Youth's Department.

SCRIPTURE QUESTIONS.

XLIII. DAVID, --- CONTINUED.

379. When David perceived that the Lord was propitiated in consequence of his having offered sacrifice on this occasion, he fixed upon this spot as the place for his future sacrifices: and on the same spot the temple was afterwards built which was erected by his son Solomon. From what passage of Scripture do you learn this latter circumstance?

380. Though David himself was not permitted to build the Temple, because he had carried on extensive wars, and had consequently "shed much blood on the ourth," yet ho very largely dedicated of the spoils he had by these means accumulated, towards its erection. Can you specify the amazing amount of the talents both of gold and silver which he thus set apart ?-(1 Chron.)

381. How does it appear that not merely the materials for the erection of the temple were furnished by David, but that the whole of the plan was likewise furnished by him, and that this plan (like that communicated to Moses respecting the building and furnishing of the tabernacle) was given by Immediate revelation from God himself?-(1 Chron.)

382. When "David was old and full of days, he gathered together all the princes of Israel, with the pricets and Lo. vites," and made Solomon his son king in his stead. Do you recollect the striking and solemn charge which he then delivered to his son respecting his personal piety and devotedness to God?-(1 Chron.)

383. Do you remember likewise the encouraging charge which he gave to him connected with the building of the house of God, beginning with the words ' Be strong and of a good courago?'--(1 Chron.)

384. David, after establishing his son Solomon in his kingdom, is said to have died in a good old ago, and full of days, riches, and honours. Can you tell David's age when he died, taking for granted that he was thirty yours old when he began to roign ?-(1 Chron.)

385. Notwithstanding the eggravated offence with which this excellent man stands charged in Scripture, he is nevertholess described as being a man after God's own heart .-What do you conceive to be the meaning of this expression?

CHURCH CALENDAR.

Feb. 24 .- Second Sunday in Lent. ' .-St. Matthias' Day. March 3 .- Third Sonday in Lent. 10 .- Fourth Sunday in Lent.

PASSING THOUGHTS.

BY CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH.

No. xviii.-THE BURDEN.

Walking along a hilly road the other day, I observed a young girl, apparently about sixteen, carrying a large bucket of grains, as I supposed, from a browery not far behind us, to replenish the trough of her pig, or to fatten her fewls .-There was something painful in the continued effort with which the poor girl ascended the path. The right arm was evidently on the full stretch downwards, while the left was no less forcibly extended horizontally, to assist, with body and nock inclined in the same direction, in affording a countorpoise to the heavy weight that dragged her earthward .-After a while, she rested for breath, placing her bucket on the ground, and her hands to her hips, as if to relieve the overstrained muscles so severaly taxed; then, at the foot of a higher ascent, she resumed the load, and proceeded more painfully than before.

At this juncture a gir!, considerably less than herself, who was loitering near a gute on the read, accested her, and af. twoen thom, they trotted along, with countenances and manner so changed, that I could not but mark them: the expression of fatigue and vexation on the aspect of the burdened traveller gave place to one of sprightly satisfaction while that of the helper, before vacant and lifeless, brightoned with animation as they chatted away. The weary succorded by a light and lively pace; and I hardly know which was most pleasant to witness, the relaxed outline of the overworked arm, or the vigorous movement of that which had just been folded in useless inactivity. My pace being slow, they soon outstripped me, and, turning off into a tane, were presently out of sight. Not so the lesson conveyed: it was one that we all require to learn anew very frequently, for it illustrated a text of daily and almost hourly applicability in every station in life : ' Boar ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.'

