

Editor's Portfolio.

ALONE ! YET NOT ALONE.

ALONE ! yet not alone ;
For thou, my God, art nigh :
Thou wilt not leave thy child
In this lone, desert wild,
Alone ! for thee to sigh.

Alone ! yet not alone,
With Jesus by my side :
" I love thee," hear him say,
" I'm with thee day by day,
And shall with thee abide."

Alone ! yet not alone,
The Comforter has come !
He fills my heart with peace,
Bids every trouble cease,
And gently guides me home.

Alone ! yet not alone,
The Triune God is here !
The Father, Spirit, Son,
I claim now for my own :
My own, for ever near.

Alone ! yet not alone,
The earnest has been given
Of unseen things above ;
The peace, the joy, the love,
The antepast of Heaven.

Alone ! yet not alone,
In life, in death, in Heaven :
In life I fear no foes,
No dread my spirit knows,
For victory shall be given.

Alone ! yet not alone,
In death I'll triumph too !
E'en now by faith I sing
" O death ! where is thy sting ?"
God's grace shall bring me through.

Alone ! yet not alone,
In Heaven I soon shall be !
There with the white-robed throng
Shall sing the new, new song,
And my Redeemer see.

D. Winter.

INSTANT HEALING.

THE miracles of Jesus were not only manifestations of Divine power : they were also symbols of spiritual blessings ; and they are legitimately employed in the pulpit, or elsewhere, when used as illustrations of Christ's ability and willingness to save. We were thinking to-day of the case of the impotent man at the pool of Bethesda. He had been sick for eight and thirty years, when Jesus found him. Had he lived in the nineteenth century, he would have been sent to a "hospital for incurables,"—unless he happened to be very poor, in which case he would probably be left to die where he liked. But eight years, or thirty-eight, are all one to the Great Physician.

This man was in one of the porches, [veranda] which skirted the margin of the pool, and with him was a "great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the water." What a picture of the church of to-day, with its "porches" still full of impotent folk ! Some "blind : " they "cannot see far off, and have forgotten that they were purged from their old sins ; " some "halt," as Jacob did, after he wrestled with the angel, but from a very different cause. There are any number of lame Christians around. Some "withered,"—the freshness of their spiritual life all dried up—spiritual mummies, in fact. And these all "waiting for the moving of the water,"—waiting for a revival to heal their maladies ; missing blessed opportunities just within their reach, and "waiting" for what may never come to them.

"Infirmities," are of various kinds. Some have a "spirit of infirmity," like the woman in the gospel, who "could not lift up herself,"—they have never been able to "stand up for Jesus." Some have the "withered hand : " they can't lift it up in prayer, or stretch it out in charity. Some are as dumb in regard to religion, [they can speak glibly enough about