

from Berlin to Alexandria *via* Dresden, Prague, Vienna, and Venice, thence by P. and O. steamer, spent one month in Cairo and vicinity, ten and one half weeks in Palestine, returned to Berlin *via* Smyrna, Ephesus, Athens, Naples, Rome, Florence, and Munich, for \$450. The trip occupied four and a half months, and this sum included all expenses, except for curios, during this time, including even payments for clothing and incidentals. Such a man could spend twelve months and see much of Europe, Egypt, and Palestine on \$2 a day. Go thou and do likewise.

"Go, worthy man, and bring home understanding,

For if the merchant through unknown seas
plough

To get his wealth, then, dear sir, what must
you

To gather wisdom? Go and go alone,

Only your noble mind for your companion.

"Go far, too far you cannot, still the farther
The more experience finds you: and go sparing.

One meal a-week will serve you and one suit
Through all your travels."

Beaumont and Fletcher.

The Minister's Use of Biography.

By REV. W. A. PERRINS, BEDFORD O.

I PREFACE my observations on the above subject in the words of Horace Mann, one of America's conscientious statesmen, a study of whose memorials must inevitably end in a heroic and intelligent philanthropy; it is simply nothing short of an inspiration to become familiar with his enlightened, untiring efforts, and the unprecedented measure of success which attended his labors in the cause of common-school education. The following is what Mann says: "Biography, especially the biography of the great and good, who have risen by their own exertions from poverty and obscurity to eminence and usefulness, is an inspiring and ennobling study. Its direct tendency is to reproduce the excellence it records."

One of my greatest and most pleasurable delights is the study of biography;

and the lives which offer the most interesting biography are such as Thomas à Kempis, Archbishop Leighton, Erasmus, and Rutherford. On a cloudless summer evening, and a short time after the sun has gone down, the stars begin to appear one by one, till six or twelve may be seen by the naked eye. And an hour or two later, when the entire glittering galaxy is marshalled forth, the first six or twelve, or even eighteen, are still pre-eminent. The brighter stars are called the stars of the "first magnitude." These are the foremost to arrest the upturned gaze, and their fine, incomparable effulgence will sometimes attract the glance of intelligent and matured persons, or fill even the vulgar with delight and wonder. The "first magnitudes" are the land-marks of the firmament.

And so, looking upon the firmament of biography, there are some lives which outglory all the rest; some twenty, or thirty, or fifty, or it may be one hundred stars of the "first magnitude," burning and shining lights, whose illustrious splendor retains the attention of the eye, and which haunts the memory when the eye is closed—brilliant names, conspicuous lights serving as landmarks and points of attractive reference—and arrest the notice and awake the wonder which God has set in His world's biographic sky: Theology—Bunyan, Baxter, and Bruce; Poetry—Milton, Robert Browning and Longfellow; History—Lecky, Bede, and Bancroft; Politics—Defoe, Webster, and Gladstone; Art—Angelo, Raphael, and Leonardo; Music—Beethoven, Mozart, and Handel. These are all stars of the "first magnitude" in the biographic sky.

The minister's is a life of periodic transition. The age in which we live is one of change; and the theology of the modern Church is not exempt. An acquaintance, therefore, with the lives of our greatest theologians of the past will help us very materially to "fix on a point amid the whirl:" or to be

"True as the needle to the pole,
Or as the dial to the sun."