

presence and cry out, "What shall we do to be saved?" Preachers who could preach only from manuscript now preach from the heart, in language it may be less stately and stilted, but in language that comes home to the understanding and the conscience of the listeners with *demonstration* because the Spirit is there.

"In listening to sermons that have been largely blessed," says a recent writer, "we have been conscious that beside the appropriate truth clearly presented and suitably applied, there was a mystic and indescribable yet cogent force giving it tensely and power to the utterances. For want of a better name it is designated 'unction.' Some men possess it in a remarkable degree, and indeed it is an essential element in a soul-winning sermon. It seems to be generated by a vivid apprehension of eternal realities, a due sense of responsibility, implicit faith in the power of the truth, full and prayerful reliance upon the Holy Spirit, and an intense yearning for the salvation of immortal souls. This is our great need as ministers of the word, and for this should we earnestly seek. It will temper our most indig-

nant reproofs of sin with a holy sorrowfulness. It will give an incisiveness to our arguments and an impressiveness to our appeals. It will give a sweetness and tenderness, a pathos and glow to all our utterances, and pervade them with a holy, winsome power. When we speak of the just demands of the law, and the doom which awaits the ungodly, it will render our words, though condemnatory, yet not repulsive; when, after that, we point to the atoning sacrifice of Christ, and close with a loving and earnest appeal to flee from the one and embrace the other, our words will thrill and vibrate in the hearts of men, they will strike new chords of sensibility which we never supposed to exist, and, softened and subdued by the melting tones, men will be led with broken hearts and contrite spirits to put their trust in the saviour of mankind."

"Glory be to God alone,
God whose hand created all!
Glory be to God the Son,
Who redeemed us from our fall!
To the Holy Ghost
Equal praise and glory be,
When the course of time is lost,
Lost in wide eternity!"

Practical Papers.

THE NUMBERER OF THE STARS, AND THE HEALER OF THE BROKEN-HEARTED

By REV. WM. COCHRANE, M.A., BRANTFORD, CANADA.

[It gives us much pleasure to welcome each good addition to the yet slender stock of native Canadian Literature. Every age must have its own books as every summer has its own leaves, and so must every country have its own literature, as every climate has its own vegetation. So far our native Canadian books have been mainly theological, as is always the case in a Christian country's earliest literature. The volume of Sermons, published by Adam, Stevenson & Co., Toronto, by the esteemed pastor of Zion Church, Brantford, from which we extract the following sermon, is a beautiful specimen of book-mak-

ing, equal to the very best issues of the London Press; and its matter, rich in instruction, beautiful in style, and extremely practical in its ultimate bearing.]

In the account of creation contained in the Book of Genesis, we are told that God made two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night. Then it is added, "He made the stars." To the unassisted eye these twinkling stars seem small and insignificant, contrasted with the sun and moon, that flood our earth with light and beauty. And in order to counteract that feeling in the human mind, which refers to God's care and interest only the more grand and glorious