

## DISINTERESTEDNESS.

**D**ISINTERESTEDNESS is essential to all true friendship. Much that passes under this term is only some form of self-seeking. Men give, to receive as much again. Invitations are sent to those from whom similar favours are expected, and when circumstances arise to prevent such return, the name is dropped from the list of future guests. Praise is uttered for the sake of the echo. Why waste breath where there is no response? Business friendships are based on the expectation of trading in return. "The rich have many friends." Selfishness hides behind the mask of benevolence. Policy wears the cloak of affection. Such "friendship is feigning," and the failure of the hope of some substantial return, proves such "loving" to be "mere folly."

It was evident to all around Him, that Jesus never sought worldly advantages for Himself. With His eloquent speech, His power of personal fascination, His ability to work miracles, He might easily have won the favour and secured the gifts of the great. Why should He select as His special friends the poor fishermen of Galilee? By His purity of life and fidelity of teaching, by His advocacy of equal obligations, and denunciations of all wrong-doing, He excited against Himself the enmity of those whom He might easily have conciliated. He might soon, on the ladder of His first adherents, have climbed into courts and palaces, and then thrown the ladder away. But He identified Himself with the poor. He was willing to be taunted as "the friend of publicans and sinners." He sought nothing from His followers but their love. He never made them instruments of ambition, or placed them in the front of danger to shield Himself.

He was thoughtful of them when indifferent to His own comfort and safety. Amongst other illustrations we may notice what occurred on the night when He was betrayed. Advancing to meet the armed band who had come to apprehend Him, He asked whose name was in their warrant. "Whom seek ye?" And when they replied that it was Jesus of Nazareth, He took them at their own word, surrendered Himself, and demanded that as His friends were not included in the summons, they should not be molested. "If, therefore, ye seek Me, let these go their way."

But the greatest proof of His disinterested friendship was giving His life for them. This He adduced when he called them His friends. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends." They could not then understand the full import of these words. But every little action of His life proved how He sought not theirs but them. —*Newman H.-ll.*

## "HE TOOK HIM BY THE HAND."

**T**HAT is a beautiful thing that is said of our Lord, "He took him by the hand, and led him out of the town." And is there not here a helpful hint for every saint that seeks to follow in His steps, and like him go forth to succour and to save?

We like the hearty hand-shaking of the good old times; not the half-reluctant proffer of cold finger-tips, but the cordial grasp betokening real sympathy. The formal bow may do for the fashionable parlour, but it will not suffice for the Sunday-school folk. Get hold of your scholars by the hand if you mean to get hold of them by the heart.

Gough tells of the thrill of Joel Stratton's hand laid lovingly upon his shoulder, just at the time when he was reeling on the brink of hell; and of another gentleman, of high respectability, who came to his shop when he was desperately struggling to disengage himself from the coils of the serpent, and almost ready to sink down in despair; and how he took him by the hand, expressed his faith in him, and bade him play the man. Gough said, "I will;" and Gough did, as everybody knows.

There's a great deal in it. Some of us are not too old to remember how it was with us when we were boys ourselves, when a real live gentleman took us by the hand—not, of course, the schoolmaster, with the dreaded ferule—but with friendly grasp, and held on and talked with us, and mayhap walked with us; we remember how he grew upon us—our respect and affection—and how we always had a kindly feeling for him afterwards; and how, when we encountered him, even at a distance, there was the quick, glad recognition, and a sort of mutual telegraphing, the purport of which

seemed to be, "We understand one another."—*The Baptist Teacher.*

## NOTICES OF BOOKS.

*The Evangelical Magazine* (Hodder) for August has two first-rate articles on "Fruits" and "Thorny Ground." The other contents, excepting an interesting sketch of Roger Williams, are but ordinary.

*The W. H. W. (August)* is better than ever; the reading matter is most interesting, and the illustrations are all that could be wished. Messrs. Partridge's other monthlies are, as usual, good.

*Worth Her Weight in Gold* (London: Macintosh.) A simply told story of domestic life; unpretensions, but thoroughly practical, and very suitable for a present to a servant.

*Black Bob of Blackleigh* By Rev. James Veames. (London: Kempster, 6d.) A well-told temperance tale, full of humour, yet exceedingly pathetic; serious, but not dry; and firm in its warnings, without being ligot. The price astounds us. We should want twice the money.

