

or undertakes to do, all three, cannot hope to do any of them quite as well. Hence the disappointment. It is as if a man undertook to practice medicine and law and edit a daily paper. This is just what is often expected of pastors in the large churches of our cities. *Dr. Deems.*

WHY CAN'T YOU TRUST CHRIST?

An eminent Christian worker relates the following instructive incident. - A young woman in deep distress came to me last night, and I set before her the way of salvation, and said, "Trust in the salvation of Jesus Christ." "Oh, I feel—" she said. "I don't care," I replied "what you feel." Will you tell me any reason why you should not trust the Lord Jesus Christ?" "I do not know any reason, but—" "Can you trust me?" "Oh, yes, sir, I can trust you with anything." "Then you must not talk in that way, and say you can trust me, a sinful man, and not trust the Lord Jesus Christ. It's ridiculous. Trust a man, and not trust the Son of God! Can you tell me any reason why you can't trust Him? Will you show me anything He ever did why you will not trust Him? Will you explain to me on what grounds you dare to say you cannot trust Him?" "But, sir, I feel—" "I don't want to know anything about your feelings; I want to know why you can't trust Him? He says He is able and willing to save you; can you trust Him?" "But yet, you know—" she said. "But I don't know, and I don't want to know. I want to know why you can't trust Him? Did he not stand in the room and place of every soul that trusts Him? Do you think He is unworthy your confidence?" She looked at me at last and said: "You won't let me do anything else but think about Christ." "No, why should I? I want to drive you to Him. Tell me why you should not trust Him?" She stood up and said: "I cannot imagine any reason why I can't trust Him?" "And why don't you?" "Yes, I do! and am I really saved?" "If you really trust Him." "Of course I am saved," she said gently. "I see it now. How was it I did not see it before? He says I am saved, for are not these His own words: 'He that believeth on me hath everlasting life?' I am so glad you would not let me talk about my feelings, and kept me to that point; for now I see it all."

LOST IN SIGHT OF HOME.

A few months ago, during one of the severe storms that visited Colorado, a young man perished in sight of home. In his bewilderment, he passed and repassed his own cottage, to lie down and die almost in range with the "light in the window" which his young wife had placed there to guide him home. All alone she watched the long night through, listening in vain for the footsteps that would come no more; for long before the morning dawned the icy touch of death had for ever stilled that warm, loving heart. The sad death was made still sadder by the fact that he was lost in sight of home.

How many wanderers from the Father's house are lost in sight of home, in the full glare of the Gospel light! They have the open Bible, overflowing with its calls and promises, the faithful warnings from the sacred desk, the manifestations of God's providence, all tending to direct their footsteps heavenward; and yet from all these they turn away, waiting for the more convenient season, and are lost, at last, in sight of the many mansions.—*Forward.*

HOW TO PRAY.

An article found among the unfinished papers of the late Dr. J. A. Alexander, on "Circumlocution in Prayer," closes with the following practical suggestions to young men who are forming their habits in respect to prayer. They are equally applicable to all who pray in public:—

1. Let your prayer be composed of thanksgiving, praise, confession, and petition, without any argument or exhortation addressed to those who are supposed to be praying with you.
2. Adopt no fixed forms of expression, except such as you obtain from the Scriptures.
3. Express your desires in the briefest, simplest form, without circumlocution.
4. Avoid the use of compound terms in the place of the imperfect tense.
5. Hallow God's name by avoiding its unnecessary repetition.

6. Adopt the simple devotional phrases of Scripture; but avoid the free use of its figures, and all quaint and doubtful application of its terms to foreign subjects.

7. Pray to God and not to man.

INTO THE DEPTHS OF THE SEA.

Thou wilt cast all my sins into the depths of the sea. Micah vii. 19.

Deep sea, in whose unfathomed caves
Our sins are cast and found no more;
No tempest rage, no surging waves,
Can beat them back upon the shore.
Low in unsounded depths they lie,
Like Egypt's submerged cavalry,
Like the army and horse, the shield, bow and quiver,
They slumber deep down on the coral paved floor:
So our legion transgressions are buried forever:
In judgment they rise to condemn us no more;
Buried forever! Evermore!
"Thou wilt cast all our sins into the depths of the sea"—
How gracious the tidings for you and for me.

Deep sea! the load from sight is lost;
But where the mighty burden fell,
Though many a gallant ship has crossed,
There is no milestone left to tell.
Unsounded caverns, low and deep,
Forever will the secret keep.
O, yes! the great burden is sunk in no river,
Which the drought of the summer to sight might restore.
It is plunged in the ocean depths, buried forever,
In judgement to rise and condemn us no more;
Buried forever! Evermore!
"Thou wilt cast all our sins into the depths of the sea"—
Thrice blessed the tidings for you and for me!

—J. R. Macduff, D.D.

GOSPEL WORK.

MESSRS. MOODY AND SANKEY.—INCIDENTS OF THE STRATFORD WORK.

