

Miscellany.

SELECTIONS.

THE STRONG REFUGE.

"Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us; for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree."—Gal. iii. 13.

ON to the Refuge!—straight it lies before you;
A Friend is at the door.
Hear, and believe, and live. He tarries for you
As none e'er watched before.
Look to the cross, and there behold Him dying
Upon the accursed tree—
The Lamb of God, in bitter anguish sighing,
Bearing thy sin for thee!

Behold, His precious blood runs freely down;
His sinless head is bowed—
Mocked by the purple robe, the reed, the crown
Hark to the cruel crowd—
"Let Him come down and save Himself! Ah me,
Poor soul! what were thy loss
If God's dear Son had saved Himself, *not thee*,
Upon the accursed cross!

—ANNA SHIPTON.

"INSTANT IN SEASON."

The following notes are written for the encouragement of Christians travelling by railway in England or on the Continent, with the hope that the children of God may be led more and more to set forth the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, and with the full assurance that if they are really depending on the teaching of the Holy Ghost, the Comforter will give them the wisdom and prudence needed for the various positions and circumstances in which they may be placed day by day.

I have seen souls not only in bondage, but doing harm, and exciting needless opposition, because at all costs they seemed to think that they should speak

of Jesus to every soul they meet. There is a dependence on the Spirit, and a time, not ours but his, for all things, and it is better to sit at Jesus' feet, and abide his time, than, Martha-like, to be found rushing here and there, endeavoring to force every lock. Paul and Silas, both true and earnest men, "assayed to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit suffered them not."

I had been travelling by railway to London for some time, and distributed and read the Word of God. I met about twice a week an intelligent person to whom I gave tracts, and also spoke touching the things of our Lord. I did not meet with much encouragement, but committed my way to God. After a while, I lost sight of my fellow-traveller, and we did not meet for a lengthened period; but when we again came together, I speedily saw that he had accepted Jesus as his Saviour. He grew much in grace, and is now an earnest worker, preaching Christ. He told me after his conversion that he used to be annoyed and angry when he saw me reading the Bible; that he watched me narrowly for some time, thinking I was a hypocrite, and on receiving the last tract I gave him, entitled, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved," he said in his heart, "All this is nonsense; and as for that fellow with his Bible, I do not believe a word he says." He added, "I can read a Bible as well as he can, and I will get one too, for I am sure what he affirms is not to be found there." He bought a Bible; he read it; God opened his eyes; he found peace in Jesus; he is a preacher of the gospel.

On another occasion, in England, there were several persons in a railway-carriage; I prayed for guidance, and for some time seemed to obtain no direct leading. At last I was left with one passenger, to whom I felt much led to speak, and drew forth some tracts to examine them. My companion, a