

addressing Him as our Father, in the name and through the mediation of Christ Jesus our elder brother? Oh, that we had the wrestling spirit of Jacob when he said: "I will not let Thee go unless Thou bless me. Then would our supplications ascend and find acceptance before God. We are a professing people; we have much of the form of Godliness, but where is the power—the profession of true grace in the heart, without which other things avail not? The Lord takes knowledge of our thoughts, as well as our words and actions, and cannot be deceived by a form of vain words. Words are only a part of prayer; unaccompanied with living and active faith they avail nothing.

The world will never be converted until the Church awake from its formality, its luke-warmness and worldly-mindedness, and seek a fresh baptism of the Spirit upon the heart of each member. Let us, from a heartfelt necessity, cry mightily to God, "O, Lord, revive thy work!"

If permitted to enter upon the year 1871, let us begin to remedy our former short-comings, and act more worthily of the name we profess to bear. [Don't wait for 1871, brother: begin *now*.—Ed. C. I.]

I would propose as a starting point for the next year, not only that the "week of prayer be observed, but that the first Sabbath of the year be a day for a union of all Churches of Christ, in celebrating the Lord's Supper together. As all believers are one in Christ Jesus, let us show our love to God and to one another, by all denominations meeting, as far as possible, in one place for that special purpose.

Will the members of the Evangelical Alliance take this into consideration, and make necessary arrangements?

It would give me and others great pleasure to see our Baptist brethren break asunder their bond of exclusiveness, and be willing to show that we are all members of one mystical body, having Christ Jesus for our head. For the body to be complete, every member must be joined to its head. If disjointed its vigor, activity and spiritual strength are gone. With respect to baptism and its mode, we will agree to differ, but against their exclusiveness in regard to the Lord's Supper, I lay my protest. Let bigotry give place to charity, so admirably set forth in the 13th chapter of the 1st Corinthians, and let the right hand of fellowship be given to all believers.

A LAYMAN.

## A PASTOR'S SKETCHES.—No. 1.

Having, through the long-suffering kindness of the God of all grace, fulfilled a ministry of more than a quarter-century, I feel moved to cull from the many reminiscences of these years, a short series of pastoral sketches for your readers, if deemed worthy of presentation.

The first that I will offer, occurred near the commencement of my ministry, and made a profound impression on my heart. One night in the winter, I was requested to visit a poor man supposed to be near his end, whose hands and feet were severely frozen. The sad story of his misadventures was soon told. He had been drinking at the licensed Rum-shop, till overcome by strong drink, when at 11 at night, he was pushed out of the Bar-room into the bitter cold. The night was unusually severe. Snow and wind had blockaded the town thoroughfares. He staggered away from the door, again and again stumbling in the deep drifts, but regaining his footing, and still struggling homeward, when by mistake, he turned a corner, and plunged down an unfinished road-way, rolling over and over down the steep declivity, and there numbed and stupefied, remained unobserved till morning. The hard