

"I'M GOING HOME."

BY THOMAS RAGO.

A poor and aged Christian, who had past upwards of 70 years on earth, seeing her friends weeping around her death bed, exclaimed, "Mourn not, I'm going home."

I'm going home, prepare the bridal wreath !
My Saviour bids my happy spirit come ;
Dimp not with tears the Christian's bed of death ;
Rejoice !—I'm going home !

Earth hath its cares, for three-score years and ten,
My lot has been 'midst thorny paths to roam ;
I would not track those desert scenes again—
'Tis past !—I'm going home !

The dove hath found her nest—the storm-tossed found
A place of rest beyond the dashing foam
Of grief's wild billows : thither am I bound ;
Joy, joy !—I'm going home !

Earth's flowers all fade—there fadeless roses blow ;
Earth's sunniest light is shaded by the tomb ;
Earth's loves all slumber in the vault below—
Death dwells not in that home.

I see the city of the blest on high,
With the freed spirit's ken, I come ! I come !
Ye calling voices, catch my heart's reply—
Home ! home ! I'm going home !

CLIMBING PLANTS.

There are some plants which grow right up—erect in their own sturdy self-sufficiency, and there are some feeble ones which take hold with their hands and clasp and climb. The soul of man is like these last. Even in his best estate he was not meant to grow insulated and stand alone. He is not strong enough for that. He has not within himself resources sufficient to fill himself. He is not fit to be his own all-in-all. The make of his mind is an outgoing, exploring, petitionary make. The soul of man is a clasping, clinging soul, seeking to something over which it can spread itself, and by means of which it can support itself. And just as in a neglected garden you may see the poor creepers making shift to sustain themselves as best they can ; one convolvulus twisting round another, and both dragging on the ground ; a clematis leaning on the door which will by and by open and let the whole mass fall down ; a vine or a passion-flower wreathing round a prop which all the while is poisoning it ; so in this fallen world it is mournful to see the efforts which human souls are making to get some sufficient object to lean upon and twine around. One clasps a glittering prop, and it poisons him. The love of money blasts his soul, and it hangs round his self-chosen stay, a blighted, withered thing. Another spreads himself more amply over a broad surface of creature-comfort,—a snug dwelling, and a well furnished library, and a pleasant neighbourhood, with a command of everything that heart can wish, and a steady income buy,—but death opens the door, and, with nothing but vacancy to lean upon, he falls over on the other side, all helpless and dejected. And a still greater number groping about along the ground, clutch to one another, and intertwine their tendrils mutually, and by forming friendships, and congenial intimacies, and close relations, try to satisfy their leaning, loving nature in this way. But it answers little end. The make of a man's soul is upward, and one climber cannot lift another off the ground. And the growth of man's soul is luxuriant, and that growth must be stifled, checked, and scanty, if he have no larger space over which to diffuse his aspirations, his affections, and his efforts, than the surface of a fellow-creature's soul. But, weedy as this world-garden is, the Tree of Life still grows in the midst of it,—erect in his own omnipotent self-sufficiency, and inviting every weary straggling soul to lay hold of his everlasting strength, and expatiate upwards along the infinite ramifications of his endless excellencies, and all-inviting love.

God has formed the soul of man of a leaning, dependant make ; and for the healthy growth and joyful development of that soul, it is essential that he should have some object far higher and nobler than himself to dispend his desires and delights upon. That object is revealed in the gospel. That object is Immanuel. His

divinity is the Almighty prop—able to sustain the adhering soul, so that it shall never perish nor come into condemnation—the omnipotent support which bears the clinging spirit loftily and securely, so that the whirling temptations which vex it cannot rend it from the Tree of Life, and that the muddy plash, which soils and beats into the earth its sprawling neighbours, cannot tarnish the verdant serenity and limpid glories of its flowering head. And just as his divine strength is the omnipotent prop of the adhering soul, so his divine resources and his human sympathy make him the all-sufficient object, over which, each emotion and each desire of regenerate humanity may boundlessly diffuse itself. And however delicate your feelings, however eager your affections, and however multitudinous the necessities of your intricate nature, there is that in this Heavenly Friend which meets them every one. There are in his unimaginable compassions, and in his benignant fellow-feelings, holds sufficient for every craving tendril and eager clasper of the human heart, to fix upon and wreath around.—*Rev. James Hamilton.*

NEWS.

