

He was found frozen to death in the road to our house."

"And your mother—is she living?"

"Yes, but she is poor and goes out to work."

"Have you any brothers and sisters?"

"Yes, one brother and one sister."

"Are they at home?"

"Yes, sir, they are little ones and cannot go out now."

"Well, my little fellow, you want a pair of shoes and some clothes?"

"Yes, sir, I do, but I want to get something for mother to eat first."

This told the story. I asked no more questions, but immediately set about the work to be done.—George was soon in my waggon with me, and food enough for his mother's present necessities. On reaching their house, I found a lonely woman with two dear little ones, and nothing to eat. George jumped out of the waggon, and ran into the house saying, "O mother, mother! you will not cry any more, the gentleman has got us enough to eat for a whole month." I found by inquiry, that the father was a drunkard, and died in a drunken fit, and left the poor widow to struggle on alone.

George was then about ten years of age, was the only child large enough to be of any help to his mother, and a good boy he was to that poor mother.

I left the house, and the next day sent some good woman to clothe them, and get George to attend school the next Sabbath. George was at the school, with new shoes, and hat, and clothes, a happy cheerful boy.

For one year he was my scholar, then I left the place, and never saw him again, till I met him, as I have told you, a merchant in the great city. God has prospered him, giving him friends and influence, and from an errand boy in the store had raised him to be the owner. He was then twenty-four years old; with a wife, and one little boy a year old.

Now to go back with me to New York, and you may think that you see me seated at his fireside, while he is relating the dealings of God with him since I left him a little boy in the Sabbath-school of W—n.

Soon after I left the place, he was fortunate enough to meet a man from New York who loved Sabbath-schools. While he was on a visit to some friends in the country, he saw George, and being pleased with him, offered to take him home. The mother consented, and George left home with many tears, for a place in the gentleman's store.

By good conduct he gained the affections of all who knew him. At the age of eighteen years, he was advanced to the station of clerk, and from a clerk to a partner with his employer. When he was twenty-one years, his partner died, having no children or relations, not even a wife, and he gave to poor George all the interest in the concern, and at once made him the owner of some thousands of dollars. And here I found myself seated with my old scholar, in a fine house and a happy family.

He is superintendent of a large school of poor boys, picked up from the streets and lanes of the city, a member of the church and much beloved by all his brethren,—a man known too by the poor and afflicted. Every Sabbath morning he has a school among the poor sailors on the dock, in a room he hired for the purpose. As I sat there so happily rejoicing in the goodness of God, as manifested in this instance, I could but ask George, "where is your mother?"

"Oh, sir, she went home to heaven from my arms in this very room a few months since, and just before she died she gave me strict charge to hunt you up, and if I found you, to tell you that her dying breath went up to God for a blessing on your head."

"Your sister, what has become of her; and baby brother?"

"Oh, sir, my brother has grown up to be a young man, and is now a clerk and first book-keeper in my store, and he too has a large class in the Sabbath-school; and my dear sister is far away, the companion of a devoted missionary at the west; she was married but a few months previous to my mother's death."

Here I must leave the history of this interesting

family, and in a few words hint at the lesson it teaches.

1. See how God always confers his blessings on those little children who love their parents. Little George cared not for the shoes for his cold feet, and a warm cap for his head, until his poor mother could have food.

And through that little boy, God came in mercy to the family. George early became a Christian, and was the humble instrument of the conversion of his mother and sister. The mother is permitted the privilege of dying in the glorious prospect of heaven, and sinking down to the grave sustained by the arms of her noble boy. The sister goes out to be the companion of the missionary, to aid in spreading the news of salvation to the poor and perishing.

2. What encouragement there is in this history of facts, and teaches to labour for the poor and destitute sons of affliction and poverty, and makes them shine as stars of the first magnitude in the Saviour's crown.

Dear teachers, remember the poor. Do not pass them by; care for them, and God will reward you a hundred fold.

3. The benefits of Sabbath-school instruction are not confined merely to the things of time; they reach into eternity, and roll a wave of glory up to the very throne of the great God.

Oh, let us be faithful, industrious, prayerful, and devoted to our work a little longer—and soon we shall go home to our reward and our crown.

Miscellaneous.

