

His business failed, and he soon found himself a prisoner on the debtor's side of Exeter Castle. Not being able to procure his favourite drink, his mind became very low. He was induced to read one of the Bibles provided for the prisoners, and was so interested in its contents, that, during his imprisonment, he read it entirely through. His mind was deeply affected, and he came to the solemn determination that he would never go into sin again, should he obtain his liberty. In due time he procured his discharge, and returned with great joy to his friends. Several of his old companions called upon him, to congratulate him on his deliverance, and one glass followed another, so that the first night did not pass away without witnessing this poor creature again overpowered with liquor. The reading of the Scriptures had taught him his danger, and he became the subject of considerable despondency. He had broken the solemn vow, which he had made in his own strength, and he thought there could be no hope of mercy. Just at this time, when his mind appeared to be in a state of indecision, he received the tract, "SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES." It pleased God to make this small book the means of reviving all the impressions produced by the reading of the Scriptures in prison, and he became a consistent follower of the Lord Jesus Christ. Thus we see that scriptural tracts lead the sinner to the source from whence they derive all their own light and glory.

#### THE BIBLE ON A DESERT ISLAND.

The most valuable thing we preserved from the wreck was our Bible; and I must here state that some portion of time each day was set apart for reading it; and by nothing, perhaps, could I better exemplify its benefits, even in a temporal point of view, than by stating, that to its in-

fluence we were indebted for an almost unparalleled unanimity during the whole time we were on the island. The welfare of the community was the individual endeavour of all; and whatever was recommended by the most experienced, was joyfully acquiesced in by the rest. If ever a difference of opinion arose, a majority of voices decided the measure, and individual wishes always gave way to the proposals that obtained the largest suffrages. Peace reigned among us, for the precepts of Him who was the harbinger of peace and good-will towards men, were daily inculcated, and daily practised. If ever there was a fulfilment of the promise, as contained in Ecclesiastes xi. 1. "Cast thy bread upon the waters, and thou shall find it after many days;" this simple fact must bring it home to every one, even to the least contributor to that most valuable of all institutions, the Seamen's Bible Society; for it was fulfilled even to the very letter. The Bible, when bestowed, was thrown by unheeded—it traversed wide oceans—it was scattered with the wreck of our frail bark—and was in deed and in truth found upon the waters after many days, and not only was the mere book found, but its value was also discovered, and its blessings, so long neglected, were now made apparent to us. Cast away on a desert island, in the midst of an immense ocean, without a hope of deliverance, lost to all human sympathy, mourned as dead by our kindred; in this invaluable book we found the herald of hope, the balm of consolation, the dispenser of peace, the soother of our sorrows, and a pilot to the harbour of eternal happiness.—*From the Shipwreck of the Princess of Wales, by C. M. Goodridge.*

#### THE BIBLE LEAF.

In a town in Providence, North America, lived two young men who were intimate. The one truly pious,