Angel of the parting year, Winging back to beaven thy flight, Sad the burden thou must bear, From the darknes into light; Burden of my wasted days, Fragments of my broken hours, Budding promises that grew Never into fruit or flowers;

Happiness I might have won, Worthy deeds I might have wrought, Wrongs I hate, but did not shun, Good I crave, but never sought; All my proud and lofty aims, Withered now to vain regret-Feeble, foolish, as the will To no noble purpose set.

Take them all, my griefs, my joys, Lay them at the Father's feet; He will search if yet there be 'Mid the chaff some grain of wheat. He will fan my faint resolves To a purer flame and clear. Bear to heaven my heart's desire Angel of the parting year !

Angel of the coming year, Though thy face is veiled, I see, By the glory round thee shed, Thou hast some good gift for me. Is it gold, or power, or fame? Perfect peace from toil or care? Or some sweeter, greater bliss I had never hoped to share?

Nay, I knew 'tis none of these; Still I walk my narrow ways; Still does lowly labor fill All the measure of my days; This the treasure thou has brought, Prized in every age and clime, Life no greater boon can crave-God's most precious gift of Time.

Time to shape my common cares Into duties high and sweet; Time to learn that patience smooths All rough ways for tired feet; Time to scatter here and there. By the wayside, love's small seed, Knowing lowliest hands may oft Minister to highest need.

So may each day be a cup With life's sweetest flavors fraught; Every hour a shining pearl Strung on golden threads of thought; Every moment a bright flower Shedding perfume far and near. Lend thy grace to make it so, angel of the coming year !

Retrospect and Prospect.

In the course of every journey there comes a time and a place where the weary pilgrim halts for the purposes of But he who seeks all things, wherever retrospect and prospect. The summit of the hill has been reached by a long and dusty road, and which has been mounted by patient and protracted effort, is found to be a convenient place to take breath and meanwhile review the path one has traveled and cast a glance in a prospective way over the path yet to be traversed. Figuratively speaking, we are standing on such an eminence during these Christmas days.

We have come to another milestone in our journey of life-and we are making a review of the past experiences, and making plans and calculations for the future.

The year 1889 is gone; the new year is here. And as we bid farewell to the old and greet the new year, we inquire, how shall we deal with the experiences of the past year so as to secure the best contributions from it to the year that is to be. Paul gives us a good answer to this question : "Forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forward unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Notice the prescription: forgetfulness of the past, fidelity in the future.

Certainly there are past mercies we should hold in remembrance for purposes of thanksgiving; and there are past sins we should not fail to repent of; but the rule is, forget the past; let | past experiences.

There are sorrows to be forgotten. may have had in the past year sickto you out of the bosom of the old year. But having your heart softened by them, forget them, or they will unfit you for service in making you bring forth more fruit as the Master intend-

Past mistakes are to be forgotten. dear reader, that you have made serithat suffi of for them Had Paul re-many name of any past act of his life. preacher succeeded. I do not know We can exercise faith in his goodness cur

of his rank. His success grew out of

then I pray God your sins may be beto the fountain filled with blood.

dertaking for the Master; perhaps of having endeavored to act with fidelsucceeded in conquering some evil sciousness of having, in trying situaat the beginning of the year. And so you are oppressed with the remembrance of past failures. But do not hold them in memory. [t will unfit] you for the next year. If you go into the year with a prophecy of failure, you will likely be a true prophet. If you want to succeed, you must repair all manner of losses; pick yourself up after all manner of falls, and forgetting all about them go to work as if you never knew there was any such thing as failure. Forget past successes also. There

is nothing so dangerous as success. How many are ruined by a little early success. They become crazed, and in the moment they are congratulating themselves they are driven to the wall. Rest not on your laurels; the rather cast them at the foot of the cross. Think not too much of past successes, lest ye make shipwreck on that rock. As for the future-be strictly faithful; make the most of it. To this end live to some definite and lofty purpose. Be not meredrift-wood in life's current. Ennoble your life and character by the pursuit of an object that is worthy a man for whom Jesus died. Singleness and definiteness of purpose are vital to the highest success. For

·He who seeks one thing in life, and

May hope to achieve it before life be

Only reaps from the hopes which around him he sows

A harvest of barren regrets." And having settled upon a worthy purpose, "press" toward it; use every energy. Follow resolution with effort. The road to hell is paved with good resolutions; the way to Heaven is through a striving to enter in. Make the most of every opportunity as though it were the best in your life. The way to enlarged usefulness will come soon enough.

Then add to all these hopefulness. To be hopeful is often half the victory. Hope sets her bow of promise in the life has felt the power of the inspiration of hope.

And do not forget the present in thinking of the past and dreaming of the future. Deal faithfully with the present moment. Take care of the moments, and the days and years will take care of themselves. If you deal with time in this manner, then it may be yours truly to say: "For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

Failing Years.