LOVE FOR THE SOULS OF CHILDREN.—Let me charge it upon parents, that they make proof of their own Christianity by looking well to the Christianity of their children. They profess the rewards and the glories of paradise to be the noblest objects which an immortal spirit can aspire after. To these objects, then, let them guide the ambition of these young immortals who are under their own roof; and instead of regarding them as the inmates of a habitation which is to last forever, let them be treated as passengers in the same vessel with themselves—as fellow voyagers to an eternal home. In the work of their common preparation for such a home, let them not cease to ply the household with their precepts, or to ply heaven with their prayers. Paul travelling in birth that Christ may be formed in his converts, is fit to imitate the efforts, the assiduity, the intense moral earnestness wherewith parents should long and labour for the conversion of their children. Be assured that this is an object for which one and all may be instant in season and out of season; and that no application, however pointedly directed, and however urgently borne home on the conscience of any of your offspring, if, under the guidance of that wisdom which winneth souls, is too much for an achievement so precious. O remember that under the roof of your lowly tenement, there might happen an event which shall cause the high arches of heaven to ring with jubilee; and that surpassing far the pomp of this world's history, is the history of many a cottage home—at which a son or a daughter turned unto righteousness, becomes the reward of a parent's faithfulness, the fruit of a parent's prayer.—*Dr. Chalmers' Lectures on the Romans.*

THE INFLUENZA.—Throughout the length and breadth of the British Isles has this epidemic been raging, as well as in most parts of the continent of Europe. In London, nearly one-half of the persons employed in public and private establishments have been laid up. On one day alone there were 189 clerks and others absent from the post-office, and 1200 of the police force were off duty. In the country, all classes have suffered from it; and whilst business is impeded, pleasure has been almost destroyed. The rate of mortality is frightfully on the increase. As it has been most virulent on the eastern coasts of England and Scotland, it proves the extent to which it has been created by poisonous exhalations borne forward on the prevalent westerly wind.

PRAYER MEETINGS.

I look upon Prayer Meetings as the most profitable exercises (excepting the public preaching) in which Christians can engage; they have a direct tendency to kill a worldly trifling spirit, to draw down a divine blessing upon all our concerns, to compose differences, and enkindle (at least maintain) the flame of divine love amongst brethren. But I need not tell you the advantages; you know them; I only would exhort you, and the rather as I find in my own case, the principal cause of my leanness and unfruitfulness is owing to an unaccountable backwardness to pray. I can write or read, or hear, with a ready will; but prayer is more spiritual and inward than any of these; and the more spiritual my duty is, the more my carnal heart is apt to start from it. May the Lord pour forth his precious spirit of prayer and supplication into our hearts.—*Rev. John Newton, Rector of St. Mary, Woolnoth.*

ICE AND WINE.—Gen. James Tallmadge, at the farewell address before the American Institute, said,—"While England is contending for wealth in the field of commercial enterprise, what is America doing? She is exporting ice; the East and West Indies, with the southern portion of our own land, claim a share of this pure product of nature.—Many cities of Europe, and some in Asia, are filled with carts labeled 'American Ice.' The income, the present year, resulting from the trade in ice alone, is more than the wine trade of Bordeaux; and considering the article without capital, and the tonnage of vessels employed for its shipment, it opens to our country a better and more profitable trade, than the whole wine trade in Europe."

ELECTRIC VELOCITY.—It has been stated, and generally understood, that electricity in high tension travels at the rate of two hundred and eighty thousand miles in a second of time—that is the probable velocity of communications by the magnetic telegraph; but, from recent observations, it appears most probable that no space of time whatever is required, in the passage of the telegraphic current from one station to another, whatever the distance. The induction of it fluid at one end of the wire produces eduction at the other at the same instant.

CONVERSION OF DR. CHALMERS.—Though a minister, he was ignorant of essential Christianity.—There was in nature much that pleased his taste, and he knew very well the quickened step and the glistening eye of the eager collector, as he pounced on some rare crystal, or quaint and novel flower. But as yet no Bible text had made him flutter, and he had not hidden in his heart sayings which he had detected with delight, and treasured up like pearls. And though his nature was genial and benevolent—though he had his chosen friends, and longed to elevate his parishioners to a higher level of intelligence, and domestic comfort, and virtuous enjoyment—he had not discovered any being possessed of such paramount claims, and overwhelming attractions, as to make it end enough to live and labour for his sake. But that discovery he made while writing for an encyclopedia an article on Christianity. The death of a relation is said to have saddened his mind into more than usual thoughtfulness, and whilst engaged in the researches which his task demanded, the scheme of God was manifested to his astonished understanding, and the Son of God was revealed to his admiring and adoring affections. The Godhead embodied in the person, and exemplified in the life of the Saviour, the remarkable arrangement for the removal and annihilation of sin, a gratuitous pardon as the germ of piety and the secret of spiritual peace—these truths shined a brightness over his field of view, and accumulated in wonder and endearment round the Redeemer's person. And ignorant of their peculiar phraseology, almost ignorant of their history, by the direct door of the Bible itself he landed on the theology of the reformers and the puritans; and ere ever he was aware, his quickened and concentrated faculties were intent on reviving and ennobling the old evangelism.—*North British Review.*