

The Water of Life.

TH**ERE** is a palm known by the name of the "traveller's tree," which grows in the island of Madagascar, in hot and comparatively waterless regions. It has a very handsome and regular appearance, the large leaves starting out like wings from opposite sides of the trunk, so as to resemble an extended fan. The stalk of each leaf rises immediately above the one below, and forms at its base a large cavity where a considerable quantity of moisture is collected and preserved. The thirsty native has but to raise his spear, and on piercing the thick, firm end of a leaf-stalk obtains a welcome and abundant supply of cool, pure, fresh water, even

in the hottest and driest seasons of the year. Christ the Lord is such a tree of life in the midst of earth's arid desert. Thus by the voice of the prophet He cried long ago, "Ho, every one

that thirsteth, come ye to the waters;" and in the days of His flesh repeated the gracious invitation, saying, "If any man thirst, let him come unto Me, and drink." The weary traveller on life's

way here may drink abundantly, "without money and without price." In calling us to Jesus, "the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come: and whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Well may our cry be that of the awakened woman of Samaria,— "Sir, give me this water;" for has He not declared, "Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." "Ho,

every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money, and without price."—*Selected.*

