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Poetry.

For the Christian Messenger. Contrition.

My sins are so many, my virtues so few, That off in deep sorrow, as up to my view, By hands all unseen is held my past life, I bow 'neath a burden : my bosom is rife With grief for transgressions, with earnwere single est regret

That God and His love my heart should The Selden - I paders tagto out While base things and foolish so soon

refind a place, med ban with Although I've experienced the impulse of

And turned toward the land where purity Where unfelt and unknown are dark sin and its pains. ber as and its

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HAND.

O strange! That since God in compassion To my soul with his mercy, calling me

Revealing His love by forgiving my sin, Restoring His spirit to witness within That I am a child by adoption and grace, And in heavenly mansions will soon see

cont no His face, and live it a stoom I should carelessly stray from His precepts and laws,

uso but cause.

O Father, look down on Thy penitent child;

O pity, though sin hath my bosom defiled: Thou knowest my frame-'tis feeble and

Though anxiously trying I constantly fail To fix my affection on glories above, Thy love.

Repentant, O Father, I now seek Thy face: O hear me and pardon, great Author of SYMONDS.

Spencer, Aug. 13, 1878.

Gems of Thought.

The wealth of a man is the number of things which he loves and blesses, which he is loved and blessed by .- Carlyle.

If a woman's influence over a man is not strong enough to reform him before marriage, it will not be strong enough after marriage.

voluntary infliction; is is the consolidation and perpetuation of evil character projecting itself into the eternal world, and reaping its own self-prepared results and consequences .- Adams.

A true Christian living in the world is like a ship sailing on the ocean. It is not the ship being in the water which will sink it, but the water getting into the ship. So the world, with its love of pleasure getting into the hearts of Christians has ruined its millions.

much. The old darkey said, "If any to sympathise with us, in all of our afob you know ob any church w'at died flictions. He was tempted in all points ob liberality, jes tell me whar it is, an' like as we are. Therefore, be not dis-I will take a pilgrimage to it, and by couraged; look unto Him, with eyes of de soft light ob de pale moon I will faith, with eyes of love, with eyes of crawl upon its moss-covered roof an' obedience; and the more you thus look write on de topmost shingle, "Blessed the more you will realize the power of am de dead who die in de Lord."

Long labor in the temperance reform has convinced me that the most effectual place to promote it is at home. There is the spot where the mischief is too often done. There is the spot to enact a "prohibitory law." Let it be written upon the walls of every house -- Wherever there is a boy, there should never be a bottle.- Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler.

field may be small; no matter, do your best. He who is unfaithful in little

Singing is said to be a preventive of sea-sickness, So, when you get sick you must sing. It may be hard work, but you must remember that your hearers will suffer more than you do.

The highest obedience in the spirit-

For the Christian Messenger Looking unto Jesus."

