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LIFE DEPARTMENT. The amount of new Life Premums received this year is by far the largest received in any similar period since the commencement of the business, and must far exceed the average of amount received by the most successful offices in the kingdom. The number of policies issued in the year was 832, the sum assured £387,752 68. Sd., and the premium £12,354 88. 4d. These figures show a very rapid extension of business during the last ten years. Thus:-

1848	ALC: MARK	of Policies. 98	£48,764	17	0	£1,380	9	1
1850	10.0	190	95,650			2,627		7
1852	1、1939	422	181,504	10	6	5,828	5	0
1854	theorem of	408	161,848	18	4	4,694	16	0
1856		703	297,560	16	8	8,850	8	11
1858	的时代	832	387,752	6	8	12,854		
The	remark	able increa	se in the	bus	sines	s of the la	st fe	Du
vears	is main	ly consequ	ent upon t	he	larg	e bonus de	ecla	rei



"Hold fast the form of sound words."-2d Timothy, i. 13

New Series, Vol. V., No. 5. Whole No. 213.

NOT NOW ! Not now, my child-a little more rough tossing, A little longer on the billows' foam, A few more journeyings in the desert darkness, And then the sunshine of thy Father's home !

Not now, for I have wanderers in the distance, And thou must call them in with patient love ; Not now, for I have sheep upon the mountains, And thou must follow them where'er they rove.

Not now, for I have loved ones sad and weary-Wilt thou not cheer them with a kindly smile ! Sick ones who need thee in their lonely sorrow-Wilt thou not tend them yet a little while ?

Not now, for wounded hearts are sorely bleeding, And thou must teach those widowed hearts to

Not now, for orphan tears are thickly falling-They must be gathered 'neath some sheltering wing.

Not now, for many a hungry one is pining-Thy willing hand must be outstretched and free; Thy Father hears the mighty cry of anguish, And gives His answering messages to thee.

Not now, for dungeon walls look stern and gloomy And prisoners' sighs sound strangely on the breeze-

Man's prisoners, but thy Saviour's noble freemen Hast thou no ministry of love for these ?

Not now, for hell's eternal gulf is yawning, And souls are perishing in helpless sin; Jerusalem's bright gates are standing open-Go to the banished ones and fetch them in !

Go with the name of Jesus to the dying, And speak that name in all its living power; Why should thy faltering heart grow chill and weary?

Canst thou not watch with 'Me one little hour ?

One little hour! and then the glorious crowning The golden harp-strings and the victor's palm One little hour ! and then the Hallelujah !

Eternity's long, deep thanksgiving psalm! Dublin Tract Repository.

(From the Bulwark or Reformation Journal.) THE CRISIS OF THE TEMPORAL POWER

The question of questions at this hour is the Roman question. This is one of those questions of far reaching consequence, which occur, we do say once in a century, but once in a millennium. It has come down to us from ages long past. It has at times during the past hundred and fifty years called loudly for settlement, but feeling the tremendous risks attendant upon it men have forborne to meddle with it, at least to any decisive effect. One generation has handed it down to anothe and here it is at last on our hands. It would seem that its settlement can no longer be put off. The convulsions that are sure to grow out of it already dimly outline themselves upon the dark curtain of the future, and no man can tell how wide over the earth's surface these conclusions may extend, or how deep they may penetrate into the heart of society ; but despite these tremendous risks Europe must now entertain the question, and deal with it as best it may. In this question a good deal more is at issue than the little principality of the pontiff. Were the question only, to whom shall belong the few acres, where now there is neither seed-time nor harvest ; and the few faded towns without trade, or schools, or other civilising agency, which now comprise the Pope's temporal kingdom, it might be easily settled. There are few who would be the richer for acquiring such a possession, or the poorer for losing it. Nor does this question con-cern merely the consolidation of the Italian kingdom : for really we can believe it possible for Italy to get on well enough, although she should be compelled to go without a plain, which, however celebrated in former times as the Campagna di Roma, it is doubtful whether, although she should possess it to-morrow, she will ever be able to plow; or even should she be compelled to go without a city, which, however renowned as the "Eternal City," has an air so unwholesome, and so full of ruins, that it is questionable whether it will ever fulfil the augury of its name, or ever again become the capital of a great kingdom. Were this all, this venerable monarchy might be trampled out without the world missing it, or feeling the shock of its extinction. But there is more than this, a great deal more than this in it. We are about to abolish a great principle, a principle on which Europe as a political confederation has been constituted for twelve centuries, a principle which is in fact the keystone in the arch of European society. We are about to pull this key-stone out. Will the arch stand without its keystone ? That is the question. We rather think it will not, and that when we pull the keystone out we shall pull down the arch. Do we therefore counsel to let the keystone remain ; to spare that little principality which has, for more than a thousand years, been the centre and the summit of the confederated principalities of Popish Eu-rope ? By no means. We are merely stating

