

THE BOOK FOR BUSINESS MEN.

I sat beside a dying Christian. He had been called, in the prime of life, to give up all business, and for months to watch and wait for a sudden death. I asked him of his spiritual state. He said:

"I have no rapture, no ecstasy, but all is peace—settled and abiding peace."

Then, in illustration of the manner in which he was supported, in view of the interruption of his worldly plans, and of leaving a dependant wife and infant child, he related the following incident.

"Last year I became considerably embarrassed in business. On Saturday evening I would come home, not knowing how I should meet my obligations the following week, and with my mind so distracted that it seemed as if the Sabbath would be worse than lost. I was then teaching a Bible class. With sadness I would sit down to prepare the lesson for the next day; but as I advanced, truth took possession of my mind, faith took the place of distrust, and hope of fear. I was led, almost insensibly, to leave my affairs with my covenant God, and I invariably found those Sabbaths precious and delightful. And moreover, on returning to business on Monday, a way was always provided to meet my responsibilities. Thus have I learned to trust the Lord."

As I listened to this simple statement, I could not but say to myself. How much wretchedness and ruin would be avoided if this plain truth were only believed, "The Bible is the book for business men!" Ye who are burdened with mighty enterprises, look not for relief from your anxieties to the news from abroad, or the prices current, but look to the book of God.—*Amer. Messenger.*

A DESPERATE CASE AND ITS CURE.

An aged and venerable clergyman of Wurtemberg, the Rev. Mr. *Flattich*, was celebrated for his successful efforts in training and educating young men for usefulness both in Church and State. An eminent officer of government one day wanted on the good man, and requested him to receive under his care and tuition a spoiled and obstinate son. "I must acknowledge," said he to the clergyman, "that my boy is a desperate fellow, on whom all my counsel, reproofs, and corrections have hitherto failed to produce any good effect. I have exhorted him with much kindness—I have chastised him—I have reproved him in the presence of others, in order that shame might have its perfect work upon him, but he has remained an incurable boy. Neither praise nor blame, neither the birch nor an empty stomach, could accomplish anything—it was all in vain."

The clergyman then inquired of the officer whether he had not tried other means than those just named? "Yes," replied the father, "I have for two days shut him up in a solitary apartment, giving him only water and bread—but this also proved in vain."

"And did you not try some other remedy," inquired the clergyman.

"I have made him suffer with cold, but equally in vain," replied the father.

Upon similar queries propounded to him he made similar replies, stating various other, especially mild measures, which he had employed to bring his son to reason. After detailing all the particulars, the venerable clergyman remarked, that none of these seemed to him to be the right kind of cures for a "desperate case," as he termed that of his son. "I know of one," said he, "which is far more effectual than any or all of those which you have named, and that is *Prayer*." "And now, do tell me," continued the good man, "did you ever pray earnestly and frequently for your child?"

The officer cast down his eyes and acknowledged that he had not.

"Do not be surprised, therefore," continued *Flattich*, "that all your labor upon the outward frame of your boy has proved fruitless. You have neglected to impart *that*, which alone in give

life and corresponding natural feelings to that outward frame. To tan a dead skin, does not impart life to it. The breath of God alone can give spiritual life to the spiritual dead. I will take your son, and, in dependence upon God, I will see what can be done."

He took the boy under his care—he tried his cure on the "desperate case." With God's blessing on the labors of the pious man, he gradually became cured. He was an excellent, devoted, and useful man.

Another case in point is related by the excellent *Stephen Schultz*, well known as an oriental traveler. Whilst in Aleppo, he visited a Church of the Nestorians. The Bishop was just about delivering an address, having concluded the ceremonies of some church festival. His text was, "This is the day the Lord has made." He understood and spoke as fluently as his own mother tongue the Arabic language in which he intended on this occasion to speak. But, somehow or other, he was unable to proceed. He repeated the text several times, but there he halted. At length, some one made a motion to him to desist, and to bless the people, which he did. After this he attended to the other services, and then delivered an address from Malachi 3, 17, with such unction, that *Schultz* felt himself drawn out towards the venerable-looking man with much affection.

Some days after he visited the Bishop, and in the course of some interesting religious conversation, he asked him why it was that he became so much embarrassed on the occasion of delivering the first address on the previous Sabbath? The Bishop, in a very humble way, replied, *La Salatu* (I had not prayed before.)

Here, then, we have an evidence of the truth, that there is power in prayer, which nothing else can impart, and that the Nestorian Bishop in Aleppo, as well as the pastor in Wurtemberg, or any faithful pastor or Christian in America, knows *Prayer* to be the chief remedy in desperate cases, of whatsoever kind they may be.

"Pray'r makes the darken'd cloud withdraw,
Pray'r climbs the ladder Jacob saw,
Gives exercise to faith and love,
Brings ev'ry blessing from above."