Revolving in my mind this little incident, I traced in the unoccupied girl a resemblance to many well-meaning Chris. tians, who, relieved at the moment from any heavy pressure his wisdom. Fox had the sagacity to see this; and posterity of imperfect obligation which are the bonds of peace, but on their own strength or fortitude, stand by, as it were, to but it must be confessed that the contemplation is not always followed up by an extension of prompt assistance. The duty and instructed by the profoundness of his wondrous lucubra. delusion sent amongst us may prevail to her overthrow, and of burden-bearing is admitted by all who acknowledge the authority of the Gospel, but it is too much confined to what the Lord sees good to lay upon us-too little considered with a reference to the precious text above queted. Fow will refuse to lend the aid that is asked of them; but they are not very many who will step out of their own path to proffer holp when it is not domanded of them, although that proffor is, in a multitude of cases, the principal part of the benefit conferred. I saw plainly that a very small portion of life, that he had not fallen upon a barbarous age, when it the actual weight of the bucket was transferred to the smal. lor girl; but sho put her hand to it with hearty good will, and the companionship, the practical sympathy thus afforded, administered such a cordial to the other, that I doubt not it lightened the load in a far greater degree than if two-thirds of the contents of the bucket had been subtracted, and the remainder left for her to bear alone.

Nothing would so sweeten the intercourse of God's nonple on earth as a diligent cultivation of this principle and habit. A thousand occasions for bearing a brother's bur. and in so doing confor a lasting benefit on themselves .--

the law of Christ, and inflict a blow on his cause. The su- master's house, where the boys were kept within bounds .periority, whether openly vaunted of or silently displayed, I lived in the village: one day he gave me a letter to put becomes a reproach, and often produces in the mind of the into the post office, addressed to the Editor of the York pa harassed individual a secret murmuring against the will of Him, who, in severally dividing his gifts according to that traffic in human flesh." His literary talents were also be mysterious will, leaves one in poverty, that another may ginning to unfold themselves. His compositions were of a minister to him out of his abundance. Our proud hearts superior order, and he was fond of committing English pogenerally contrive to discover something in ourselves where. etry to memory. The favourite companion of his morning of to glory; and in that one thing we should ever be most walks was Beattie, of whom Southey remarks, in the Life watchful that we offend not. A man of strong reasoning powers will be tempted to seek victory in an argument with one not so well exercised in that line-nay, to court an ar. progress;" that class a high one, and that stage perhaps the gument, in the anticipation of triumph, perhaps at the sa- most delightful in their pilgrimage. Wilberforce leved to crifico of that unity of spirit which he statedly prays for .-One whose views of doctrinal truth are deep and clear will, frequently be beguiled into increasing the perplexity of a hesitating mind, and quenching the light that does but glimmer in comparison with the clear beams of his own, in order to display the latter in all their brightness; forgetting, perhaps, that there may be much light with little heat, or none; and that the clearest head may be joined to a heart in the Laodicean state, which the Lord accepts not. A flu ent talker on spiritual matters will exceedingly dishearten one who may secretly, though needlessly, foar that his own lack of words proceeds from lack of love; and a disposition naturally phlegmatic, assuming the appearance of being fixed on the sure foundation, beyond the power of passing events to affect his settled repose of mind, will break the bruised reed that quivers in every breeze. In any of these cases, or in numerous varieties that belong to the same class, is the burden borne, or the law of Christ fulfilled?

Apart from these, there is the selfishness that, without aspiring to shine at any one's expense, is too much wrapped in its own concerns or enjoyments to take thought, practically, for those of another. They would help if called onat least so they say, or think; but as to going out of their way, they see no occasion for that. And as those who most need sympathy are generally the slowest at asking it, this class rarely find occasion to exert themselves. The Christinn's duty is to tread in the steps of his Master, who was found of them that sought him not; and to give unasked that which, alike unasked and undeserved by him, he has received of God. How far the outstretched hand of offered assistance, the tone of sympathy, and the step of kind companionship, will go in lightening the heaviest burdens, and cheering the most care-worn mind, they zlone know who have both needed and found such fellow-helpers on a toilsome road; and, in like manner, the richness of the recompenso internally onjoyed by the conscious succourer, is only to be ascertained by experiment. There is not in the whole Bible a precept, the fulfilment of which does not bring gladness to the heart that obeys it; and perhaps among them all. as there is none more imitative of the Lord Jesus in its objact, so there is none that in its application more directly insures the two fold blessing, than that which says, " Boar ye one another's burdens "

THE GENIUS OF BURKE.

