

ings of his people, brought on in a great measure by his own headstrong conduct. He was to choose between seven years' famine, three months' flight before their enemies in the field, or three days' pestilence. David wisely chose that which came most directly from the hand of God, the pestilence; and brief as was the space of time it raged, seventy thousand of the people died. Thus appears to have happened very near the close of David's reign. After having declared his son Solomon heir to the throne of Israel, and charged him solemnly and affectionately to walk in the ways of God, to keep his statutes and his commandments, as the only security for the peace and welfare of Israel, he slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David.

David reigned 40 years over Israel, and left the kingdom in much outward peace and prosperity, but the most precious legacy is the abundant treasures of his religious experience, the penitential psalms, the triumphal songs, the manifold consolations and inexhaustible store of rich promises which have ever been the Christian's staff through life, and a light through the dark valley.

Pray Without Ceasing.

At an association of Christians, on a certain occasion, it was proposed to hold a meeting for the purpose of considering the words of the Apostle, "Pray without ceasing." The meeting was to be holden in a month, and, in the meantime, each member was to write down his opinion, and bring it in to be read. A religious servant girl, who lived in the house of one of the members, overheard him talking about the matter, whereupon she exclaimed, "What! a month wanted to tell the meaning of that text? It is one of the easiest and best texts in the Bible."

"Well, well, Mary," said an old minister; "what can you say about it? Let us know how you understand it. Can you pray all the time?"

"Oh! yes, sir; the more I have to do the more I can pray."

"Indeed! Well, Mary, do let us know how it is, for most people think otherwise."

"Well, sir," said the girl, "when I first open my eyes in the morning, I pray, 'Lord, open the eyes of my understanding; and while I am dressing, I pray that I may be clothed with a robe of righteousness; and when I have

washed me, I ask for the washing of regeneration; and as I begin work, I pray that I may have strength equal to my day. When I begin to kindle up the fire, I pray that God's work may revive in my soul; and as I sweep out the house, I pray that my heart may be cleansed of all its impurities; and while preparing and partaking of breakfast, I desire to be fed with the hidden manna, and the sincere milk of the word; and as I am busy with the little children, I look to God as my Father, and pray for the spirit of adoption, that I may be his child.—and so on, all day; everything I do furnishes me a thought of prayer."

"Enough, enough!" cried the old man; "these things are revealed to babes, and hid from the wise and prudent. Go on, Mary," said he, "pray without ceasing; and as for us, my brethren, let us bless the Lord for this exposition, and remember that he has said, the meek will he guide in judgment."

The essay, as a matter of course, was not considered necessary after this little event occurred.—*Penny Magazine.*

ANOTHER VOLUME.

In the good providence of God, we have been permitted to greet the readers of the *Record* on the commencement of another year, and we wish it may be a "happy New Year." We hope your long acquaintance with us, (the *Record*;) has been the means of adding to your store of Christian knowledge, and that the varied and attractive forms in which Divine truth has been presented to your minds, by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, has tended to elevate your affections, and raise your desire from the things of time and sense, and to place them on those things which are not seen, but which are eternal, at God's right hand. This has been the great object of the *Record* and our labors in connection with it; may we hope that these have not been without profit to us all.

In our intercourse with each other, we have been privileged to contemplate many wonderful things God has done. We have heard of the delightful fruits of a preached gospel,