Expositor of Holiness

Vol. VII.

MARCH, 1889.

No. 9.

MY FATHER'S WILL.

Thy will is not a thing apart,
My Father, from Thy loving heart,
A stern, hard thing, which worketh naught
Save only ill;

It is Thy very Self—thy thought In love conceived and carried out, With faithfulness and wisdom fraught, Thy child to bless.

Upon it lay me down to rest
As babe on tender mother's breast,
Supremely satisfied and blest,
My conflict o'er.

Each moment let me take from Thee
Bitter or sweet; whate'er may be
Just then Thy will, my God, for me,
Thy sweet, sweet will.

Curb my impatience; hold me still;
And self annihilate; until.

I move responsive to Thy will,
Yea, Thine alone.

Like feather borne upon the air, So sway me, move me, anywhere, Or up or down, or here or there, As Thou shalt choose.

As liquid, in a form or mould,
Takes shape from that which doth it hold:
So let Thy will my own enfold,
Till one with Thine.

Then shall Thy glorious thought for me, So far above what I can see, · Be fully carried out by Thee.

My Lord, my God!
—Parish Visitor.

"WHEN afflictions have done their work, God will recall them."

WESLEY'S DEFINITION OF A METHODIST.

"A Methodist is one who loves the Lord his God with all his heart, with all his soul, with all his mind, and with all his strength. God is the joy of his heart, and the desire of his soul, which is continually crying, 'Whom have I in heaven but Thee? and there is none upon earth whom I desire besides Thee.' My God and my all! 'Thou art the strength of my heart, and my portion forever. He is, therefore, happy in God; yea, always happy, as having in Him a well of water springing up into everlasting life, and overflowing his soul with peace and joy. Perfect love having now cast out fear, he rejoices evermore. Yea, his joy is full, and all his bones cry out, 'Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy, hath begotten me again unto a living hope of an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, reserved in heaven for me."

This looks very much like the Scriptural definition of a Christian. And those who reproduce this life, that is, live it by the year without a break therein, may well be invited to give us their God-speed in our efforts to propagate this identical experience in the churches.

If that is impossible, in their godly judgment, then we are ready for heir assistance in rectifying what they see to be wrong. But, as far as we know, this Methodist—Christian experience has been ours, these several years, and we have been helping to increase its witnesses in the world.

How can one, with a similar Christian experience, wish to hamper us in our