening space

Between this land and that one 'over there ;

One more to make the strange beyond seem fair."

And so for me there is no sting to death,

And so the grave has lost its victory.

It is but crossing—with a bated breath,

And white, set face—a little strip of sea,

To find the loved ones waiting on the shore,

More beautiful, more precious than before.

Flashes of Light from God's Lamp.

"THE SHUT-INS."

"The Lord shut him in." Gen. vii, 16.

The words of our text are full of suggestive and comforting truth for those whom God has "shut in." If there is a place on earth closer to heaven than another, it is the place where God has shut in his child. Let the text speak to you, dear child of God. "No chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous; nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby." "God moves in a mysterious way his wonders to perform;" and it has often proved true that such experiences as those through which you are now passing have been made the gateway to a larger and more blessed fellowship with God. It was through loving kindness that God shut Noah in; and because he loves you and cares for you God has shut you in. Noah was never nearer to God than when God shut him in; and David had learned to sing after he had been through many bitter experiences: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." During the days in which you are "shut in" you may cultivate an intimacy with the blessed Christ that will forever after make his companionship more real and glorious. "The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace." A thousand of God's children, not "shut in," will read these words, and on your behalf will say, Amen!—A. S. Gunbart, D. D., in the Commonwealth.

The Queens County Quarterly Meeting.

The regular session of the Queens County Quarterly Meeting was held with the Second Grand Lake Church (Range), beginning Saturday, March 11th, at 10 a. m.

The first meeting was devoted to business. Besides disposing of minor items, some attention was given the condition of the churches in the county. The meeting recommended that the pastorless churches receive pastors as soon as possible.

The most enjoyed meeting of the session is the conference. Those who attend the Quarterly Meeting for spiritual benefit seldom miss this. The conference of this session, led by Pastors Henderson and McIntyre, was no exception. The power of the Spirit was manifest as one after another bore witness to the goodness and faithfulness of God.

The severe storm of Saturday evening prevented a large gathering, but the time was profitably spent in an evangelistic service, led by Rev. J. Coombes.

The Sunday services were as follows: 9 a. m., prayer service, led by Rev. J. Coombes; 10 a. m., baptismal service; 11 a. m., Quarterly sermon, by Bro. Henderson, from II. Cor. v. 20; 3 p. m., sermon by Rev. J. Coombes, from I. Sam. ii, 30; 7 p. m., sermon by Secretary, from Isaiah xlv, 22.

Collections were taken for home and foreign missions amounting to \$8.50.

F. W. PATTERSON, Sec'y-Treasurer.

Some Things Baptists may Learn from Others.

For some years I have studied the history, creed, methods and growth of other denominations. I have learned many a lesson. I give a few of them:

1. As Baptists, we might take a lesson from our Catholic and Advent neighbors on the necessity of creating and spreading a strong denominational literature. These two bodies here in the west literally deluge the country with tracts, booklets and papers, inculcating what they hold to be truth. The City Mission Committee (Baptist) have tried nearly all the publishing houses for Icelandic literature. We can find nothing but Roman Catholic works in that language. Has Baptist faith less of the truth, or are Baptists less anxious to spread it? Will God hold us guiltless if we allow error to take root and grow without making an equal effort to spread the truth?

I know there is a prejudice against denominational literature, but the minister who will disregard that prejudice and sow his parish "knee-deep" by Baptist teaching will be amply repaid. Yet if one is too timid to do this, he can learn—

2. A lesson from the Salvation Army and fill the homes with a denominational paper—THE HOME MISSION JOURNAL will do.

As Seen from the Study.

When the truth hits a man hard, he is very likely to call it falsehood, or else to abuse the truth-speaker, as a means of relief.

The most hopeless case is not a sinner unconcerned, but a professing Christian petrified in a dead indifference.

Christianity in the life is a centrifugal force that tends ever to enlarge its circumference of influence and blessing. Grace in the soul is growth in the soul. If you are not growing in grace you are decaying in faith.

A man is much more likely to follow if you say "Come," and lead the way, than if you kick him for not having followed before.

If things are not as good as you think they ought to be, do not make them worse by finding fault, but just take hold with both hands earnestly and help make them better.

One's advance cannot be safely estimated by the noise made or the rate of speed. A top buzzes loudly and spins with amazing speed, but it does not get far. The test question is, Where have you got on your Christian way?

In Spain it is not uncommon for the same person to play Saint on Sunday and be brigand on Monday. Nor is that sort of thing all confined to Spain.

The more highly a man values the worth of character, the more valuable he will himself become in all the relations of life.

The Christian has no need to fret or worry about either this life or the next; God will take care of him in both.

Not what you have not done, but what by God's help you may be able to do, is the thought that impels to improvement and achievement.

Satan can hardly have greater satisfaction in anything on earth than in the sight of a slow, self-satisfied slumbering church. He knows his interests are safe so far as that body is concerned.

It might be a blessed thing for the church if the people would occasionally reflect upon the truth that God does not intend the minister to do the members' work, and will not hold him responsible for their failure to do.

Morality requires honesty; Christianity requires this, with generosity and love added.

To grow in grace—it is not much to say, but it is a mighty thing to do. To be a man—a true man—doing a man's work and filling a man's full place—there is nothing higher on earth than that.

When a mature man acts like a spoiled child, he loses more influence in a minute than he can regain in years.

—Clericus, in The Watchman.