they got on the faith that they were genuine doc- who had been excluded, and closed by expressing

Falstaff, that to give back what it cost so great pains to acquire were only a double labour. Still the temporal power of the Popes does not rest simply upon forgeries. There must be, and there is, a deeper principle in it than this. Before men would have given cities, lands and regalities to the Popes, and even before the Popes would have dared affirm that such had been given them, there must have been a previously-existing belief that the Popes had a right to reign. The office must first have existed before men thought of endowing it with palaces and rich domains. And such was the fact. Long before the Pope wore a crown, or owned a kingdom, he had claimed to be Christ's vicar. Now let us pause and inquire how much is implied in that claim. " I am the vicar of Christ," said he. In other words, I am Christ on earth, and all that is Christ's is mine. Into subjection to Christ has God put all power, temporal and spiritual, on earth ; thrones, dominions, judgment-seats, nations, all have been put under the feet of Christ for the Church. But I am in the room of Christ, and therefore all this is my rightful inheritance. I lift up my eyes and look abroad over the earth ; I survey its seats of power and its offices of dignity, and I say, By me and for me all these things exist. Into my hand have they all been delivered, and before the throne of God's vicar it becomes all other thrones to bow down and do obeisance. This was the claim of the Popes, and in this language did they state it. This claim they prevailed on councils to ratify ; this claim they had the art to persuade monarchs to sanction ; at last they got the world to believe it; and when the matter had advanced to this stage, after this all the rest was easy. The battle of the temporal power was more than half fought ; for if this claim was just, and just the world now deemed it, then this power, colossal as it was, was not bigger by an iota than the Pope was entitled to wield. The foundations of the temporal power being thus laid, every event that fell out helped to ad vance the superstructure. First, the emperor removed to Constantinople, and the Pope quietly

slipped into his empty seat by acting as first magistrate at Rome. Second, when the Italians revolted against the Emperor Leo, and formed themselves into the Roman Republic, Pope Gregory IV, made himself head of the state ; and third, when the Lombards, under Astolphus, threatened Rome, Popin of France crossed the Alps, defeated Astolphus, and gave the provinces he had wrested from him in keeping to the Pope. In this way did the temporal sovereignty grow up. It may be said to be built upon two old chairs. First the Popes got hold of the chair of Peter, and on that grafted the idea of vicarship ; and next they got hold of the chair of Cæsar, when the Emperors left Rome, and on that graft-

uments, perhaps being of the opinion of Sir John the hope that the present chapel would, in time, prove too small for the church. TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE. The Conference lasted till Tuesday afternoon, the 28th. The most important steps taken at the Conference were those which related to education.

Christian Dizitor.