This New Testament phrase suggests the duty of looking unto the "author Bible, we should strive to do so by a throne of our Father in Heaven. To and finisher of our faith." Why should light that shines, not alone on a particu- become perfectly acquainted with the we look unto Him? 1st. We should her side, or given point, but falls equally music of this wonderful song-to belook unto Him because he is the giver of our lives. on In Him we live and move. and have our being." Surely He has pre-eminent claims upon us "He who wtrue light which lighteth every man creates athing, from material belongirg to him, is entitled to control it, and will give us just as much light as we use it as it may please him. And how emphatically true is this, in reference to the Bible that is and will remain, highest obligation to do it. Sinner, do be otherwise, and God be God? you intend to obey and live? If you God has givenous our natural lives - to heights, to send swift messengers of a ery hedy this and to those who have thought through the length and breadth obeyeddhim by believing His Wordshe of the Mind Infinite? John boon out has given eternal life. And this enables the Christian to look unto the Author passages containing rich promises of Life. Are we thirsty? It leads us to times in a summer are more to such of his truest life, in a manner he never blessings God means for us to have, to the fountain of living water. could, without that lite And the more if we will; knowledge, He wishes us to the looks, the stronger his vision becomes, and the wider his range of vis-Forgetting his mercy, reproaching his ion. More beauties in Christ he sees, more of power and more of glory. 2nd. We should look unto him, because he is our Leader. All organizations have every branch of industry and portion without opening up numbers of others day? The Bible says to us, "At evenof society. Jesus is our Leader, by of equal beauty; but many times half tide there shall be light." divine right. None so able to lead as of the helpful power of these beautiful And turn toward the earthly, forgetting and patient. He leads in the best way sighted, earth-blinded eyes only take in darkness into light, its failures into gain; so. Indeed, it may seem far different. catch a gleam of the radiant glory holds out to him the blessed assurance never leaves, or forsakes us. His hand, pleased to call " our creeds !" though invisible, still clasps us; it nev- "For the love of God is broader than the er gets weary. And though he leads in ways rough and stormy, it is that we may be disciplined. No development of the best elements of our character is effected, without pungent trials and singular experiences. If our trials seem peculiar, let us remember that it Eternal punishment is not simply a is because there are peculiar traits of character needing development. Let us, therefore, confide always in his leadership.

3rd. Look to him because he is our sympathiser. No one can possibly, sympathise with us as Jesus does. His wisdom tits him for it; his love enables bim to do it; and his power is sufficient to accomplish all that his wisdom one sympathises for another, like him who has kindred experience. Like experience begets like sympathy. You need not be afraid of giving too Jesus, by experience, is grandly fitted his delivering grace, and the sweetness of his never-ailing mercy. "They looked unto him and were lightened." C. H. WETHERBE.

> For the Christian Messenger. on out not The Bible.

of the country a tens, prosperous, a

The Bible is ever old, and ever new. True faithful workers are always in It is old as the centuries that roll their demand. Labor may be humble; the years around the world: It is new as the sunlight that returns each day and floods the earth anew with warmth, things that belong to salvation. things, is not to be trusted in great af- brightness, vigor and life-giving power.

Secondly, Sound controls, It has preface for the corpose of diverting the faction at such a putriotic thought, has times attended with dispersons comes

fore. There is no work known to the demption through the blood of Christ. plainly of want and poverty, threw and continued reading, so draws, holds, sick soul, set to music by the great lovand grows upon us as the Christian's ing Master of all harmonies, to be sung

When we look at some grand truth, soul redeemed, and echoed by an invisior blessed promise set forth in the ble chorus of Angels around the clear on all sides, bringing out the rare must go directly to Him who is the who cometh into the world;" and He can bear to have. There is much of

How can it be possible for the mind dopthere is no safer time than now. finite to sound the depths, to touch the

by God; yet, we are assured that He broad for the measure of what we are

measure of man's mind, And the heart of the Eternal is more wonderfully kind."

We cut and carve the gospel up into so many different divisions and try to run it in a mold of our own casting, but | He gives in this life, what earth-crowned it over-flows, it bursts out and streams | kings cannot bestow, namely, Peace! over the world, a broad, deep, mighty river! It cannot shrink to our human | the world giveth, give I unto you : Let measurement! It will not narrow to the " false limits" we often set. Only when God has deeply troubled the waters, when He has moved upon the face of that inner sea of life and said, " Let there be light;" only then can we get anything near like a true idea of the height and depth; the length and and love prompt him to do for us. No breadth of His love and mercy toward the children of men.

> "There's a wideness in God's mercy Like the wideness of the sea; There's a kindness in His justice That is more than liberty.

If our love were but more simple We should take Him at His Word, And our lives would be all sunshine

In the sweetness of our Lord." The Bible is, or should be all things to all men. It holds something for every soul born into the world; be it Jew or Gentile, male or female, bond or free, each have a blood-bought claim to its blessed promise.

