

THE LAST DAY.

Behold the dead! Just now such, never to be such again. But what of those who this morning, some fifteen hundred millions strong, were in the full blast of their earthly ways, and now in immeasurable astonishment find themselves almost lost in the deluge of old life that is pouring in upon them from every quarter, what of them? The same earthquake blast that roused the dead transformed the living. Suddenly the material refined into the spiritual. All grossness and infirmity vanished. Age flashed back and youth flashed forward into mid-life, and from the eyes of mid-life flashed the strange fires of immortal life. The maimed cast away their crutches—what need they? The sick desert their beds and hospitals—what further use for nurses and doctors? The prisoners walk forth from their prisons without challenge—trouble not yourselves any further about them, O ye jailers, judges, jury: henceforth God will take both them and you in charge. And up, all of you! Defy gravity, and join in mid-air the mutely expectant hosts of other generations.

Any among you now to doubt the last day? Any Paines, at first or second-hand, to laugh at the old wives' fables and priestcrafts with which only women and children are frightened? Any "philosophers," refusing to see in nature anything but eyeless law, and ready with their demonstrations that neither in earth nor starry heavens is there aught requiring the supernatural? Pray is this day, with its effulgent angel and earthquake trump and countless resurrections and transformations, naturally evolved from the primal fire-mist?—*Eccæ Terra, by Dr E. F. Burr.*

WHAT THE B. & F. BIBLE SOCIETY IS DOING.

In the course of the seventy-nine years' existence the British and Foreign Bible Society has issued 97,000,000 copies of the Scriptures, in whole or in part, in two hundred and fifty languages and dialects. It is believed that altogether about two hundred and twenty millions of Bibles, or Bible portions, have been provided in printed form for the fourteen hundred million inhabitants of our globe, and at least three-fourths of these have been prepared and cultivated by the Bible Society and kindred institutions. But, if we take in-

to account that of this supply (little more, be it observed, than one Bible to six persons) *Protestant nations have received more than one-half* we realize something of the world's remaining need of the written word of God. Among the one thousand millions of heathen, Jews, and Mohammedans, not more than ten million copies of the Scriptures in whole or in part have been circulated.

But this work, like all other great movements in these last days, is going forward with ever-increasing energy and speed, and never were there more openings for it than now. During the past year progress is reported in sixty translations, including Armenian, Japanese, Javanese, Malagasi, Persian, Russ (for the blind), Sindhi, Swahili, Tibetan, and Yoruba.—*Miss. News.*

THE LORD'S WORK.

It is a great error to suppose that we are doing the Lord's work only when we are engaged in devotional exercises, or labouring for the conversion of sinners, or for the edification of Christians. That which a man does heartily, as unto the Lord, is the Lord's work. Ploughing is as truly a religious work as praying. The merchant when he makes an honest exchange is doing the Lord's work. Dealing justly is as truly a religious act as warning sinners to flee from the wrath to come. A man God's work when he is doing that which pleases God.

A man is doing the Lord's work when he is faithful to his employer—does a fair day's work; when he takes proper care of his health; when he governs his temper; when he is careful to speak the exact truth; when he is courteous to strangers, and lends a helping hand to the needy; when he has a word of encouragement for the desponding; when he sets an example of industry and honesty; when he returns good for evil; when he leads such an upright, benevolent God-honouring life, and that men take knowledge of him that he has been with Jesus. Religion does not consist solely in reading the Bible, praying, attending church, and labouring for the conversion of men. These are important duties, but they do not include the whole of the duty. God's will has reference to every act of our lives.—*N. Y. Observer.*