SEED POTATOES.—We observe by the import list that two vessels arrived last week from South America, having on board about 100 barrels of potatoes, which we understand were expressly ordered by the importers for seed. It was from South America the potato was first brought to Europe, and it is reasonable to suppose that seed from the indigenous soil will be highly prized at the present moment. Some years ago a small quantity of potatoes was brought from the same quarter, and used as seed by a farmer in Dumfriesshire. The produce, we are informed, turned out very superior.—*Liverpool Albion.*

COMMERCIAL ABSTINENCE SOCIETY.—A soiree, or tea party, of the Glasgow Commercial Abstinence Society, was held in the Merchants' Hall, Hutcheson street, on Tuesday evening—J. M'Gavin, Esq., president of the association, in the chair. The company was large and respectable. The chairman mentioned that the number of members had already increased to 130; and there was one very important and pleasing feature in the Society, which was, that out of this number, seventy were travellers.

BATHS FOR THE WORKING CLASSES.—We understand that the sub-committee appointed by the Bath Association have purchased that property, No. 12 Nicholson-square, for the purpose of erecting the public baths. Possession will be obtained at Whitsunday first, and thus there is every reason to believe that the object so much desired—baths for the working classes—will be completed during the ensuing summer.—*Scotsman.*

AMERICAN ICE.—A vessel called the America, arrived in the St. Katherine's Dock, two or three days since, from Boston, United States, having on board, with the exception of twenty-eight boxes of provisions, a cargo consisting entirely of ice, amounting to the immense quantity of 460 tons weight.—*London Sun.* (What a business the St. Lawrence might do in ice!)

The white trousers, as an article of summer dress for soldiers, will no longer be worn, and on the first of May next they will, for the first time, appear in an article of darker texture, more serviceable, and less liable to be soiled.

SOLDIERS.—The English army, including the number of troops employed by the East India Company, amounts to about 140,000 men. The French army of the line amounts to 300,000, of which 60,000 are in Algiers. Our regular army, when the two additional regiments are recruited, will be about 8,000.—*American Paper.*

A. W. Gray, of Middleton, has invented a machine for making wrought nails. It can be worked by one horse, or any other power equal, and turn out one hundred pounds per day, as smooth as cut nails, and better than those made by the hammer. It is thought to be a very valuable invention, which promises much both to himself and the community. He has already applied for letters patent.—*Id.*

At the Detroit charter election, held on the 2nd inst., the electors voted against granting licenses to taverns and groceries, by a large majority.

PUBLISHING OFFICE.

FROM and after the 1st May next, R. D. WADSWORTH will open a Publishing Office at No. 4, EXCHANGE COURT, Montreal, at which the following Periodicals will be published, viz. :—

The "Montreal Witness" every Monday evening.

The "People's Magazine" on the 1st and 15th of every month—1s. 3d. for first half-year.

The "Canada Temperance Advocate," semi-monthly—2s. 6d. per annum.

The "Record of the French Canadian Missionary Society," quarterly—1s. 3d. per annum.

The "Children's Missionary and Sabbath School Record," monthly—1s. per annum.

Orders and remittances for any or all of the above publications may be included in the same letters, and addressed to Mr. Wadsworth, Montreal, April, 1846.

THE PEOPLE'S MAGAZINE is printed by JOHN C. BECKET, 211½ St Paul Street, for the proprietor, JOHN DOUGALL, and published semi-monthly, by R. D. WADSWORTH, to whom all orders should be addressed, post-paid.

TERMS:—1½d. per Single Copy, or 1s. per Dozen. Semi-Annual Subscription, exclusive of Postage, 1s. 3d., payable in Advance.