In almost all the instances of mental superiority, it will be found, that it is a superiority above the average level of the species, in but one thing-or that arises from the predominance of one faculty above all the rest. So much is this the case, that when the example does occur, of an individual so richly gifted as to excel in two of the general or leading powers of the mind, his reputation for the one will impede the establishment of his reputation for the other. There occurs to us one very remarkable case of the injustice, done by the men who have but one faculty, to the men who are under the misfortune of having two. In the writor a short parloy, going round to the other side of the bucket | tings of EDMUND BURKE, there has at length been discovered she also took the handle; and thus sharing the burden be. a rich mine of profound and strikingly just reflection on the philosophy of public affairs. But he felt as well as thought and saw the greatness and beauty of things, as well as their relations; and so, he could at once penetrate the depths, and irradiate the surface of any object that he contemplated .-The light which he flung from him entered the very inner most shrines and recesses of his subject; but then it was step of the one, and the lazy lounge of the other, were alike light tinged with the hues of his own brilliant imagination. and many gazing at the spleadour, recognized not the weigh and wisdom underneath. They thought him superficial but just because themselves [were] arrested at the surface; and either because, with the capacity of emotion, but without that of judgment, or because with the capacity of judgment but without that of emotion-they, from the very mongroness and mutilation of their own faculties, were incapable of that complex homage, due to a complex object which had both beauty and truth for its ingredients. Thus that a church which has been found on experience to have it was that the very exuberance of his genius injured the successfully promoted a quiet and unobtrusive and practical man, in the estimation of the pigmies around him; and the piety amongst the people, such as comes not of observation splendour of his imagination detracted from the credit of but is seen in the conscientious discharge of all those duties now soo it. Now that, instead of a passing meteor, he is remark how their fellows proceed under some present weight; fixed by authorship in the literary homisphere, mon can through these troubled times to train up our children in the make a study of him; and he at once regaled by the poetry | fear of God, when we are in our graves; and that no strong tions .- Dr. Chalmers.

THE BOYHOOD OF WILBERFORCE.

William Wilberforce, of an ancient and opulent family, was born at Hull on the 24th of August, 1759. Of his early years very little is remembered; but it formed, we are told, one amongst the many expressions of his gratitude in after would have been thought impossible to rear so sickly and delicate a child. Even in his childhood that tender consideratoness for others, which marked his maturer years, was clearly developed, "I shall never forget," says a frequent guest of his mother's, " how he would steal into my sick room, taking off his shoos lest he should disturb me, and with an anxious face looking through my curtains, learn if I was bottor," In his seventh year he was sent to the gram. mar school of his native town; and his elecution, as we learn from Isaac Milnor, the brother of the master, was alperhaps, marks them, and is pained by the omission. To ble to read aloud, as an example to the other boys. After

ceived. Such, while wounding their weaker brethren, break not more than fourteen years of age. He boarded in the per, which he told me was in condemnation of the odious of Cowper, that "no poem has ever given more delight to minds of a certain class, and in a certain stage of their muse over the history of the "Minstrel" during his morning walks .- Church of England Quarterly Review.

The Garner.

THE MISER.

That he denies himself the comforts and enjoyments of life, is the least part of his crime; for whilst he pinches himself he starves the poor, and by living like a beggar in the midst of plenty, he withdraws from the needy and industrious that maintenance which God has appointed for them. -Human laws have provided no remedy for this evil, nor indeed can they; but it may one day perhaps be found as criminal to rob the poor of their work, as to rob the rich of their possessions! Nay, this oppression often meets with its reward in the second or third generation, even in this world. It is common to see the miser's son or grandson squander the wealth of his ancestor with the utmost folly and profuseness: and when we behold such instances, can we help thinking, that the providence of God is using the extravagance of the son, to do justice to the poor, who were injured and oppressed by the penury of the father? For whatever mischief extravagancy may do to private men and families, yet this good at least flows from it, that the same extravagance, which is the undoing of a vain rich man, often makes way for the advancement of many an industrious poor one; or is at least for the time it lasts, a new fund of work thrown into the maintenance of the needy .- Bishop Sherlock.

FEAR OF DEATH.

