

cut. No remedy. A blank line forever blank. A lost soul forever lost. There is no appeal which can secure the entry of a name in *that* day. But hark to the Gospel news. **To-day** is the day of Salvation. **Now**,—this moment—your name may be placed there. The line may be filled. The prize secured. Nay, more, God appeals to you to come and secure its registration. He says "Why will ye die." Remember *it is your own fault if you do*. For "God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him, should not perish but have everlasting life."—John iii. 16.

The High Priest.

By George Soltau.

[ORIGINAL.]

WE have not an High Priest that cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities, but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." Heb. iv. 15. The work of the High Priest in the old Mosaic times was awfully solemn. On him rested the sole responsibility of making atonement

once a year for the sins of the people; of daily ministering before the Lord in the matters of the Brazen Altar, Golden Incense Altar, Candlestick, and Shew-bread Table Failure on his part to properly attend to all the details as laid down by God Himself, would involve himself and the whole nation in ruin. He must never be asleep when the claims of the service of God demanded him. He must always be at the call of any and every Israelite who needed cleansing, or mercy through a sacrifice. Ceaseless in his work, untiring in his energy, full of a deep sympathy for his fellow men, and full of that deep knowledge of what God required, he needed to be a man above all others fit for the post to which God had called him. In the discharge of his every day duties he wore a beautiful set of garments, known as "The



Garments of Glory and Beauty." They consisted of an under-ephod of fine linen, beautifully embroidered, and a Girdle. Over this a Blue Robe, fringed with Golden Bells and Pomegranates. Above this robe, a short Tunic or Ephod, embroidered in blue, purple and scarlet, similar in pattern to the work of the Veil and Door Curtain of the Tabernacle. This Ephod was fastened by the "Curious Girdle," of the same material. On his shoulders were two massive Onyx stones, set in gold, with the names of the twelve tribes engraven in the order of their birth; and fastened to them by chains of gold was the Breastplate, a framework of solid gold, in which were set twelve precious stones, of various hues and brilliancy, containing the names of the twelve tribes in the order of their march. Behind the Breastplate was a bag, in which were placed the mysterious Urim and Thummim. By means of these, questions were asked of God, and answered. On his head he wore a Mitre, of fine linen, with a plate of gold fastened in the centre by a blue riband, engraven with the words, "Holiness to the Lord."

In Exodus xxviii., where this dress is described, we find that the High Priest was to bear four things before the Lord continually. In verse 12: He was to bear the names of the people on his shoulders. All their weakness was to be linked to his strength before the Lord. Verse 29: On the Breastplate of Judgment, he was to bear their names on his heart. Their sinfulness and forgetfulness linked to his affectionate remembrance of them before the Lord. Verse 30: He was to bear the judgment of the children of Israel upon his heart before the Lord,—that is, he was responsible always to put away sin by sacrifice. Verse 38: He was to bear the iniquity of their holy things. He would intercede for them with God, that their holy things, impure and imperfect in themselves, might nevertheless be acceptable, because presented by him.

How beautifully we learn of the character and work of Jesus from all these facts. How intimately He knows the requirements of God's holiness, and also the full need of our hearts on account of sin. How wonderful has been, and still is, His patience, untiring His zeal and energy. "He that keepeth thee will not slumber." At all hours, ready to help; in all troubles, able to help. Our weakness is to be only a stronger plea for His strength. Our coldness of heart is to bring out all the more the warm love of His heart. Our imperfection will shew forth His perfections of grace and power for us. Therefore, we may come boldly to the throne of grace, at all times through our Great High Priest, Jesus the Son of God, who has passed into the heavens for us.