

free heart, and cheerfully the last shilling in your possession that his remains might be allowed to receive Christian burial."

"All this is true, but why speak of it now?"

"Because my friend is at home again, and at liberty to exercise his rights. His brothers are great men in the land, and his poor, dear old father, pining and fretting his life away in his absence, and praying for his speedy return; and now that his happiness is almost complete, he will, I am sure, grant his little friend one request?"

"One! Oh, yes, as many as there are in my power to grant; you have but to ask it."

"I fear it will give you pain; but the time has come; so let your servant depart in peace."

"What! leave me now, when, at last, it is in my power to reward you?"

"I see that you do not yet understand. I am the happy spirit of the man whose only crime was cancelled by your kindness, and I was permitted to accompany you until you expressed yourself satisfied with me; and now I am free to enter into the mansions of bliss, where 'there is joy for one sinner doing penance.'"

"As he said this his whole appearance changed, so that his former master could hardly look upon his countenance, it was so dazzlingly bright and beautiful. He seemed to be lifted gently from the earth, and borne, noiselessly, softly upward by some unseen power, until, like unto a brilliant star, he disappeared in the heavens. And his master, then and there, made a resolution from which he never wavered. He spent his large fortune in the erection of schools, into which the poor were made welcome; hospitals, in which the unfortunate were well cared for; in a word, "he went about doing good," and not a day of his long and happy life passed that he did not ask the important question: "What doth it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?"

## "THE DEAD ALIVE."

BY CHRISTIAN REID.

THERE are many instances on record of the reappearance of men supposed to be dead, after judicial murder had been committed on the persons of those suspected of their death. One of the most remarkable of these cases occurred in England, in 1660.

On the 6th of August, in that year, one William Harrison, the steward of a wealthy lady in Gloucestershire mysteriously disappeared. He had left home in order to collect rents; so, when days and weeks passed without his returning, or anything being heard of him, suspicion of robbery and murder became rife among his friends. In the neighborhood there lived a poor family consisting of a mother and two sons—Perry by name—of whom the mother bore but an indifferent character, and one of the sons was half-witted. It is supposed that the numerous reports which were in circulation with regard to Harrison unsettled what brain this poor idiot had, for he actually went before a Justice of the Peace and deposed to the murder of Harrison by his brother, while his mother and himself looked on, and afterward joined in robbing him. On this testimony the three were arrested, and, at the following assizes, doubly indicted for robbery and murder. The presiding Judge, Sir Charles Turner, refused to try them on the murder indictment, as the body had not been found; they were however, arraigned on the charge of robbery, and pleaded guilty, on a vague impression that their lives would be spared. While in prison, John (the half-wit) persisted in the charge he had made, adding that his mother and brother had attempted to poison him for peaching. At the next assizes Sir Robert Hyde, in consideration of the non-appearance of Harrison, tried them for the murder. On this trial John retracted the accusation, declared that he was mad when he made it, and knew not what he said. These were, however, the "good old days" when stealing a penny-loaf, or the presumption of having stolen a penny-loaf, was a

Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful. Open rebuke is better than secret love!