Very fast are the years failing. Al most insensibly are they succeeding time seems short since they were inyouth. Seemingly, it was but yesterby-gones be by-gones; do not weight day when they were under the watchyourself down with the burdens of ful eye of parental solicitude, and the mirthfully ringing shouts of happy They come to every heart. Life is childhood enlivening the ever attracbitter-sweet. Forget the bitter. You tive playground around the old familiar school-house. Can it be that subordination of "Christ and him cruness, loss of friends, loss of position, twenty, thirty, forty, fifty or more cified." Some branch of this great failure in business; these or a multi- years have gone so soon! Surely the subject should be the theme of every tude of other sorrows may have come past years have failed with amazing Sabbath discourse; and other questions rapidity, and they appear but as moments in the retrospect.

have already failed is certainly to find mere philosophic, but from the higher sonal duties were promptly performed matter for profound humiliation and sincere regret. There can be no such looking backward without recalling the text, "Thou hast been faithful soon take place the length and breadth They will happen. It is no wonder, errors and follies to be lamented. Misimproved opportunities and unac- ruler over many things" It was an ous mistakes. To err is human. So complished purposes must rise up to able and stimulating discourse, but be not broken hearted if in the year's the confusion of all who review the Christless. The weakness of human review y > 1 see mistakes. Credit them past aright. To those who do not deto the account of experience and let ceive themselves the contemplation of preacher the impossibility of such departed years cannot afford undimin- faithfulness except to the Christian; discharges every known personal duty. manbered the mistakes of his early ished pleasure. There will be much and he might have set forth the alllife, he would not have been-could to occasion grief, at the best. But to sufficiency of Christ to enable the not have been the vices "ous Paul that all reviewers the result will not be Christian to be faithful even in trifles. he was li held in it they will wholly painful; for there is doubtless The second sermon was from the only be prolific of other and more something, if not much, in almost text, "In this place is one greater Bactiles blanks; but if we gain wis- every person's life, which can be re- than the temple." The reader will have known in their lives to things don it in this changeable climate. The never-failing remedy is just as gl with states with a state of our supposed calamities we may find of our supposed calamities we may find only state of our supposed calamities we may find our supposed calamities we may find our supposed calamities we may find our supposed calamities of our supposed calamities we may find our supposed calamities we may find our supposed calamities of our sup

the quickness with which he dismissed than this, that whatever there may be the sermon. It did not seem to occur chastisement that others shall learn these mistakes and tried something in past conduct to be recollected with to him that Christ was even alluded from us lessons of trust and patience. satisfaction, it is found in those em- to in the text. The thought develop-Past sins are to be forgotten. Who ployments which are not in the ser- ed, and developed with more than oramong us is without sins of omission vice of vanity and sin. Of this chardinary ability, was roughly this: Man and commission? But if you are in acter is the cultivation and improve- greater than his works; or man greater Christ there is no condemnation. If ment of the mind and the acquisition than the temple, and therefore greater you are a Christian, God does not re- of useful knowledge, in the increasing in religion than the church, and in fluence of our faith and the sustaining member your sins against you; then stores of which intellectual progress politics than party. The aim was to efficacy of divine grace. - Inquirer. why remember them against yourself? may be traced. And whatever tends awaken sympathy with the prohibition If you are not in Christ by faith, to laying the foundation for future ad- movement, even if it involved a break vancement in the way of respectability with the old party, and it was a splenfore you day and night till you come and usefulness is in contrast with did argument. But --- why should those unworthy pursuits of which there | Christ be set aside in his own temple Past failures are also to be forgot- can be little, if any, agreeable rememten. Who has not failed in some un- brance. He who feels the assurance some have not succeeded in anything; ity in the various relations of life, and by an excellent Baptist pastor. The failure has been the rule. Your heart aimed to deserve the esteem of the is discouraged. You have not even worthy and the good; who has a conhabit against which you declared war tions and emergencies, succeeded in acting his appropriate part with honor, and of having been serviceable to many in want or distress-he has something far better adapted to afford a this kind of thing ?- The Standard. satisfactory review than he who has hardly failed to consult his own selfish feelings and interests, almost, if not wholly, regardless of right or wrong,

> There are various causes of regret in looking back over the years that have failed. Inconsiderateness, negligence, to do in presenting a hindrance to so living that life can be pleasurably, or by faithful memory.

honor or shame, usefulness or injuri-

which eternity has in store and all the evil, all the promises and all the threatenings of God in His Word, will be realized in consequence of, and in proportion to, the improvement or abuse of the present time of our probation." "Oh, that can be no trivial thing,

However rapidly it fly, Which bears our souls upon its wing, And fashions our eternity !"