*Walter's Picture Marvel*. This truly is a "marvel": twelve pictures, some litho, some chromo-litho, and three very good imitations of oleograph, surely can't be dear at a shilling, and many a cottage would be wonderfully brightened by this trifling expenditure.

*Faith's Triumph*. By "E. S. P." (London: Longley, 2s. 6d.) This is a love story in verse, pure and simple, and the author has no mean imagination. Some of the conceptions are very striking, and we had almost said beautiful; yet, ever and anon, the narration lapses into childliness, produced, we think, by undue straining after effect. The rhythm is also in many cases very faulty. Still, we must not forget this is a maiden effort, and, as such, it is most praiseworthy.

Bugs, Fleas, Moths, Beetles, and all other insects are destroyed by Keating's Insect Destroying Powder, which is quite harmless to domestic animals.—Sold in tins, 1s. and 2s. 6d. each, by Thomas Keating, St. Paul's Churchyard, London, and all chemists (free by post 14 and 33 stamps).

## Publications of the Wesleyan Conference Office.

Second Edition. Crown 8vo, with portrait, price 3s. 6d.

**The Life of the Rev. Gideon Ouseley.** By the Rev.

WILLIAM ARTHUR, M.A.

"The story is beautifully told, and told in such a form, and at such a length, that no one can weary in reading it. It is a life full of adventure and incidents of thrilling interest; but beyond that, it is a life the study of which cannot fail to do good. Such lives are few and far between, and we cannot afford to allow the records of them to be lost."—*Leeds Mercury.*

Now ready, crown 8vo, cloth, gilt edges, price 2s. 6d.; uniform with

"Daniel Quorn."

**Mister Horn and His Friends; or, Givers and Giving.**

By MARK GUY PEARSE.

**Sermons for Children.** By MARK GUY PEARSE. Cloth

extra, gilt edges, price 2s. 6d.; uniform with "Daniel Quorn."

"For Sunday afternoon or evening reading, when the children are detained at home, we can heartily recommend these sermons. They are full of wise, simple, and evangelical teaching."—*Christian World.*

Twenty-second Thousand. Crown 8vo, cloth, gilt edges, price 2s. 6d.

**Daniel Quorn and His Religious Notions.** By the Rev.

MARK GUY PEARSE. Crown 8vo. Numerous illustrations.

London: WESLEYAN CONFERENCE OFFICE, 2, Castle-street, City-road, and 66, Paternoster-row.

## ALBION LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY

(ON THE MUTUAL PRINCIPLE).

120, CHANCERY LANE, LONDON.

ACTIVE AGENTS WANTED.

LIBERAL TERMS ALLOWED.

Manager and Secretary: JAMES T. NORTHCOTT.

SUMMER AND WINTER  
TEMPERANCE DRINKS.

## EDWARDS' WATER BEVERAGES (REGISTERED)

Merely require dissolving in hot or cold water. Unsurpassed for cheapness, purity, or richness of flavour. Messina Limonade, Red Currantade, Black Currantade, Fruit Alliance, Russian Nectar, Ginger Beer, Lemon Gingerette, Isleworth Raspberryette, Napier Strawberryette, Kentish Cherryette, Indian Pineappleette, Lisbon Orangeette, Lime Juice, &c., &c.

The following are especially recommended for winter use, and should be dissolved in hot water:—Aromatic Brandy, Mitcham Peppermint, Jamaica Gingerette, English Elderberryette.

Sold in half pound and pound canisters, at 9d. and 1s. 6d. each; also in 2, 4, 7, 14, and 28lb. tins, at 1s. 4d. per lb., tins free. Sample tin of either kind, sufficient to make twelve glasses, post free thirteen stamps. Orders for 7lb. and above carriage free, on receipt of P.O.O. Agents wanted in every town. Terms cash.

"I have now used your Limonade for several years during my hay and corn harvest, instead of beer, and find my men all like it much, and work well on it."—ANDREW SCOTT, Ryden's Farm, Walton-on-Thames.

Most grocers and chemists keep it in stock, or can readily obtain it, or it may be had direct from JAMES EDWARDS, Manufacturer, 56, LONG ACRE, W.C., or through any wholesale house in London.