

## NOT OUR TEARS BUT HIS BLOOD.

Should a mote of dust get into the natural eye, the irritation induced will weep out the evil; and so, in a way with sin in a tender conscience. But tears—an ocean of tears—wash not out the guilt of sin. All tears are lost that fall not at the feet of Jesus. But even the tears which bathe a Saviour's feet wash not away our sins. When falling—flowing fastest, we are to remember that it is not the tears we shed, but the blood He shed, which is the price of pardon; and that guilty souls are nowhere to be cleansed but in that bath of blood where the foulest are free to wash and certain to be cleansed. From its crimson margin a Magdalene and a Manasseh have gone up to glory; and since their times, succeeding ages have been daily and more fully proving, that grace is still free, salvation still full, and that still the blood of Christ cleanseth from all sin.—*Guthrie.*

## LEFT BEHIND.

The English garrison evacuated Lucknow at midnight, on November 22, 1857. Lights were left burning, and all stole out quietly, so as not to arouse the suspicions of the enemy, who still kept up a desultory fire around the fort. Thinking that all had accompanied them, the soldiers pushed forward with great eagerness to reach a place of safety and rest. "Captain Waterman, having gone to his bed, in a retired corner of the brigade mess-house, overslept himself. All had forgotten him when they left the fort, and now the unconscious man was alone in the most terrible danger. At two o'clock he awoke, and found, to his horror, that all had left. He visited every outpost. All was deserted and silent. To be the only man in an open entrenchment, and fifty thousand furious enemies outside! It was horrible to contemplate! His situation frightened him. He took to his heels, and ran, ran, ran, till he could scarcely breathe. Still the same silence, interrupted but by the occasional report of the enemy's guns. At last he came up with the retiring rearguard, mad with excitement, and breathless with fatigue." But he was safe at last, and the horror that brooded over his mind was now entirely dissipated by the feeling of rest and security that came to him.

Captain Waterman's experience presents an exact and realistic picture of the state of those who, of a sudden, wake up to the conviction that all around them are fleeing from the City of Destruction, while they are left in the greatest peril. Parents, friends, companions, have fled to Christ for refuge, while they have remained callous and indifferent. If the perusal of these few lines result in arousing such a one, the writer prays that he may escape for his life. Look not behind thee! Seek the safety and the society of those who were once in a peril with yourself, and mourn that you should have so long overslept yourself, and be left behind.—*Robert Spurgeon.*

## MAKING PRAYER MEETINGS INTERESTING.

Rev. John Hall was asked, "How do you make prayer meetings interesting?" The great New York preacher replied in this way:

This whole subject is mixed up. "Interesting" to whom? The Lord? The supplicants? The spectators? The only way is to teach men to pray, to eliminate those who preach, or rhapsodise, or scold, or "lament" interminably; to promote a general fervour among the people, and apply to the meeting the ordinary principles of Christian common sense. I would not set much store by "interesting" prayer meetings by themselves. I have known of such that were little more than a young people's frolic. The prayer meeting will be as the taste and life of the congregation.

It may well be doubted if a real prayer meeting conducted on ordinary principles of Christian common sense, was ever uninteresting to a man who really *wished to pray*. The question—How to make the prayer meeting interesting—is discussed in the religious journals, especially, the American journals more perhaps than any other. It is a painfully suggestive question.

—A man in Kansas is in jail serving out a term of seventeen years imprisonment for selling 208 glasses of beer, and the fines and costs standing against his property amount to \$16,000.