Many cases and facts of a most encouraging kind are being met with by the workers in connection with the visitation of the people. We subjoin a few that have come to our knowledge:—

A gentleman called one day at a house where he had been accustomed on former visits to see the wife with a blackeye, the result of her husband's bad temper. This time, however, the door was opened by the husband himself, who astonished the visitor by saying, "I know you have come in answer to prayer." The gentleman thinking of former experiences, replied, "That is not much in your line, is it?" "It didn't used to be, but since I have been to Mr. Moody's meetings things are very different with me." "Do you mean to say that I can now take you by the hand and call you a Christian brother?" "Indeed you can." It seemed almost too good to be true.

At one of the Stratford meetings a worker, in conversation with a man who seemed deeply anxious about his soul, had great difficulty in getting him to concentrate his thoughts on any point. After having prayed, and done all he could to direct the man to the Word of God, the worker gave him a little book, entitled "Just the Saviour You Need," asking him to read it carefully at home. The man said he did not want it; it had better be given to someone else. Not to be daunted, the worker, having discovered that the inquirer was married, asked him to take the little book for his wife to read; he at last reluctantly consented to do so. True to his word he gave it to his wife when he went home, and she read it through. As she laid it down on the table she said it was a nice book and advised him to read it. He took it up and when he came to the third page he exclaimed: "I see it now; I have been going the wrong way about it; I have got to accept salvation as a gift." He has since been giving grand testimony, and every indication of having entered on a new life. His wife last week visited the house of the worker who talked with him, and was also led to an acceptance of the Saviour.

A man attempted to get into one of the Sunday meetings at West Ham-lane Hall, and failed, much to his disappointment. A young worker, who met him, seeing his downcast looks asked the cause. On hearing how the matter stood and seeing the man's great anxiety to hear Mr. Moody on that occasion, as he could not get any other day, the worker managed to get him squeezed in through the crowd. He was wonderfully touched and impressed both by the sermon and by what the young worker said to him. This friend sent him a little book through the post, and had a hopeful letter from him. It so happened that another worker on going home the evening after this

man had attended the meeting, found a letter awaiting him from a Christian woman, to whom he had been made a blessing four years before. The letter asked the worker to join her in praising God for the conversion of her husband at the hall the night before. Some days afterwards these two workers met, and the fact came out that the man whom the younger one had led into the light was the same as the husband referred to. He is now bearing noble witness for Christ in a church which greatly needs such testimony.

A great blessing has come to several of the young clergy in the Stratford district. Some who were wavering, or even hostile, have been brought into fullest sympathy with the work. There will be large additions it is expected to the membership of all the places of worship whose pastors were in sympathy with the meetings. A manifest blessing has come to not a few of the railway men, of whom there are so many in the district. It has been discovered that numbers who were impressed at the meetings, but did not go into the inquiry-room and come to a decision, are now grieving over the lost blessing and are seeking the counsel of workers with whom they come in contact.

It is known that some men who were notorious drunkards have been reclaimed. The newly formed Mizpah Band is doing a glorious work. The friend who has given a site for a Conference Hall to be erected, now furnishes a temporary place of meeting on his business premises, where meetings are held every Saturday and Sunday evenings. The Mizpah Band has been very happy in securing such officers of worth and standing as will be a guarantee of the satisfactory and permanent nature of the organization.—*The Christian.*

MISSION NOTES.

As the result of Waldensian Missions in Italy, nearly 500 new members have been added to the Church of Christ during the past year, and these are mainly from the Church of Rome.

A ROYAL manifesto recently granted to all Bavarian Methodists the rights of a distinct church, including liberty to preach, to hold Sunday schools, and in fact, to enjoy all the privileges of the National Church, except ringing bells and public demonstrations.

IN the midst of a foul swamp in Madagascar, a Ramiraho and his excellent wife are patiently labouring. Every evening a little bell summons their neighbours to join with them in family worship. The service is short and simple: two hymns, reading, and two short prayers. From fifteen varying to forty attend, and I, for one, felt that quiet, unostentatious witnessing for Christ and calling upon His name to be very hallowed.

REFERRING to the present aspect of affairs in China, the Rev. Dr. Chalmers writes: "We are going on with our work in Hong Kong as usual, and even in Canton the missionaries are trying to keep everything going, though the political horizon and the aspect of the people towards Europeans look very black indeed. It seems as if all the old hostility of 1857 had revived, with but little more of discrimination or intelligence."

DR. HAPPER, an American Presbyterian Missionary in China, reports the ordination of three ministers of the Gospel at Canton. They had been several years under the teaching and training of the missionaries, and they are regarded as men of very valuable promise. They have received calls to churches, and instillation services in two cases were ordered by the Presbytery. The occasion of this receiving of native ministers was one of marked interest to both the missionaries and the churches.

The editor of the *Indian Christian Express* says: "We should like to see many more such workers springing up in all parts of India, and doing the Lord's work without any help from the Foreign Missionary Societies. Brother Moodoo earns his livelihood by imparting instruction to boys in a Government-aided school which he himself founded. We believe Brother Moodoo has hit, on the right plan at the present time for becoming an independent missionary, and we trust many who are desirous of preaching the Gospel to the unconverted will benefit by his example. There are many interesting points in the account, and our readers will do well to take note of them; but there is one thing which we must bring prominently to their notice. It is the attempt successfully made by Brother Moodoo to make those among whom the Gospel is preached contribute towards the support of the preacher,