

there was no parallel in the universe—(Laughter)—that the priest agreed to let him have absolution upon payment of a certain sum of money. The man then pulled from under his coat the Bible, and said to the priest, "I come to you for absolution; you say I must not have it because I am a Bible reader; at last you agree to give me absolution if I pay you half-a-crown. I do not want your absolution!" and, opening the Bible in the middle, as a person in his condition would naturally do, he read (and it was fit that such a blessed passage should be found in the centre of the Bible), "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters; and he that hath no money, come ye, buy and eat, without money, and without price."—*Speech at Bible Society.*

#### PARTICULAR PROVIDENCE.

"And not one of them shall fall to the ground without your Father's notice."

One among thousands of instances in which the Providence of God in apparently small things, may be traced, is in the conversion of an individual who stands at the height of religious influence in this city, and in fact in our country. I will give it as it was related to me, by a near relative of the individual in question.

Mr. S. had by diligence and prudence (with the blessing of God) raised himself from the situation of a dependant fatherless boy (at the age of sixteen) to a lucrative situation, as the head of a large commercial house in one of the most important cities in Europe. Business calling him, as it frequently did, to travel in the stage, he found all the seats at one time pre-engaged at the stage house. It was in vain that he endeavored, by the offer of double the fare, to prevail upon some one of the passengers to relinquish his seat, but was obliged to wait until the next day before he could pursue his journey.

This was a trifling event in itself, and probably hardly would have found a place in his memory, after the accomplishment of the business which called him forth, had it not been for circumstances connected with it. But a day or two after, while pursuing his journey in the next stage, the attention of the passengers was arrested in passing a house by the road side on observing a number of coffins brought out of it. The sight was so unusual that they prevailed upon the driver to enquire the reason; when he learned that the stage had upset the day before, just in that vicinity, and these persons lost their lives by this means. The stage was the same in which he had made such efforts to obtain a seat. Till this time he had lived without God, and with only such a hope as he now saw would fail him, and he says that the first thought that crossed his mind was, Had you secured that seat where would you have been? IN HELL, was the spontaneous feeling in his heart, and the answer of his conscience. Mark the result: the man was led immediately to devote himself, with such talents and opportunities as few men have had to devote, to the advancement of the cause of Christ in Europe, France especially. Through his influence, thousands, and tens of thousands of Bibles, Testaments, and tracts have been scattered over the country, and the heart of many of the descendants of the persecuted Waldenses were made glad. He still lives, and his influence is felt in a thousand ways, and he gives direction to some of our most important benevolent associations. Say, then, ye that deny a *particular Providence*, was it by chance that he was hindered on his journey?—*Presbyterian.*

When a child of God wants peace, he can have no peace till God speaks it.—*Dr. Goodwin.*