Selections.

SOMETHING LEFT UNDONE.

BY HENRY W. LONGFELLOW.

Labor with what zeal we will, Something still remains undone, Something uncompleted still Waits the rising of the sun.

By the bedside, on the stair, At the threshold, near the gates With its menace or its prayer, Like a mendicant it waits;

Waits, and will not go away; Waits, and will not be gainsaid; By the cares of yesterday Each to-day is heavier made;

Till at length the burden seems Greater than our strength can bear, Heavy as the weight of dreams, Pressing on us everywhere.

And we stand from day to day, Like the dwarfs of times gone by, Who, as Northern legends say, On their shoulders held the sky.

MR. SPURGEON AND THE NEWS-PAPERS.

Under the title: "The Bible and the Newspapers" I. K. Funk & Co., have reprinted a collection of short articles by Mr. Spurgeon, in which the Bible and current events are used jointly to throw light each on the other, and to make plain the path of daily duty. Mr. Spurgeon prefaces the series thus:

"I read the newspaper," said John Newton, "tnat I may see how my Heavenly Father governs the world;" a very excellent reason indeed. We have read the newspapers during the last three months, that we might find illustrations of the teaching of our Heavenly Father's word; and we think we have not read in vain; for we have gathered instances in proof, and facts in explanation, which we have jotted down in these pages. The worlds of nature and of providence are full of parallels to things moral and spiritual, and serve as pictures to make the written book of inspiration more clear to the children of God. The Bible itself abounds in metaphors, types, and symbols; it is a great picture-book; there is scarcely a poetical figure which may not be found in the Law and the prophets, or in the words of Jesus and his apostles. The preacher is bidden to speak as the oracles of God, and, consequently, he should imitate their illustrative method, and abound in emblems and paraleisure when we give him a glance at the ables. A sermon which is full of "likes" race from the window of good Dr. John is full of windows to enlighten the mind. Brown:

Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unito you.—Matt. 6: 33.

Ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and is full of windows to enlighten the mind, Brown: and hands to hold it captive. Discourses decked with smiles will not only give pleasure to the children, but persons of riper years will be charmed and instructed thereby.

Time does not allow us to read the papers with the searching glance which would readily have discovered hundreds of emblems; we have had to give a hasty look as best we could, and, hence, our harvest is not so rich as that of a more quiet eve. A sense of leisure and of rest is needed if one is to follow the trails of nature; and listen to all her echoes. Not idleness, but amplitude of space for thought, is a requisite for the weaving of allegory and the fashioning of similitudes. Lacking these essentials, amid the hum of London and the whirl of the wheel of daily duty, we have produced a little homespun where others might have woven tapestries of golden thread.

The things which we have seen and noted, we now give our readers, not merely for their entertainment, but that we may encourage in them the habit of looking for emblems and analogies. It is a mental exercise as profitable as it is pleasant. Sunday-school teachers and all other servants of the great parable-making Master would find it an improving occupation to walk abroad in the garden and the field, and resolve to find some instructive smiles before they returned home; and it would be almost as hopeful to them if they staved at home and did with the newspaper what we have done. This might be done by Bible-classes and other associations of young men, very much to the development of a happy faculty. In a short time, they might produce more excellent specimens than those which are here presented. When they become practised fishermen, their nets would probably draw to shore much more precious fish than we in our haste have been able to capture.

We give a few specimens:

THE RACE AND ITS SPECTATORS.

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses; let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.—Heb. 12: 1.

In an an article upon the University Boat-race of April 13, the *Times* alludes scarcely a ripple upon the waters, but the to the dense throngs upon the bank of the river, and to the interest which everybedy proud vessel from sinking into the deep; seemed to feel in the struggle, and it then very truthfully adds:

"Nor do the competitors themselves fail to gain much from the sight of the vast crowds which attest the strength of the popular interest. The rivalry would hardly be so keen if the race were to be rowed amid the comparative the race were to be rowed amid the comparative privacy of a provincial stream or lake. Some years ago, this was kept out of sight in a high and mighty way by the suggestion that, to prevent the contest from being vulgarized, or for some other reason, it ought to be held at some quieter place than the neighborhood of London. Lech Maree, in the wilds of Ross-shire, would afford charming tranquility, and a few accres of cool spetators. But the stimulus of

A STATE OF THE STA

ates are made of the same stuff as other human beings, that stimulous is essential to such muscular exertion as we see at Oxford and Cam-

as running for a prize, with saints, apostles, and martyrs looking on. The stimulus communicated by spectators is his promincrowds which line the Thames may well be our vessel and preserve it from itself. compared to clouds, so completely do they darken the banks from end to end of the pit. Holy men of all ages, now with God, join with a great host still abiding here below. Angels and principalities and powers unite as one vast army, and observe us intently; and frowning demons of the pit in their dread array, all gaze with in-Should not every glance animate us to do our utmost?