Bro. Broady advocated, in glowing terms, the cause of education, and presented a paper relating to the organization of a Board of Trustees. to take charge of the school which is to be opened for our young preachers, and to be called the "Swedish Bethel Seminary," as connected with our "Bethel chapel." The paper was unanimousy adopted and signed by the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, and the Secretaries of the Conference : and a Board of Trustees, consisting of thirteen members, was elected, after which the Board met and elected a faculty of five teachers. In the evening, the last day of the Conference, we closed with a festival in the chapel, about six hundred being present. Brethren P. Johanson, Hejdenberg, and myself, addressed the meeting. Bro. Johanson referred very touchingly to the fact of his having visited Stockholm as early as 1848, and at that time he had been instrumental in sowing the first seeds of truth with regard to the ordinance of believers' baptism, which now had brought forth such abundant fruit. Bro. Heidenberg spoke of the part he had, in God's providence, been brought to take in advancing the good cause from the beginning of the good movement, in the year 1854, and of the persecutions he had to suffer for righteousness' sake. I spoke of the rise of Baptist sentiments in Stockholm, as connected with my own history, and of the origin and progress of the First Baptist Church in Stockholm. After this, brother P. Palmquist read a paper relating to the first movement in trying to erect a place of worship, of the progress of the building, the debt still resting on it, and of the measures to be taken to pay off the debt. At the close a collection and subscriptions. amounting to \$583, was taken up towards liqui-

dating the debt, to which sum a brother a few days afterwards added \$320. Thus ended this Triennial Conference, which, no doubt, will form an important era in the history of the Baptist cause in Sweden.

THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL.

Since the Conference, our time has been much taken up in devising plans for the future. The Theological School is to be opened on the 1st of October, and to be located in the rooms under the chapel. We have as yet only received seven pupils; but the number of scholars will be increased as the means to sustain the school shall increase. The principal teachers will be brethren Broady, Edgren, Gustavus Palmquist and Drake. If our means and the number of our pupils increase, we also wish to add brother Nystrom to the number of our teachers. He is, though young,

monthly), attending to correspondence, &c.

lation, and it is very uncertain how soon they

will be able to make a translation that shall be

received by the people. Meanwhile the need of

tempts have been made to give to the peoplo

translations, especially of the New Testament.

But these attempts have been made either by in-

compent hands, or in the interest of the Lutheran

church, or in a rationalistic spirit. A good, faith-ful, impartial translation of the Bible in the

Swedish is still a desideratum, and who shall

If we do not entirely mistake our calling, we

believe that the Baptists of Sweden are destined

to give to the Swedish people such a translation.

We have means which the scholars of the Swe-

dish church do not possess, and we have the right

spirit. And as to ability, we do not think that

we, on the whole, are far behind those in the

Lutheran church who have hitherto undertaken

to translate the Bible. Brother Nystrom has studied through the whole Hebrew Bible, is well acquainted with Syriac and Arabic, and is also a

good Greek scholar. As a proof of the estimation in which he is held by the Lutherans, as a

man competent for such a work, it might be men-

tioned that one of the most prominent and repu-

tedly pious Lutheran ministers of Stockholm, Prof. Elublad, a member of the Board of "Evan-

gelical Fatherland Institution," and one of three who have made a new translation of the New

Testament for the above Institution, had it in

view to propose brother Nystrom, while yet a Lutherau, as translator of the Old Testament for the same Society. Brother Drake also is well

versed in the Greek, and would be able to take

some part in revising the translation of the New Testament. Thus we might form a small "Bible

is also an exce

several Sunday

We feel mos

turies.

fill it ?

CHRISTIAN VISITOR, Corner of Prince William and Church Streets. SAINT JOHN, N. B. REV. I. E. BILL.

THE OFFICE OF THE

Editor and Proprietor. Address all Communications and Business Letters to the Editor, Box 194, St. John, N. P.

The Christian Visitor Is emphatically a Newspaper for the Family. It furnishes its readers with the latest intelligence, RELIGIOUS AND SECULAR.

be taken down-stones, timber, and mortar, and these materials cast out of the city upon an unclean place; and in the minute directions to be issued respecting repeated ablutions. It will not be of much use to tell the story, even with its Syrian associations, to grown-up people-they know it already; but habit is second nature, and it is difficult for them to change their ways. Those to whom sanitary reform must be preached are school-children. They should be tanght that if we are dirty, we shall become diseased; if we sin, we shall suffer, as certainly as twice two are four, and twice four are eight. It is in the minds of little children we should sow this seed.