GRADUAL RISE OF NEW UNDLAND ABOVE THE SEA.—It is a fact worthy of notice, that the whole of the land in and about the neighborhood of Conception Bay, very probably the whole island, is rising out of the ocean at a rate which promises, at no very distant day, materially to affect, if not to render useless, many of the best harbors we have now on the coast. At Port de Grave, a series of observation have been made which undeniably prove the rapid displacement of the sea-level in the vicinity. Several large flat rocks over which schooners might pass some thirty or forty years ago, with the greatest facility, are now approaching the surface; the water being scarcely navigable for a skiff. At a place called the Cosh, at the head of Bay Roberts, upward of a mile from the sea shore, and at several feet above its level, covered with five or six feet of vegetable mould, there is a perfect beach the stones being rounded, of a moderate size, and in all respects similar to those now found in the adjacent land-washes.—*Newfoundland Times.*

AN ANCIENT DAHLIA.—In the travels of Lord Lindsay the noble author states, that, in the course of his wanderings amid the pyramids of that patriarchal and interesting land (Egypt) he stumbled on a mummy proved by its hieroglyphics to be at least 2000 years of age. In examining the mummy after it was unwrapped, he found in one of its closed hands a tuberous or bulbous root. He was interested in the question how long vegetable life could last, and he, therefore took the tuberous root from the mummy's hand, planted it in a sunny soil, allowed the rains and dews of heaven to descend upon it, and in the course of a few weeks, to his astonishment and joy, the root burst forth and bloomed into a beautiful dahlia.

KNOX'S COLLEGE.—COMPETITION FOR BURSARIES.

The annual competition for Bursaries took place in the beginning of January.

CLASS I.—Elementary, including all matriculated students of last year, and the present.—No. 1.—To the best reader in English,—awarded to Mr. John Murray. No. 2.—To the most proficient in English Grammar,—awarded to Mr. James Black. No. 3.—To the best in an examination in the Latin Grammar,—awarded to Mr. John Laing, who declared it, in consequence of his having obtained another Bursary,—it was therefore adjudged to Mr. John Renne, the second in order of merit. No. 4.—To the best in an examination in the Greek Grammar,—awarded to Mr. John Laing, but declared for the reason specified above. The prize was then awarded to Mr. Duncan McKinnon and Mr. Joseph Carbert, who were equal and second in order of merit.

CLASS II.—Philosophical, including all students attending Professor Erson's Classes of Mental and Moral Philosophy.—No. 1.—For the best written account of the Theory of Ideas, and particularly to Berkeley's Theory of the non-existence of a material world,—successful competitor Mr. Wm. McLaren. No. 2.—To the best in an examination on Lord Bacon's System of Induction,—successful competitor, Mr. Duncan McRae. No. 3.—For the best written account of the Theories of Morals, from the days of Hutcheson to those of Dr. Paley,—successful competitor Mr. John Gourlay.

CLASS III.—Theological.—No. 1.—The John Knox Bursary of the value of £10, instituted by Isaac Buchanan Esq.—For the best written answers on the Quinquarticular Controversy,—Mr. John Ross was the successful competitor. No. 2.—For the best written statement of Gibbon's Five Causes with Replies,—successful competitors Mr. Donald Fraser, Nichol Nicholson, equal No. 3.—For the best Essay on the Septuagint Version of the Old Testament,—successful competitors, Mr. Thomas Henning, John Gray, equal No. 4.—To the best in an examination on the Hebrew Grammar,—successful competitor,—Mr. George Wardrope. No. 5.—To the best in an examination on the Deity of Christ,—successful competitors, Mr. John Alexander and Wm. McKenzie, equal.

CLASS IV.—Classical, open to all Students.—The George Buchanan Bursary, of the value of £10, instituted by Isaac Buchanan, Esq.—For the best written exercise in Greek and Latin,—successful competitor Mr. John Laing.

CLASS V.—Gallic.—For the best in a General Competition,—successful competitor Mr. Lachlan McMillan. For the second best do,—successful competitor Nichol Nicholson.

DONATIONS TO THE MUSEUM.

- From Mr. Blain:
A few Indian curiosities.
- From Mr. McGregor, Student.
Numismatic Specimens.
- From Rev. Dr. Burns.
Numismatic and Ecclesiastical curiosities.
- From Mr. Wm. Burns.
Collection of Minerals, Fac-simile of the original of Buras's Cotter's Saturday Night.
- From Mrs. (Dr. Willis).
A Portrait.
- From Mr. John Ross, Precentor Knox's Church, Toronto.
A Portrait of Dr. McDonald, of Ferrintosh.
- From Mrs. Alexander Christie, Niagara.
A Model Half-penny, Half-farthing (1843), model Half-farthing (1842), model silver Penny (1842), model silver Farthing (1848), model One-sixteenth of a Farthing, Specimen of Petrified Moss from Niagara Falls.
- From Mr. Colloch, Niagara.
A Government Paper Bill for Half-a-Crown, issued by the State of Pennsylvania, in 1773.
A Petrified Bone.