Surely, to the sincere believer, death would be an object of desire instead of dread, were it not for those ties-those heart-strings-by which we are attached to life. Nor, indeed, do I believe that it is natural to fear death, however generally it may be thought so. From my own feelings have little right to judge; for, although habitually mindfu that the hour cometh, and even now may be, it has never appeared actually near enough to make me duly apprehend its effect upon myself. But from what I have observed, and what I have heard those persons say whose professions lead them to the dying, I am induced to infer, that the fear of death is not common, and that, where it exists, it proceeds rather from a diseased or enfeebled mind, than from any principle in our nature. Certain it is, that among the poor the approach of dissolution is usually regarded with a quiet and natural composure which it is consolatory to contemplate, and which is as far removed from the dead palsy of unbelief, as it is from the delirious raptures of fanaticism. Theirs is a true unhesitating faith; and they are willing to lay down the burthen of a weary life, in the sure and certain hope of a blessed immortality. - Southey.

A WINTER REFLECTION.

While we contemplate the decaying sun,-while we weep over the bier of nature, and hear the winds of winter desolating the earth,—what is it that this annual revolution teaches even the infant mind? Is it, that the powers of nature have failed, that the world waxeth old, and that the night of existence is approaching? No! It is, that this reign of gloom and desolution will pass: -- it is, that spring will again re turn, and that nature will re-assume its robe of beauty. In the multitude of years that have gone before us, this mighty resurrection has annually been accomplished. To our fathers, and the old time before them, the yearly beneficence of Heaven has been renewed; and, while the night of winter has sunk in heaviness, joy hath as uniformly attended the morning of the spring .- Rev. Archibald Alison.

A CHURCHMAN'S PRAYER.

God grant that a church which has now for nearly three centuries, amidst every extravagance of doctrine and discipline which has spent itself around her, still carried herself as the mediator, chastening the zealot by the words of soberness, and animating the lukewarm by words that burn;which laws cannot reach,-that such a church may live to the eventual discomfiture (as they would find too late to their cost) of many who have thoughtlessly and ungratefully lifted up their heel against her!-Rev. I. J. Blunt.

TRUTH.

The eye by long use comes to see even in the darkest cavern; and there is no subject so obscure, but we may discern some glimpse of truth by long poring on it. Truth is the cry of all but the game of a few. Certainly where it is the chief passion, it doth not give way to vulgar cares and views; nor is it contented with a little ardour in the early time of life; active, perhaps, to pursue, but not so fit to weigh and revise. He that would make a real progress in knowledge must dedicate his age as well as youth, the later growth as well as first fruits, at the altar of truth .- Bishop Berkeley.

PROPESSION NOT PRACTICE.

Some men talk like angels, and pray with great fervour, and meditate with deep recesses, and speak to God with lov den pass by unimproved, because unmarked by us; while he, ready so remarkable, that he was often placed upon the ta- ing affectious, and words of union, and adhere to him in silent devotion, and when they go abroad are as passionate as comfort the feable-minded, to lift up the hands that hang remaining at this school for two years, he was removed, ever, peevish as a frighted fly, vexing themselves with their down, to bear the intimuities of the weak, is an office that upon the death of his father in 1768, to the residence of his own reflections: they are cruel in their bargains, unmerciful the meanest, the most inexperienced, may easily perform, uncle at Wimbledon and St. James's place. His next school to their tenants, and proud as a barbarian prince; they are, for was of a very inferior description, and the diet upon a par fall their fine words, impatient of reproof, scornful to their There are some professors who appear as a sort of gladiators with the instruction. His return to Hull transferred his edu. neighbours, lovers of money, supreme in their own thoughts, on the scene, ambitious to exhibit their own powers of en- cation to better management. Here he gave the first indicational submit to none; all their spiritual life they talk of is not durance, and, still more, of infliction, and rather to take tion of devotion to that lofty enterprize which has immor- thing but spiritual fancy and illusion: they are still under the advantage of a brother's comparative feebleness for that pur- talized his name. "His abomination of the slave-trade," power of their passions, and their sin rules them imperiously, pose, than to impart to him of the gift that they have re- writes a surviving school.fellow, "he evinced when he was and carries them away infallibly .- Bishop Jeremy Taylor.

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