There are several important doctrines that are growing unpopular among some professing Christians, because they are repugnant to human nature. The fall of man, and his total depravity, is one of these; the incarnation and mediation of our Saviour is another : and the obvious reason why such doctrines are disliked is, they teach man too plainly his spiritual destitution - a very unpleasant fact to those who would be great in their individuality, and also to those who are folwords had inflicted. She saw that the light in lowers of great characters. " Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ, for in Him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily." Yes, Christ is the divine teacher, the divine philosopher, and systems are true only as they agree with His standard. If in any respect they deviate, so far is their philosophy vitiated ; and if they refuse to adopt any particular principle taught by Him, in that point their philosophy is false, although they would fain believe that reason is on their side.

We put forward the claim in behalf of the Bible, that it is the sole repository both of theological and philosophical truth ; the proof of which lies in the fact, that the deep problems affecting man's dearest interest defied the highest efforts of reason, until at length revelation poured on these matters a flood of light. This being the case, we are amazed at the presumption of that kind of infidelity called Neology, which is willing to acknowledge the merits of Christ and His lustrious men.

The tendencies and tastes of the present time demand the bold announcement of the true and living way, which declares, " Cease from man, whose breath is in his costrils; for wherein is he to be accounted of ?" On the other hand, there is not a single fact of any consequence," or any maxim of any worth, nor any principle of any validity, that is not contained in the Bible. Here are comprehended all the treasures of wisdom and

Old Series, Vol. XX., No. 5.

salary of \$500 a year-his salary to begin by the 1st of April next.* * The Executive Committee, recognizing the hand of Divine Providence in the premises, have appointed Mr. Nystrom as a missionary, and appropriated the sum requi-

site for his support.

THE VOW AT THE BARS.

THE ANXIOUS WIFE. "Was there some one sick at your house last

night?" inquired Mrs. Blake, the parson's wife, of Mrs. Hartley, the wife of the miller of Nobleton.

" There was not."

"I saw a light so very late in your window that I feared you were in trouble. Had it not been so rainy, I would have gone over to see vou.

"I thank you for your sympathy," replied Mrs. Hartley, pale from the wound which the kindest the window was a mystery to her friend, but to explain it would lead to a painful disclosure. Could she say that her husband was a drunkard? and that she often placed the lamp in the window. and waited for his return ? It was not necessary. Mrs. Blake had the good sense not to be inquisitive.

"I was going to pay my annual subscription to the Town Tract Society," said Mrs. Blake, "for the treasury is said to be empty. I am very glad that I met you. Can not we go together, for our names stand united on the list. Our five dollars each will set the treasurer on her feet." "You must excuse me this afternoon," said