A Question for Ministers. BY ONE.

Do ministers in these days often preach Christless sermons? Is it a common thing for them to entertain stormiest cloud. Every successful their congregations on the Sabbath day with addresses which contain no gospel? I ask this question simply for information. Being a minister myself I seldom hear a sermon, but just now our church is undergoing repairs, and I have an opportunity to hear. I prize the privilege, and have been woefully disappointed, for in the three sermons which I have heard, there has been no word of gospel, no word of Christ. Any unconverted man, with sufficient ability, might have preached the same discourses. The sermons were good enough in subject and in style, but there was notheach other. To the oldest, even, the ing distinctively Christian about them, nothing which a heathen philosopher experienced children, or inconsiderate | might not have said, nothing to draw the sinner to Christ, or make Christ dearer to the believer's heart.

My idea of the gospel ministry is when their merry voices mingled in that every subject which affects human life and character may fitly be present ed from the pulpit in its season, but never to the exclusion or even to the -moral and historical-should always ground of a Christian.

over a few things. I will make thee

Nothing is more certain, however, whether he once mentioned Christ in and we can so bear ourselves under on the Sunday evening when he came Rome, but when he entered that city a so gloriously in the text?

Both these sermons were preached third sermon I heard was in a Presbyterian church. It was one of a series of Sunday evening talks on church history. The subject was, "The Church of England." The sermon preaching, but the best work he ever was simply historical, there was not a gospel idea in it. Do ministers justify

The Baptism of Fire.

The Spirit also brings before us the come from the "Pilgrim's Progress." most solemn thoughts in reference to our congregations. Immortal souls India, it seemed as if the door of usecome to listen for tidings of the fulness might be closed, but forced, as Saviour. God has stirred them by his it were, to go to Burma, he lighted a Holy Spirit and sent them to hear. golden lamp which has guided thou If they are saved, it must be through sands to eternal life. Well is it if we, worldliness, frivolousness, have much our words, and upon the issue of the conscious of our own inability to judge sermon the destiny of immortal souls may be sealed. Who could preach divine appointments, and believe that unregretfully, reviewed. When duty carelessly could he thus feel? Beis not placed before pleasure a great sides it may be the last sermon which be proved best for ourselves and the mistake is made, which must sooner or some one shall hear. Almost every later be regretted and lamented With sermon is the last that some one does their business engagements, their do- hear. More persons die every year mestic concerns, their pleasures and than there are pulpits in the land. their amusements, too many are busy | Could we single out some person in here and there, till suddenly they real- the assembly who would never hear ize that their years are gone, having another sermon, how would we try to all failed without such improvement as | preach Jesus? Our eyes are sealed as will prevent the bitterness of regret to destiny, but that person is in the when they are recalled, as they will be congregation, and we must draw the bow at venture, trusting that the Di-No right use can be made of failing vine arm and eye will give to the bow years without considering the relations sufficient tension, and to the arrow which they sustain to the unmeasured the right direction. When I have existence to which they will introduce heard, as I frequently have, of persons all to whom they fail, when the last of present in assemblies where I have them has failed. It has been well said | preached, who have been called sudthat "there is nothing in eternity but | denly away by accidents or disease, I what springs out of time; all the good have never felt regret that my sermon was not more beautiful or more polished, but I have regretted that it was not preached with more demonstration of the Spirit and of power. I cannot conceal my conviction that, but for the negligence and indolence of those of us who occupy the sacred desk, this demonstration would be more universal and more powerful. It seems to me that the possibilities connected with preaching have been only partially realized, and that a brighter and more glorious day will dawn upon the Church. If there is one thing above all others that I have desired for myself, and that above all other things covet for you, it is the ministerial power, this baptism of fire. Seek for this more than for learning, for wisdom, for oratory; and, above all, more than for any thought of your acceptability or popularity. To preach one sermon like Livingstone's would be worth a life of service. I believe you all may have such power that thousands shall be converted under your preach-If the Bible be true, and if you are divinely called to the ministry, you are lifted out of the common circles of business and of the conflicts of life God comes to dwell in you, and to use all your powers for himself; your highest glory will be to appear as liv ing, walking Christs among men, and you will feel with the apostle, "For me to live is Christ."-From "Yale

Lectures" by Bishop Simpson. THE proper way and the only way to settle difficulties, to right wrongs, to remove obstacles, to bring order out of chaos, and to avert evil, is for every man to do the right thing himself, the composition of Parmalee's Pills. everywhere and under all circumstances and in the fear of God discharge every | C. C. RICHARDS & Co. known obligation, and not wait on get ready. Let each individual get be discussed from a distinctively Chris- ready and stay ready for the discharge To look back upon the years that tianstandpoint, not from the plane of a of every personal obligation. If perby all who profess to be in the right The first sermon I heard was from way, a great moral revolution would of the Bible world. If one person can chase a thousand and two can put ten thousand to flight, suppose you and I try the experiment upon the word of living who promptly and cheerfully

> FEW CHRISTIANS think of giving thanks for their defeats, disappointments and afflictions. Nevertheless, many can trace the greatest good they

As our divine Lord by his patient endurance is the example and inspiration of his disciples in suffering, so we may "glorify God in the fires" by the testimony our conduct can give of the in-

Defeat And Victory.

