

[EDITORIAL.]

The Word of God.

AT the monthly meetings of the workers connected with the Toronto Mission Union, it is customary for each one present to take part in the opening exercise, by quoting some text which has been impressed upon the heart during the day. As we sat and listened to the texts repeated (during a recent meeting), we were led to make note of the leading thought in each verse quoted, and when the exercise was completed and we summarized the same, we must admit that not only were we profited, but we were led to adore the goodness of our God, and we became more deeply rooted in our faith in the inspiration of the Word of God. Twenty-five workers were present at the meeting. They came from all parts of the city, were representatives of nearly every Evangelical denomination, of different sexes, with experiences wide as the poles, yet their experience of the Word, and quotations from it so blended as to present a consecutive line of thought bearing upon the Christian life. When classified they presented a three-fold view of the Christian. What he is—What he is to do—What he is promised.

What he is:—Redeemed. Made partakers of the Divine nature. Justified. Friends of Christ. A life hid with Christ in God.

What he is to do:—Have faith in God. Be a fruit-bearer. Care for the poor. Bear each others burdens. Be faithful, Witness for Him. Be unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.

What he is promised:—Life. Peace. Rest. Refuge. Safety. Support. Supply. Satisfaction. crown. Glory.

What a precious collection of jewels from the treasure house of God's word. Friends, we defy any company of twenty-five worldly men to assemble, and without previous arrangement, quote from any one or more of their favorite authors, with a result such as this. No man would be able to lay side by side such quotations and find in them a consecutive line of thought bearing upon one important subject. Yet here we have twenty-five Scripture texts quoted by different persons, and when gathered they present a line of thought in which we trace the whole Christian journey from Bondage to Glory!

Dear reader, is this Book your guide book. Do you believe its teaching? Do you follow its precepts? It will prove a friend to you if you accept it. It will judge you if you reject it.

THE laying open the heart of God is the great design of the Scriptures: happy the reader who falls in with that design!

WE shall never become established in grace until we credit the Word of God as the self-proving voice of Him who speaks it.

A Warm Welcome.

THE residence of our friend, Mr. Gooderham, was the scene of a very pleasant gathering on the occasion of his return from his recent visit to England. In addition to a warm welcome from a large circle of intimate friends, the inmates of the Boy's Home were present with their "fife and drum band" (the instruments of which were a present from Mr. Gooderham).

Next morning a new surprise awaited him in the arrival of the little girls of the Girl's Home, who sweetly sang the following welcome:—

To our good benefactor, William Gooderham, Esq.]

Dear kind friend we've come to greet you
With a glad and happy song;
Lovingly we haste to meet you,
Hoping you are well and strong.

CHORUS.

Welcome, welcome, welcome, welcome,
We are glad you've safely come;
Welcome, welcome, welcome, welcome,
Benefactor of "Our Home."

Absence for awhile bereft us
Of your kind paternal care—
It seems a long time since you left us,
Other varied scenes to share.—CHORUS.

Little hearts so true and tender,
Now rejoice thy face to see,
And a loving tribute render
To the ONE who watched o'er thee.—CHORUS.

May HE ever shed around thee,
Blessings such as HE can give;
And with loving friends surround thee,
Ever near you while you live.—CHORUS.

And when death's deep shadow stealing,
Sets thy happy spirit free,
May eternal bliss revealing,
Angels sent to welcome thee —CHORUS.

Mr. Gooderham, in his words to the little ones, expressed his pleasure at meeting them again, and his gratitude to God who, by His gifts of money and grace, had enabled him to do something for their good.

As we hear of such gatherings, we wonder why so many wealthy men, professing to be Christians, are so short-sighted as to deprive themselves of the pleasure of giving during their lifetime. Surely the sight of so many bright visitors, filled with grateful love, would of itself be sufficient reward. But there is a brighter and nobler one in the Welcome words of our blessed Master: "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these."

We trust that many more of the Lord's children, to whom He has entrusted wealth, may be led, like this friend, to consecrate that wealth to His service, thereby laying up for themselves treasures where nothing can affect it or deprive them of its accumulated interest.