Mrs. Hartley, pierced to the heart with another sorrow. But she must disclose a second very painful fact if she gave a reason for not joining her friend. Her heart flew to that empty treasurv, and would have filled it had it been possible. The Tract Society had been a specialty unto her. She had been active in its organization and management. One reason was, she hoped that the doctrines, but only places Him in the ranks of il-" winged Gospel" might bear the "olive-branch of peace" into some families where irreligion, discord, and intemperance held their sway ; or might convey comfort to the poor, the sick, and the weary. Her husband was then "moderate" at least in the use of the intoxicating cup, and so generous that she never had an empty purse. She had begun with a liberal subscription, which it had been more and more difficult to pay. But to lessen it would have exposed the cause of her failing resources. Could she tell her friend that knowledge.-Mailler's Philosophy of the Bible. she had not had five dollars at one time for several months, and that it began to look like a sum on the whole, the most thorough scholar of us too immense for her ever again to possess ? Could all, and a man of great talents. As a teacher, he she tell how her husband had roughly accused has considerable experience, as he has for several her of extravagance in household affairs, while years been a private instructor in the house of she was almost crushed with economy? Could one of the principal merchants in Stockholm, and she tell of accounts unpaid, and of many more is now a teacher of the modern languages in one that would have been unpaid, had not the crediof the higher public schools in Stockholm. He tors gone to the mill and taken the amount in fear Him." "As one whom his mother comfortpreacher, and has preached flour ? Would she propose that the treasurer of eth, so will I comfort you !" e chapel to good acce tauce. ous to avail ourselves of the the Tract Society send down a barrel to receive we would most earnestly recommend him to the her subscription ? It would have been the old story of the trials which none knows but a drunkard's wife, and Committee for support. Should be continue as a which she will not reveal until she loses the is your Father's good pleasure !' The love and teacher in the public schools, he would be almost lost to our cause, as his time and energy would grand power of silence which God gives to a loving woman. There is a majesty in the silent be spent on a field entirely foreign to our mission. sorrows of a wife who can suffer and be strong. your heavenly Father's smile has for the moment We have thought that he might, in time, take Men have written out their grievous experiences, the department in the school now allotted to bro. Drake, viz., Church History and the Greek lanand published them to the world; but what drunkard's wife ever put upon record the woes guage, as most of the time of brother Drake will with which her heart and her home are filled ? the soul of the earthly parent as the lancet is apbe taken up in editing the Evangelist (a semi-She could not express them ; she would not, even had she the power. TRANSLATION OF THE SCRIPTURES INTO SWEDISH. The two friends, long intimate as co-workers in There is another important work for which we the church, separated at the street-corner where would like to secure the labors of brother Nythey had met. Mrs. Hartley drew her veil over strom, viz., the work of Bible translation. There her face, and gave way to tears. She then took is need of a new Swedish translation of the Bible. comfort in such thoughts as these: " The whole The version now in public use is more than three town does not yet know of my husband's drunkhundred years old, and abounds not only in obsoenness and disgrace. Mrs. Blake does not. The lete words and phrases, but in gross errors of kind woman does not suspect the straits to which translation. Hence the need of a new version I am driven. There is my pew-rent unpaid; has been deeply felt during the last two cen-Mr. Blake, if he knows it, has not told even his prudeat wife. And he has twice led my poor Consequently a "Commission" for revising the husband home, and given him to me at the door ; Swedish translation was appointed by the Diet in and yet he has not told her, or she would have the year 1773. But although this "Royal Bible Commission" has now been at work for the last known the meaning of the light in the window. Thank God for such a pastor ! I know that he ninety years, they have not yet been able to give prays for me, and seeks to save my poor, ruined to the Swedish people an acceptable Bible transhusband."

SAINT JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 1867.

spring. We would therefore humbly and earnestly recommend brother Nystrom to be appointed by the Committee, chiefly for the work of Bible translation, but at the same time as our fellow laborer in the school and in the pulpit, at a

----BIBLE THEOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY.

the premiums paid. PERCY M. DOVE, Manager and Actuary. JOHN M. JOHNSTON, Secretary to the London Board. All descriptions of property taken at fair rates, and Fire losses paid promptly, on reasonable proof of loss—without ference to the head Establishment. JAMES J. KAYF, Agent for New Brunswick, Princess-street, Opposite Judge Ritchie's Building. SAMUEL J. SCOVIL AGENT FOR THE ST. STEPHEN'S BANK. OFFICE-Corner Prince Wm. Street and Market Square.

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N, of Shandon, Esq., M. P., Chairman Esq., Manager and Actuary. BIOUS WODES OF ASSURING. System, without debt or interest Half Premium S

ial Act of Parliament It onducted with much success for 25 years table not only to the perfect security which a due fulfilment of every contract, but like

emiums are equitably graduated. The Profits are d with a due regard to the claims of all classes of

the consequences of what appears to be about to happen. We are advancing on a new Europe, a new age. We are approaching a revolution the greatest which has taken place since the fall of the Roman empire.

the Roman empire. In order to appreciate fully the depth and breadth of the question which has now come up for solution, it is necessary to look a little way back. The temporal power of the Popes is one of the most marvellous creations the world ever witnessed. A beginning so small and an ending so transcendently and immeasurably great has not its like again in history. In the first age we see the presbyter of Rome presiding over a consee the presbyter of Rome presiding over a con-gregation of converts. He is as plain in man-ners and humble in rank as any of them; he carries no pastoral staff, he makes no special pretensions; and as for a crown, the only crown he ever dreams of is martyrdom; so is he seen in the first century. But look at him in the thir-teenth century; his seat towers above that of kings, his shadow covers nations, and his power waxes great towards the east and the west, towards the north and the south, till the globe is not big enough to hold it. Out of what seed did this mighty tree spring, and by what stages did it grow ?