That which to a Christian may seem a sad repulse or defeat may be God's plan for a victory. Paul was to see prisoner it looked as if the promise was a mockery, yet he soon found that coming to Rome was productive of grand results, and even in Casar's household there were those who became "saints." Bunyan was imprisoned, and thus was prevented from did for Christ was while he was in Bedford Jail. He might have evangelized for awhile, but no work he could have done in preaching would have had the world-wide influence that has When Judson was rebuffed in British what may be best, are willing to accept what we know not now will hereafter cause of God. - Christian Inquirer.

A Lesson. - Passing along one of our ugliest streets half blinded with the blowing dust, there fell suddenly upon our ear the notes of a most joyous song and, looking up, we saw fastened gainst a bare brick wall a cage, and in that cage a lone bird, all covered over with dust, and yet seeming as if he would split his very throat with his gladsome song. We thought, can that poor prisoned bird, deprived of every thing which we would think could tend to make a bird's life happy, sit upon that bare stick, and looking up into the blue sky, pour out his song of praise And yet we, whose lives are filled with numberless blessings, walk God's green earth with countenance prone, while we pour out our complaints !- Ex.

Random Readings.

A holy life has a voice. It speaks when the tongue is silent.

True greatness can only be the re sult of a fully rounded character. No man can do much for the world unless he also does a great deal for

Those who would go to heaven when they die must begin heaven while they

To give pain is the tyranny, to make happy the true empire of beauty.

The Christian's light comes from Christ, and it should shine for Christ.

-Rev. Dr. Maclaren. Being clothed with the righteousness of Christ, we have more than the

beauty of an angel. - Bogatsky. The pleasantest things in the world are pleasant thoughts, and the great art in life is to have as many of them

He who gives pleasure meets with it; kindness is the bond of friendship nd the hook of love; he who sows not,

Minard's Liniment, Lumberman's Friend.

Fagged out .- None but those who have become fagged out, know what a depressed, miserable feeling it is. All strength is gone, and despondency has taken hold of the sufferers. They feel as though there is nothing to live for. There, however, is a cure—one box of Parmelee's Vegetable Pilis will do wonders in restoring health and strength. Mandrake and Dandelion are two of the articles entering into

Gents, -We consider MINARDS' somebody else on some corporation to LINIMENT the best in the market and cheerfully recommend its use. J. H. HARRIS, M. D.,

Bellevue Hospitan F. U. ANDERSON, M. D., L. R. C. S., Edinburgh. M. R. C. S., England. H. D. WILSON, M. D.,

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would not be without it, says MRS. WM. FINLEY, JR.,



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from St. John for Quebec and Montreal leave St John at 16 55 and take sleeping car at Moncton. The train leaving St. John for Quebec and Montreal on Saturday at 16.55 o'clock will run to destination, arriving at Mon-

A parlor car runs each way on

express trains leaving St. John at 7.10

o'clock, and Halifax at 7.15. Passengers

treal at 18.05 Sunday evening. TRAINS WILL ARRIVE AT ST. JOHN.

Express from Sussex.. 8.30 Fast express from Quebec and Montreal (Monday excepted) 9.35 Accommodation from Point du Chene,...... 12,55 Day Express from Halifax 19.20 Fast Express from Halifax...... 22.36

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Eastern Standard Time.

LEAVE FREDEPICTON. 00 A. M. - Express for St. John, and Panger, Portland, Boston, and points West; St. Stephen, St. Andrews, Houlton, Woodstock, and points north.

10.30 A M-For Fredericton Junction, St John and all points east. 3.15 P. M. - For Fredericton Junction, St.

RETURNING TO FREDERICTON. From St. John 6.35, 8.45, a. m.; 4.45 p. m.; Fredericton Junction, 8.10, a m, 12 00 m, 6.25 p.m.; McAdam Junction, 10.40 a. m.; 2.15 p. m.; Vanceboro 10.20 a. m.; St. Stephen, 7 50, 11.25 a. m.; St. Andrews, 7.35

ARRIVING IN FREDERICTON. 9 20 a. m., 1.10, 7.20 p. m. LEAVE GIBSON.

6.45 A. M. - Mixed for Woodstock and points north. ARRIVE AT GIBSON. 4.50 P. M.-Mixed from Woodstock, and

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