

to the Chief of Sinners." On obtaining his liberty, John Bunyan resumed his ministry at Bedford, and became a great and popular preacher. He died during a visit to London in 1688, at sixty years of age.

The Devil's Beans.



THE Rev. Rowland Hill began his sermon one morning by saying: "My friends, the other day I was going down the street, and I saw a drove of pigs following a man. This excited my curiosity so much that

I determined to follow. I did so, and, to my great surprise, saw them follow him to the slaughter house. I was anxious to know how this was brought about, and I said to the man, 'My friend, how did you manage to induce those pigs to follow you here?'

"'Oh! did you not see?' said the man: 'I had a basket of beans under my arm, and I dropped a few as I came along, and so they followed me.'

"Yes," said the preacher: "and I thought, so it is, the devil has his basket of beans under his arm, and he drops them as he goes along, and what multitudes he induces to follow him to an everlasting slaughter-house!"

Dear children, Satan is busy all the time endeavouring to lead little boys and girls (as well as men and women) down to ruin; and to do this our streets are strewn with the "devil's beans." Don't be deceived by him. The only way to escape, and to be really safe, is to become a Christian; then, when you have Jesus as your guide, He will teach you by His Spirit, so that you will know the difference between that which is false and that which is true.

Advice to Boys and Girls.

Be followers of Jesus,
Our dear Saviour, if
You desire to attain true
Success and happiness through life.

Give your heart to the Lord
In your youthful days.
Remember you may put it off until it is too
Late. If you do so,
Sorrow, instead of joy, will fill your cup.

The Queen's Crown.



DID you ever see a diamond! Perhaps you might not have thought much of it till you put it where it could catch the light, and then how it sparkled and shone, and flashed the light back!

Diamonds are very valuable, and people give a good deal of money for them.

As diamonds are so precious, no wonder they should be put into the Queen's crown. And how many do you think there are? Two thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight, large and small! besides pearls and sapphires and rubies, and many other brilliant gems. There is one ruby in the crown which was given to Edward the Black Prince by the King of Castile, more than five hundred years ago, and after that, Henry the Fifth wore it in his helmet at the great battle of Agincourt. So this ruby has had a busy life of it, and has not always been lying idle in a blaze of gold and silver, only to be brought out upon the Queen's high days and holidays.

There are some crowns we read of in ancient history which were not like this, flashing with jewels, but were simple wreaths of green leaves, laurel, or parsley, or olive, and only valuable because of the honor it was to receive them. They were given to racers or to wrestlers when they had won the day: and that is what St. Paul alludes to when he says, "Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown, but we an incorruptible" (1 Cor. 9: 25).

We read of the "crown of life" which God will give us if we have been faithful unto death (Rev. 2: 10). Ah! then, it is not given to those who have not earned it. I do not mean that we can ever earn it in one sense. Jesus has died to purchase it for us, and we have only got to accept it; but still it does not come to us by chance: we must "be faithful," we must run in the race, or the victor's crown will never be on our brow.

You know you have often said, in the words of the hymn, "I mean to fight for Jesus, and wear a crown of gold." That means you must struggle against all the naughty tempers that rise up within: you have to "overcome" and to "conquer."

Oh, what hard work for a small, weak child to do! You cannot do it unless Jesus does it for you.

But if Jesus is to do it all for you, you must crown Him in your heart. When Queen Victoria was crowned with this crown of gold and diamonds, it was a token that people acknowledged her as their sovereign, and that they meant to be obedient to her rule. So I mean, you must take the Lord Jesus to reign in your heart as its ruler and its king.

WHEREVER you go, endeavour to carry with you a sense of God's presence, His holiness, and His love. It will preserve you from a thousand snares.