The ordinary writers on the temporal power of the Popea, refer us as the foundation of his pow-er to those grants of cities and territories, which in past ages were made to the Bishop of Rome, or which it was pretended were made to him;

the idea of kingshi ; and thus b these two old chairs they erected this vast superstructure of temporal and spiritual dominion. When one thinks how slender were the materials which the Popes had to work with, and what a vast and imposing apparatus they constructed out of them, one may well stand amazed at the eraft, the ingenuity, and the boldness of the carpenters of the Vatican. It was a piece of consummate jugglery no doubt, and it was jugglery that cost the world dear-ages of tears, centuries of blood. I quote the words of a papal writer. "A pontiff king, who arrogates to himself under one of these titles what he cannot claim under the other, who irritates by his maledictions, combats with his anathemas, and supports in the name of Heaven the interests of a terrestrial ambition, such prince is necessarily the most dangerons rival which other sovereigns ever had reason to dread. This conclusion the history of a thousand years has confirmed. . . . They have excited and prolonged half the wars which, since the death of Charlemagne, have not ceased to deluge Europe with blood ; but this horrible influence was, we must confess, less their crime than their destiny ; this function had been as it were conferred on them, in suffering them to unite political power with the ministerial office. Hildebrand, Innocent III., Julius II., and the most wicked of the Popes, have only been the most faithful to their vocation."

(To be Concluded.)

[From the Am. Baptist Missionary Magazine for Jan. 1867.] MISSION TO SWEDEN.

LETTER FROM MR. WIBERG-BAPTISM OF A UNIVER

SITY GRADUATE.

STOCKHOLM, Sept. 24, 1866. In a letter of July 25th, I spoke of a promising young man of learning, by the name of John Eric Nystrom, who had expressed a desire to receive Christian baptism. He has now come out fully and united with us. On Saturday, August a good translation is deeply felt, and several at-4th, I had the privilege of baptizing him, with four other candidates, in our old room on Skargardsgatan. This was the last baptism performed in that place, where so many have been buried with Christ in baptism.

THE PREPARATORY SCHOOL.

On the 2d of August we opened our prepara tory school, which continued up to the 23d. Between 20 and 30 brethren attended the school and, though the time of instruction was very l mited, we have reason to hope that much good will result from it. The subjects of instruction were lessons on our articles of faith, exercises in preaching, and writing short essays.

On the 25th of August our Triennial Confer ence commenced. It was attended by 117 dele gates, representing 112 churches. Many members of the churches besides had come up to the Conference. In the evening brother Nystrom preached an excellent sermon, after which I bap-tized two candidates—the first baptism perform-ed in the chapel. Though on a week day evening, the chapel was entirely filled, both below and in the galleries.

MEMORABLE SABBATH.

The following day, Sunday, was set apart as a festival, the First Baptist church in Stockholm then entering their new house of worship for the first time as a church. The chapel had, from last November up to this day, been opened only for the preaching of the word; this day the church met there for the first time to celebrate the death of our blessed Redeemer. I preached from 1 Tim. i. 15-the same text from which I preached ten years ago, when the room on Skargardsgatan was opened for religious services. After the sermon,

Testament. Thus we might form a small "Bible Commission" by ourselves, and in a short time be able to accomplish a work which the "Royal Bible Commission" has, during the last ninety years, in vain endeavored to perform.

CLEANLINESS AND HEALTH.

(To be Continued.)

