

CONVERTED BY A TELEGRAM.

A young telegraph operator in an English provincial town was anxious about his soul. But he could not have guessed that a message would reach him as it did. He had been sleepless all night, thinking of his need of a Saviour, and in the morning he went to his work with his heart uttering the Publican's prayer. The sunny weather and beauty of summer scenery did not engage him now, for he was longing after that peace of God which the Christian feels.

Absorbed with this desire he continued to pray, "God be merciful to me a sinner," and was constantly repeating the words when the click of the signal told him his office was called. He took his place at the instrument, and quickly and with unusual emotion spelt the message from "Herbert," at Windoremero, to "J. B." at Warkworth:

"Behold the lamb of God which taketh away the sins of the world." In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace."

Such a telegram as that the young man had never known to pass the wires before. It was sent to a servant-girl who, in her distress of mind, had written a letter to her brother "Herbert" at the Lakeside, but it proved a double benediction, for it came to the operator as a direct reply from heaven to his prayer. He accepted it as such, and his faith saw and rested in the lamb of God.

Meantime the golden telegram went to its designation, and brought peace to the anxious soul of the poor servant-girl. It saved two instead of one. And those words are living words still, and as potent to bless and save—not only two, but ten thousand times ten thousand.—*Chris. Herald.*

THE TRAVELLER'S PSALM.

There is one of the psalms that is called the "traveller's psalm." When you are going to take a journey by land or by sea, I would advise you to think of the "traveller's psalm." What psalm do you think it is? It is the twenty-first. Let us look at it. It is a beautiful psalm, all about taking a journey. When anybody is leaving home and going to take a journey, I should advise at family worship or in their own rooms alone, the reading of the twenty-first psalm; or if any friends of yours are going to take a journey, give them or read to them this psalm: "The

Lord is thy keeper; the Lord is thy shade upon the right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in, from this time forth and even forevermore." Always read the "traveller's psalm" before you take a journey.—*Sunday Magazine.*

WHO? THERE IS ONLY ONE.

It is not long since a prominent business man, when closely pressed by his pastor, who had lately come to the church, replied with a calm force which was meant to put an end to further pertinacity.—"I am interested in all religious matters; I am always glad to see the ministers when they call, but I have in the years past thought the subject over long and carefully, and I have come to the decision, deliberately, that I have no personal need of Jesus Christ as a Saviour in the sense you preach." Only two weeks from this interview the same man was suddenly prostrated with disease; the illness was of such a character as to forbid his conversing with any one, and the interdiction from speaking was continued until he was within an hour of death. A solemn moment was that in which a question was put to him, intimating he might talk now if he could—nothing would harm him. The last thing, and the only thing he said, was in a melancholy and frightened whisper: "Who will carry me over the river?"—*Dr. C. S. Robinson.*

PRAYER.

Dr. Goodell, of St. Louis, Mo., quaintly says that prayer is the best thing about a prayer-meeting. It is not a sociable, though it ought to be social; not a singing meeting, though we ought to sing and with all our heart; not a talking meeting, though men may briefly utter testimony or speak of their needs; still less is it a lecture by the pastor. The auroral light and the stellar glory are good in their place, but the sun alone makes daylight, and soulful prayer makes the prayer-meeting. Music helps and should be taken pains with. Remarks on a central theme are quickening, and those should be spoken with brevity and preparedness of heart. A question-box for themes and printed texts put into the hand before meeting to be recited are also helpful, but prayer, prayer, prayer, makes the "prayer-meeting."