

living; but exalted, purified, and happy, she may arise from the dead. Then turn, if thou wilt, from the aged woman in her loneliness; but remember she is not forgotten by her God.—Mrs. Sigourney.

### DIVINE GREATNESS.

Not long ago a well known infidel took occasion, in a spirit of brava-do, to blaspheme publicly in New York, challenging God to strike him dead. Why did not God take him at his word and destroy him on the instant? Was it because he could not? No, indeed; but rather because a man spared is a more impressive proof of the divine greatness than a man slain. A like thing happened on a larger scale when Korah and his followers offered incense of blasphemy in the Jewish camp.—And the Lord said to Moses, "Speak unto the congregation that they depart from the tents of these wicked men." Then Korah and his followers stood by themselves swinging their impious censers, and, behold, the earth opened her mouth "and they and all that appertained to them went down alive into the pit." Thus has the Lord on occasion demonstrated once and again his power to inflict an instant penalty on sin.

### FOUR STAGES.

There are four stages of progress from spiritual pain to peace. I see a man walking along a country road, alone, shivering in the cold, muttering to himself in bitterness of soul, "Who will show us any good?" This is Unbelief. I see him again

pausing before a gate, looking toward the lighted windows of a home in the distance, listening to faint sounds of music, wondering, fearing, scarce venturing to hope. This is Doubt. I see him now coming down the garden path and looking in at the windows; he notes the fire on the hearth and the well provided table, the dancing and merry-making in which he has neither part nor lot. This is Knowledge. I see him once more in his place at the table; there is a ring on his finger, there are shoes on his feet, he is eating of the Father's bread and drinking of his wine. This is Faith. The joy of life is not in perceiving things, but is in appropriating them. The comfort of Christians is not in gazing at objective truth, but in making it ours. The secret of heaven is in the possessive pronoun; it is to say of Christ, "He is my Saviour"; of his cross, "This is my salvation"; of his glory, "I shall have part in it."—B.

God is an all-sufficient support. He is equal to all our emergencies. "He is our refuge and strength," etc. There is no enemy from which He cannot deliver us; there is no trial under which He cannot support us; there is no danger from which He cannot rescue us. In the fiery furnace, in the surging waters, in the "valley of the shadow of death," He is all-sufficient.

If there should fall on this page the eyes of one who cares not for Jesus, who thinks that the hour of decision for Him would be the destruction of his joy, let me say there never was a more terrible mistake. The only way to be happy is to come to Christ and learn to know His great love.