Look at it apart from its divinity; and still you find something to please, instruct and widen every mind; history, biography, poetry, narrative, the finest imagery, the deepest pathos, the grandest sublimity, the broadest charity, the highest standard of moral living, God's ideal of Christian manhood and woman-

from the darkness and ignorance of sin, to admire it as a fine piece of writing. things, to say :- "Thy will be done." | price, some word of comfort, hope, or | the grandest, sweetest song ever sung swarms of little children, their pinched "the Church" protests against being piece of suitable masic, as a kind of " Hie Majesty, in expressing his satis- in valsing the superstructure is some

cherrthathad not been revealed to usbe- to weary human ears, the song of re- faces and meagre forms telling too world the love of which, through close The choral of peace and rest to the sin- aside every thought, save that of precome closely attuned to the life of Christ such as He alone has to bestow.

thous whereship of us! He bids us while humanity has being a grand song of songs? " In the volume of the by them, and it is to be hoped that look unto Him, and we are under the awesinspiring mystery! How can it Book it is written," this new song, "Even praise unto our God."

> where to find restantianona A mot a W But there are myriads of beautiful It points us to the satisfying bread of Such days-coming but two or three

Are we weary with the days march gain; comfort and hope and peace, He toiling wearily through heat and dust has stored in His written Word for our heavy laden? He tells us of 'a soul-needs and heart-needs. These Great Rock," in the shadow whereof precious truths, promises, blessings so we can lay down our burden. Do abound; so inter-lace, and over-clasp, black clouds of sorrow and misfortune and under-lie each other, it is impossi- obscure our pathway and wrap us in their leaders. Leading spirits control ble to bring to light one beautiful truth their gloom shutting out the light of

The Bible teaches the Christian to we can go. This may not always seem one side of the sacred crystal, and never its fierce unrest into peaceful hope and Various providences may bring us into flashing from the other sides! Some of a perfect home beyond the lights and distressful circumstances. Deep afflictimes I think the narrow one-sided shades, the losses and gains, of this defamed and persecuted; suffer want at the other side; the whole grand unfolding, wide-grasping will blossom and peril, and be apparently deserted reading, the truth might seem too out in all the glories of a perfect being, encircled by the completeness of the everlasting soul. Nor is this all; it holds out to Him the title-deeds to this Home, this " Mansion " among " The Many:" It records the last will and testament of our Elder Brother, bequeathing " an inheritance incorruptable and undefiled;" in surety whereof "My peace I give unto you: not as not your heart be troubled. Neither let it be afraid." More than all, the Bible unfolds to the mass of humanity the wonderous plan for the final salvation of a race of beings sunk in misery and ignorance and sin; and this

> Heac and cried "It is finished." O if men and women, the world over, Attila." but once get their soul-gaze fixed upon | The legend of "St. Ursula and the the bright cape light that streams up- eleven thousand virgins" "originated on the world from the open pages of in an ignorant reading of the Latin the Christians Bible, they need fear inscription "Ursula et XI. MM. VV," no evil from the blasting winds with which the age is rife, and which seek to warp us from the loving truth of God. Riversbank, Hantsport, July, 19th.

through thirty years of homeless wan-

derings on earth; completed on Mount

Calvary when he bowed his sacred

For the Christian Messenger. United States Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 13, 1878.

The first free excursion for the poor hood, but these last are some of the was given down the river last week and the sight was one to refresh the heart. I believe, when men, while denying | Probably many of the participants were It is new to every soul that is redeemed the divinity of the Bible, are yet drawn never before out of Washington, and the luxury of breathing the cool sweet and let in the light of the kingdom of That admiration is but the "divinity air, and of passing the most of the day God and His Song The more we read within The likest God within the on the fresh green grass in the shade and learn of the Bible, the fresher and soul," rising in opposition to the hu- of the wildwood, was one of untold stronger it seems to me and the more manity that attempts to deny its exis- depth. Mothers took their little wan we want want to read of it, and and if tence, and answering to the divinity of and haggard babies, whose faces and we read it studiously each day, each day God recognized in His hand. Give to eyes brightened even with so short a and real than that which has thus ual life, is to able always, and in all will show us some truths, some pearl of the Bible its divinity, and it contains respite from the city's heated glare; engaged our attentions. But while The letter little and a server year was also better with a set I

