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[EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR]

WHOLE No. 1312

PLEASE, SIR, DON'T STEP THERE.—A layer

snow was spread over the icy streets, and pedestrians, shod with India rubber, walked carefully toward the village church on a cold Sabbath morning in February.

Walking somewhat hastily churchward, for it was late, I noticed a bright-looking little fellow standing upon the pavement, with his cap i

"Please don't step there, sir. I slipped there and fell down."

I thanked the philanthropic little fellow, and passed round the dangerous spot.

A thousand times since has the clear voice of that kind-hearted child rung in my ear, reminding me of my duty to those around me, and urging me to repeat it whenever it promises to be useful. "Please, sir, don't step there."

THE death is announced of the Rev. J. I. Cullen, Baptist minister, at the advanced age of 82. Mr. Cullen in early life was a member of the Roman Catholic Church, but eventually severed himself from that communion, and commenced preaching with singular acceptance

large towns of Roman Catholics at Omagh and other parts of Ireland. In consequence of the hostility of the priests, Mr. Cullen had to leave Ireland, and for some years filled the position of private tutor in several families of distinction in the metropolis. He was subsequently offered a living worth £750 per annum, on condition that he would enter the Catholic Church, but he refused.

examining the rubrics was unable conscientiously to subscribe to them. He ultimately decided to enter the Baptist denomination, and finally settled at Fordham, Cambridgeshire, in 1858.

THE SAVIOUR'S PRESENCE.—Each part of me

has a use and an abuse. Each faculty, each desire, each motive, each affection, is either good because rightly, or bad because wrongly, directed. Consequently it will be one of the sure signs—perhaps of all signs the most decisive—of a Saviour's presence, that He has in himself the fulfilment of every want, and the satisfac-

tion of every instinct, which, before and with-
out Him, was either pining for its good or
poisoning itself with its evil.—*C. J. Vaughan*
D. D.

REBUKE OF THE SCOFFER.—It is sometimes
mentioned by skeptics to the reproach of Chris-

Western preacher was tauntingly asked by an ungodly scoffer why it was that most Christians are women. "I will ask you a question," said the minister, "and, if you will answer it, I will answer you. I was recently at the State penitentiary, where I saw hundreds of men, and

The reply was a just rebuke of the scoffer, a triumphant vindication of female character, and a strong proof of the benign influence of Christianity.

RANDOM READINGS.

Seeming difficulties generally vanish before faith, prayer and perseverance.

Those are the best Christians who are most

Lead me, O Christ, 'mid doubt or circling gloom
Lead thou me on ;
The night is dark and I am far from home,
Lead thou me on.
Keep thou my feet : I do not ask to see
The promised land ; I only ask to see
The cross that marks the spot where thou hast died,
And to abide by thee until I die.

The distant scene—one step's enough for me.
—Faber.

A workshop is not a bad place for preaching in. If the heart of one workman is filled with the love of Christ, all the hands will hear of it.

If the way to heaven is narrow, it is not long.

Doing good is the only industry that pays fully six per cent. in these hard times, and never "passes" a single dividend. Invest most largely in it."

Nothing can be more painful to the feelings of a minister when he comes to water his flock than to find that many of them are not at all

The meanest paymaster in the universe Satan. He never yet employed a hand that he didn't cheat. Young man, engage your services to a better Master.

Peace among men is the consequence of peace in men.—*Viedebandt.*

God has promised forgiveness to your repentance; but He has not promised a to-morrow for your procrastination.

The history of many a Christian has for its chief data his so-called holy resolutions.

Never be sorry for any generous thing you ever did, even if it was betrayed. You cannot

A Christian prays, not that he may bend the will of God according to his own will, but order that he may shape his will according to God's.—*Lange*.

What a choice word is that of our English

No man has come to true greatness who has not felt in some degree that his life belongs to his race, and that what God gives him, he gives him for mankind.—*Phillips Brooks.*

Faith and works are as necessary to the spiritual life of a Christian as soul and body are to our life as men, for faith is the soul of religion, and works the body.

I renew daily my covenant to become altogether Christ's, and to watch every woman that I may not lose one opportunity of doing good to the souls of men.—*Mrs. Fletcher.*