

PRAYER ANSWERED.

Dr. J. P. Newman, in a recent sermon, said: "In New Orleans I was smitten with yellow fever. I buried the first victim, and from July to September I tended the sick. I buried that noble young lawyer, Vice-President Hamlin's son. At last my turn came, and I was stricken down. During my sickness I was attended at night by a negro nurse sent to me by General Sheridan, and in the daytime by a devoted lady who was a member of one of the churches in the city.

"When I recovered I gave wages where wages were due, and rewards where rewards were due; for you must not give wages where rewards are due. Then I went afterward to Washington as chaplain of the United States Senate. One day, as I was in my study, the thought came suddenly to me to reward that lady. The answer was, 'You did.' 'True, but not enough,' I said to myself, and I wrote a check and sent it at once.

"At that moment the lady was kneeling by the body of her dead sister, praying that God would send her a friend. She had been reduced to poverty, and what I sent her came in time to defray the funeral expenses. You may relegate such a thing to the law of coincidences, but we are praying every day that God will administer just such a law of coincidence as this."
—*Christian Witness*.

IS GOD PARTICULAR?

"Then Elisha said, Go borrow the vessels abroad of all thy neighbours, empty vessels; not a few. And when thou art come in, thou shalt shut the door upon thee and thy sons, and shalt pour out into all the vessels, and thou shalt set aside that which is full." (2 Kings iv. 3, 4.) Some one will say, "Why all this bother about shutting the door, and gathering vessels, and pouring out oil; could he not have helped the woman without all this detail?" But so it was; and if she had failed in aught, she would have lost the blessing. I remind you of Israel's first king. Saul was told to go and slay the Amalekites; and he returned saying he had fulfilled God's command. "What mean the bleating of those sheep and the lowing of those oxen in mine ears?" "Oh!" said Saul, "I forgot for the moment; yes, to be sure, I did spare a few sheep and oxen, but it was for the purpose of sacrificing to the Lord." This was an obliviousness with a consequence; he lost the kingdom through it. Just so, my friend, when you begin to question what God commands—"What is the use of this appointment?" "Where is the good of that injunction?" you are lost.—*Dr. Parker*.