sent enjoyment, and betook themselves to the bath, swings, trees, green banks by the franchised human heart and the | or whatever their inclinations prompted, with a zest and keenness of appreciation such as plenty's children do not know. But the climax of enjoyment was reached when the throng was summoned to the lunch table, prepared by the ladies and gentlemen who had the beauty of each. To get this sight we whose suffering heart-beats pulse and arrangements of the excursion in charge. and throb through its every note, should Every picnic delicacy was there, with be the strongest desire of every human plenty of substantial food" No appetite creature dwelling on the earth that God so delicate or so robust, but could be has made and adorned with beauty tempted by something from that table. The children fairly screamed with de-Do we wish to learn this rare sweet light. The day will never be forgotten many like excursions will follow this initiative one. I venture to assert that Are we weary? the Bible tells us Mrs. Hayes' two weeks at Cape May, which she is now trying to enjoy, will Are we weak? It shows us the true not begin to bring her the comfort and source of strength. Are we pining pleasure that that one picnic day with heart-hunger and soul starvation? brought to those tired. city-stifled ones. participants than a whole Saratoga, or Long Branch season is to those who patronize those places.

Since Genl. Grant has been abroad many have said that he travels rather to be seen and feted than to see and learn. He has been lionized a deal, and being human, no doubt, he enjoys that part of his foreign experience; but in some places at least, he has made no attempt at show. In Berlin, for instance, he avoided all publicity as much as possi-He, because no one is so wise, strong truths is lost to us, because our near- turn life's shadows into beauty; its ble, going about on foot, in horse-cars or open cabs, unattended. And yet, very marked attention was shown him there. The Empress sent him an autograph letter expressing the Emperor's regret that he was unable to receive him; the tion may roll over us. We may be view suits us best; we do want to look present life: a home where the soul, Crown Prince gave a dinner in his honor at the new palace in Potsdam, and Prince Bismarck gave him a dinner in the Chancellor's town palace, officers were detailed to escort him through the barrack, a review was given for his benefit and the Earl of Beaconsfield's guard of honor extended its courtesies to him. Genl. Grant is still talked of in connection with the next Presidency but with less vivacity than was the case a month or two ago.

Explanatory.

The Editor of the Christian Messenger.

Sir,-A paregraph in your Paris Letter of this week would be rendered more intelligible to some of your readers by an explanatory note. It would plan is no incomplete, unfinished thing, even seem that your interesting corres-" no dead fact stranded on the shore of pondent " Louis," had not met with the the oblivious years," but a strong living explanation of the mystery or puzzle unchangeable plan. Conceived by the involved. The paragraph referred to mind of God. Entered upon by Christ | is to this effect :in Bethlehem's manger, carried out

"In the ancient church of St. Ursula, in Cologne, are displayed the bones of some eleven thousand virgins who, on returning from a pilgrimage to Rome were mercilessly slain by the hordes of

-in which the "M" was understood to stand for Mille, i. e. a thousand, and the second "M" as pluralizing the first—the repetition of a letter under such circumstances being sometimes used for that purpose; as it was, indeed, in the very case before us. The only error was in assuming that the " M" designated a number, whereas it was the initial letter of Martyres, the Latin form of the Greek maitures. The two "V's" were correctly rendered virgines, i. e., virgins. The inscription therefore simply meant, Ursula and the eleven Martyr Virgins; and from it, by the process indicated, arose the marvellous legend of "Ursula and the Eleven Thousand Virgins."

Many legends of "the Church" sprung into their beautiful (?) proportions from a foundation even less stable

meeting on blonday assember