

seeketh findeth, and to Him that knocketh it shall be opened." Matt. 7: 7, 8. "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you," John 15: 7. The believer has the ear of God. He stands in the place of power. He is able, by virtue of his relation to Christ, to prevail as Jacob did. We cannot marvel at the wonder-working power of prayer when we remember where the pleader stands, and in whose name he speaks, and the expressed mind of God in regard to "whatever" he may ask. It is just as plain and simple as any ordinary natural process, that results should come, which to men forgetful of what Christ is, and what Christ has promised, shall take on the appearance of the miraculous. It does that, because it lies beyond the ordinary modes of thought, and Christ's words are not abiding in them.

"More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of." What a privilege it is, therefore, to be able to intercede for others, as well as plead for ourselves! Prayer is the lever to lift up the world, and the name of Christ is the fulcrum on which it rests, and a joyous believing heart uses it—ay, uses it unceasingly, the sum of all being, "Thy kingdom come." And the kingdom is coming, the reign of righteousness is approaching—every event is preparing the way for the time when darkness will be displaced by light, and misery by mirth and music, and Jesus shall reign the universal King.

There is another result of prayer—it transforms the one who delights in it. As the cruel man bears the mark of his evil nature, in his knitted brow, or fierce eyes or grinding teeth, the bitter thought in the heart leading to such malicious expression, so the man in whose soul the spirit of prayer abides, full of sympathy and love and tenderness as it is, is changed into the likeness of his thought. The thought of the heart is woven into the web of the face and gives forth there its color and character. This may not be the outcome of a passing thought, but it certainly is the outcome of a course of thought. Look on Jesus praying. As He prays the fashion of His countenance is altered, (Luke 9: 29). That types the outcome of all true prayer. What a delightful study it is for a Christian to go through the Gospels and note how often Christ prayed and what came to Him while He prayed. There are precious lessons for our daily life there. He has liberty of access. He stands in the most holy place. He is able truthfully to say, "Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me; AND I KNOW THAT THOU HEAREST ME ALWAYS." Standing in Him, that is our unspeakable privilege too. We cannot overvalue prayer, or its power. It is one of the Christian's mightiest weapons, and it may be wielded anywhere. James Montgomery sings truly of it when he says:

Prayer is the Christian's vital breath,
The Christian's native air;
His watchword at the gates of death—
He enters Heaven by prayer.

Personals.

MR. WM. GOODERHAM, whose name is well known as the friend and helper of every good work in our city, sailed on Thursday for England. We sincerely trust that his trip may prove beneficial to his health, which has not been good for some time past. Mr. Gooderham was accompanied by the lady members of his family, Marshal Booth, of the Salvation Army, and Mr. A. H. Brace, Superintendent of Mr. Fegan's Homes in Canada, these formed a party whose Christian influence will doubtless be felt by the other passengers in the "Peruvian."

MR. A. BURSON, Evangelistic Secretary of the London (England) Y. M. C. A. at Exeter Hall, and whose labors as an Evangelist during many years in Canada, is well known to many of our readers, is about to visit Toronto, and will probably hold a series of meetings during his stay. He is expected to arrive ere this paper will reach our subscribers. Any of his old friends, or those blessed during his former stay in Canada, who may wish to write to him, may address their letters to the Publishers of this paper.

Whiter Than Snow.

THE Rev. A. R. M. Finlayson, in the course of an address to the Liverpool Young Women's Christian Association, mentioned an interesting incident suggested by the visit of the Prince of Wales. The speaker said a certain nobleman, a widower, had a little daughter under ten years of age. Her nurse was an earnest Christian, and she stored the child's mind with Scriptural truths. One night, when the little girl came in after dinner to dessert, she asked her father, who was not a Christian, "Father, do you know what is whiter than snow?" "No," said the father, "I do not." "Well," said the child, "a soul washed in the blood of Jesus Christ is whiter than snow." The father was surprised, and said, "How do you know?" "Nurse told me," the child replied. The father told the nurse not to mention these subjects to his daughter, as she was too young, and moreover, he feared she might grow up with a gloomy view of life. Not long after, the Prince of Wales was visiting the house, and the little girl was present. The Prince, with his usual affability, noticed the child, and thus encouraged, she said, "Prince, do you know what is whiter than snow?" "No," said the Prince, smilingly, "I don't think you can have anything whiter than snow." "Well," said the child, "a soul washed in the blood of Jesus Christ is whiter than snow." The word was used to carry conviction to the father's heart, and he became an earnest and devoted Christian.