The fearful mortality that often prevails among the lower classes is due, probably, quite as much to a want of cleanliness as to a want of food or warmth. Chambers' Journal gives a proof of this in the experience of a school among the abject poor in London :---

That most startling results accrue, among the lowest classes especially, from a due attention to matters likely to affect health, is apparent in the very low mortality-rate of the pauper schools placed under proper management. In the Central London district pauper school at Hanwell, the late Mr. Aubin succeeded in reducing the rate to less than two per cent., notwithstanding the scholars were taken from the very heart of London, many of them being half-starved, stunted, scrofalous, and suffering from ringworm and opthalmia. It cannot be too widely spread abroad that the secret of this clever and philanthropical superintendent's rule, consisted in the practice and maintenance of extraordinary cleanliness. His system worked wonders. Instead of a hundred little graves being made yearly in the graveyard, the sexton was not called upon to dig many more than a dozen. Far finer children in country workhouses furnish a death-rate of twelve per cent. But this unpromising selection, with this management, yielded a smaller death-rate than the wealthiest communities in the land !

Thus it will be seen that the secret of the proservation of health lies in one word-cleanliness. This quality, long and worthily held next to god-liness, must be applied in its widest sense, and be understood to mean cleanliness in our houses, our streets, and our towns, as well as in our food linen, and persons. Air, earth, and water must the Lord's Supper was celebrated. I think it safe to say that no church gathering around the Lord's table of baptized believers had ever before assem-bled in Sweden, the whole audience room being

PITYING LOVE.

"Abba, Father!" is a gospel word. A father bending over the sick bed of his weak or dving child; a mother pressing, in tender solicitade, an infant sufferer to her bosom : these are the earthly pictures of God. " Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that

When tempted in our season of overwhelming sorrow to say, "Never has there been so dark a cloud, never a heart so stript and desolate as mine," let this thought hush every murmur, "It pity of the tenderest earthly parent is but a dim shadow compared to the pitying love of God. If been exchanged for the chastening rod, be assured there is some deep necessity for the altered discipline. If there be unutterable yearnings in plied to the body of his child,-infinitely more is it so with your covenant God as He subjects you to these deep woundings of heart.

Trust Him when you cannot trace Him. Do not try to penetrate the cloud which He " brings over the earth," and to look through it. Keep your eye steadily fixed on "the Bow in the cloud. The mystery is God's, the promise is yours. Seek that the end of all His dispensations may be to make you more confiding. Without one misgiv-ing commit your way to Him. He is saying what He said of old (and never more so than in a season of suffering), " I do earnestly remember him still." Whilst now bending your head like a bulrush-your heart breaking with sorrow-remember his pitying eye is upon you. Be it yours, even through blinding tears, to say, " Even so Father !"-Rev. John R. Macduff.

A

STORY OF A PICTURE.

A painter once wanted a picture of Innocence, and drew the likeness of a child at prayer. The little supplicant was kneeling beside his mother : the palms of his uplifted hands were reverently pressed together ; his rosy cheek spoke of health, and his mild blue eve was upturned with the expression of devotion and peace. The portrait of young Rupert was much prized by the painter. who hung it up on his study wall, and called it " Innocence." Years passed away, and the artist became an old man. Still the picture hung there. He had often thought of painting a counterpart —the picture of guilt—but had not found the opportunity. At last he effected his purpose by paying a visit to a neighbouring gaol. On the damp floor of his cell lay a wretched culprit. named Randall, heavily ironed. Wasted was his body and hollow his eye ; vice was visible in his face. The painter succeeded admirably, and the portraits of young Ropert and Randall were hung side by side, for " Innocence" and "Guilt." But who was young Rupert and who was Randall ? Alas ! the two were one. Old Randall was young Rupert led astray by bad companions, and ending his life in the damp and shameful dungeon.

WALTER SCOTT'S ADVICE TO HIS SON .- Read. my dear Charlie, read, and read that which in nseful. Man differs from birds and beasts only because he has the means of availing himself of the knowledge acquired by bis predecessors. The swallow builds the same nest its father and mother built, and the sparrow does not improve by the experience of its parents. The son of the learned pig, if it had one, would be a mere brute, fit only to make bacon of. It is not so with the human race. Our ancestors lodged in caves and wigwams, where we construct palaces for the rich, and comfortable dwellings for the poor ; and why is this but because our eye is enabled to look back upon the past, to improve upon our ances-tors' improvements, and to avoid their errors?

