

and children shall be aided to escape from utter ruin of body and soul?"

Slavery has passed away from this continent; war between the United States and Canada has ceased; strong drink must go next. God speed the day.

Dear readers, you all have a stake in the future of this country. Parents, you own land; your children will be here after you. Young people, this great country belongs to you after we die. It is a glorious country; but there is a foul festering sore at present open. It

spoils its beauty, it threatens its well-being. Is there no balm in Gilead? Yes. Let the Gospel sound forth from our pulpits; let the light of the Gospel get into the pulpits of Quebec; let our young know their Bibles; let our public press be partakers of the spirit of Christianity, and let the knife be applied to the traffic in strong drink, and to the north of the great lakes will rise a nation that will stand by and by, on an equal footing with Britain and the United States.

LIVING PREACHERS.

(Preached in Westminster Church, Philadelphia, Evening of July 25th, 1876.)

CHRIST'S GRACIOUS RECEPTION OF SINNERS.

BY THE REV. DAVID WINTERS.

"Then drew near unto Him all the publicans and sinners for to hear Him, and the Pharisees and Scribes murmured, saying, This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them."—Luke xv. 1, 2.

There was about our Lord a strange attraction which drew vast multitudes of the common people around Him. In His words there was a tenderness and pathos which betrayed the sympathy of His heart; and made them fall like the sweetest music upon the ear. Hating sin as only a perfectly sinless being could hate it, He loved the sinner. Instead of driving the outcast ones of society from Him He drew them around Him, and made them love His company. This He did not by making them indifferent about their sins, but by showing them their degradation and the possibility of their restoration to favour and friendship with God. He taught them to respect themselves by showing them their worth as immortal

beings, and the estimation in which they were held by the Father. He convinced them of the love of His heart, and the divinity of His nature, by stooping so low to raise the fallen. Instead of standing aloof in unapproachable majesty, and telling the multitudes what they ought to be, He came down to their level that He might elevate them to His. The result of this was that many of the worst wrecks of humanity—the publicans who were despised and hated, and even those poor wails of womanhood who trafficked in their own dishonor—drew near unto Him. The Pharisees and Scribes, unable to comprehend how a religious teacher could have anything to do with such persons, derided Him for associating with them, and gave vent to their ill-disguised contempt in these words:—"This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them." But in what they meant to be a reproach upon our Lord they pronounced the highest encomium upon Him. Their words contain the very marrow of the Gospel. The good news which we should hail with unbounded rejoicing, to which we should give currency, which we should tell to our companions, which we