

BLACKBOARD REVIEW.
ONLY TWO SIDES.

MAN'S
RICHES
REWARDS
REPOSE

BUT

ANGELS WEeping
JESUS PLEADING (in vain)
AND
HELL AT LAST

GOD'S
POVERTY
PRISON
PUNISHMENT

BUT

ANGELS HELPING
JESUS WATCHING
AND
HEAVEN AT LAST

The presence of God with his servants when persecuted is illustrated by the following anecdote:—The Rev. Dr. Baldwin, of the Methodist Episcopal Mission says, "A man who has been an opium smoker and an opium seller, by name of Ling Ching Ting, was converted at Foochow. "He immediately wished to go and tell the story of the cross in the district of Hok-Chiang, some forty miles away, where he had formerly lived. He was permitted to go. He met with much persecution, being driven out of some places, stoned in others, and maltreated in many ways. At one time, through false accusations brought against him, he was sentenced to be beaten with two thousand stripes, and the sentence was literally executed. He was carried up to Foochow groaning with intense pain occasioned by the beating, yet cheerfully endured the trial, testifying to those who called upon him that *Jesus could make his heart inside all peaceful, even while his body was in great pain.* Through his labors the gospel spread over the district of Hok-Chiang, where this church now has a thousand communicants."

The duty of supreme obedience to God and conscience is beautifully exemplified in the following anecdote of Basil, bishop of Caesarea (died A. D. 379). He was offered by the Emperor Valens the alternative of conforming to the Arian (Unitarian) creed or of resigning his bishopric, but he answered the prefect who brought him the mandate, with calm dignity, that he could not obey the Emperor's will,

"because it was inconsistent with that of his Sovereign Lord, and he could not worship any human creature, being himself a subject of that Lord, and commanded to be like him." "Do you know his dignity to whom you speak?" asked the prefect. "I do," was the reply, "and I respect it, but that of God is greater. We are both his servants, and among christians greatness depends, not upon rank, but upon faith." The prefect threatened him with pains and penalties. The bishop smiled as he answered, "What are such threats to me? He who has nothing to lose can scarce fear confiscation, and I have no possession save these mean garments and some few books. Neither does he fear exile who counts no spot on earth his home, being here but a pilgrim and sojourner, seeking safer place of rest; heaven is my home. Nor do I fear torture; my frail body would endure but little—you could strike but one blow, and my pain is past; I should but depart the sooner to him, for whose service alone I am willing to live, and after whom my soul yearns." The prefect could not forbear expressing his surprise at the boldness of the bishop's speech. "Perhaps," was the answer, you have not before met with a christian bishop, or under such circumstances you would have found the same conduct." The Emperor yielded, and, his child being dangerously ill, the Empress, Dominica even besought Basil's prayers on the young Galatus behalf.