

There were many along the banks of the Jordan, and towards Schythopolis. Jericho is called the city of palm-trees. Deut. (xxxiv. 3.) A branch of the palm-tree, as symbolical of victory, was carried before a conqueror in processions and rejoicings for victory. The Jews sent a golden branch of the palm-tree to the Kings of Syria, as a kind of tribute or present. The palm-trees of the plain of Jericho are famous throughout Scripture, and even in profane authors. In the temples of Jerusalem, Solomon caused pillars, or pilastres, to be made in the form of palm-trees. (1 Kings, vi. 29.) &c., probably in imitation of the Egyptians, who adopted such pillars in their temples. Palm-trees from the same root produce a number of *suckers*, which form a kind of forest by their spreading upwards. Probably to this multiplication the Psalmist alluded in Psalm xcii. 12. The tree was also considered characteristic of Judea, not so much because it was more abundant there than in other lands, but because that was the first country where the Greeks and Romans met with it in proceeding southward.

#### AN INDUSTRIOUS HELPER.

A little girl in Lancashire was determined to help the Church Missionary Society. She was poor; yet she was not content to give a trifle. She surprised those who knew her circumstances, when she said she meant to give twenty-six shillings a year. On being questioned respecting her mode of obtaining the money, she stated that she had engaged to clean the school-room for sixpence a week, and intended to give all her earnings of this kind to the cause. She was true to her resolution, and by continued industry was enabled to contribute to the

above amount. Does not such an instance as this put to shame some of the idle ones? They complain that they have nothing to give; but if they would attend to those few words of St. Paul, "*Let him labor with his hands, that he may have to give,*" like the industrious helper to whom we refer, they would many of them assuredly be able to render some measure of help to this cause. —*Juvenile Missionary Instructor.*

#### A RICH POOR MAN.

One windy afternoon, I went with a friend into a country almshouse. There was sitting before a feeble fire a very aged man, who was deaf, and so shaken with the palsy, that one wooden shoe constantly pattered against the ground. But deaf, sick, and helpless, it turned out that he was happy. "What are you doing, Wisby?" said my friend. "Waiting sir." "And for what?" "For the appearing of my Lord." "And what makes you wish for his appearing?" "Because sir, I expect great things then. He has promised a crown of righteousness to all that love his appearing." And to see whether it was a right foundation on which he rested, that glorious hope, we asked old Wisby what it was. By degrees he got on his spectacles and opening the great Bible beside him pointed to the text, "Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ; of whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope and the glory of God."—"Though you possess untold wealth if you have not old Wisby's faith you are a poor man. Better have Wisby's hope than Victoria's sceptre, Lazarus' rags than Dives' purple. Better is poverty with piety, than riches with perdition."—*Herber.*