And what eyes there are among those who observe us! Had the Queen been present, we could imagine the young athquickens energy to the utmost. In our case, the King of kings looks down upon us, and the Prince of Life, with tender school of unbelief effectually sweeps away sympathy, watches our progress. What another. So let it be. In perfect peace, manner of race should ours be under the the true believer may "stand still and see Lord's own eye? Competitors of former the salvation of God." Already over scores years were at the boat-race to see whether of iron-clad infidelities we may sing; "The the new-comers would maintain the honor depths have covered them, they sank into of their University. Even so the worthies the bottom like a stone." of their University. Even so the worthies of ancient times, who counted not their lives dear unto them, take pleasure in the efforts of those who to-day are wrestling for victory, as they themselves did in ages past. The approving glances of prophets and apostles may well stir our souls. Dear ones who have gone before also mark our behaviour in the race. A mother in heaven takes delight in the ardor of her son; they can far better distinguish themselves brothers "gone over to the majority," are by coming to the rescue in the hour of disserenely glad as they see their brothers tress; and, in the same way, simple mindpushing forward in the noble cause. Our ed believers, who know nothing of controleaders in the faith, oarsmen who taught versy, can do a vast amount of service by us how to fly over the waves, regard us bringing salvation to those who are ready with anxious interest and joy in our suc- to perish. Let us not argue, but let us cesses. These things should quicken us love. We will not confront the sceptical

to a boat-race, but to the Olympian games. believing prayer. Those games furnish a suggestive figure, which we leave the reader to work out at

At Olympia, a town of Elis, games were celebrated in honor of Jupiter once every five years. An almost incredible multitude from all the states of Greece and from the surrounding ment in the French galleries are so impercountries attended these games as spectators. The noblest of the Grecian youths appeared as tribunal erected at the end of the course, on artists are loud in their complaints. which sat the judges—men who had themselves. in former years, been successful competitors for Olympic honors. The victors in the morning contests did not receive their prizes till the even- pictures; for the lesser and lower concerns ing; but after their exertions, they joined the of life are generally set in full glare, while band of spectators, and looked on while others prosecuted the same arduous labors which they had brought to an honorable termination.

It is a fine thought that those honorable interest in the young men who have newly set out upon the frace. Let the youngsters so behave themselves that the veterans may never fear for the cause of God. We know that a great deal of anxiety is felt just now, for the rising race shows signs of being unstable and superficial; but we hope for better things, and even trust that the men of the coming age will outstrip their preshouts of the encompassing cloud of wit-

SINKING OF THE IRON-CLAD.

How are the mighty fallen, and the weapons of war perished.—2 Sam. 1: 27. Ye see my casting down and are afraid.—Job 6: 21.

The newspapers of June 1 contained paragraphs similar to the following: "Three iron-clad ships—the Grosser Kurfurst, Konig Wilhelm, and Preussen-left Wilhel mshafen for Plymonth, on Wednesday night, and were reported off Dover, at 8 a. m. on Friday morning, May 31. The weather was calm and a slight wind blowing, when about five miles due south of Sandgate Castle, the Konig Wilhelm ran into the Grosser Kurfurst and sank her.

fired a shot at the huge iron-clad, but it perished by a friend, and that not by treachery, but by pure mischance. There was the air was clear, the accident was not occasioned by a fog, but no result came from this circumstance except that the destruc-tion was the more visible to the astonished spectators. Thus, too, have men who seemed capable of great deeds, perished before our eyes by the hand of one of their own com- his Sword and Trowel for this year with rades, and that not by wicked intent, but some interesting reminiscences of himself: by an unwise movement, never meant to involve such ruin. A hasty word has been I was for three years a Cambridge man, spoken, evil feelings have been aroused, and though I never entered the University.

a great public competition would be gone, and happen, and yet it has occurred when all studies under an admirable scholar and tenbeen no heresy, no chism; but the man has must have been a singular looking youth been offended, and has passed away. It on wet evenings. During the last year of seemed as if none could injure the iron- my stay in Cambridge, when I had given up clad professor; and yet, in an instant he my office as usher, I was wont to sally forth This excellently illustrates the meaning has ceased to be a member of the squadron. every night in the week except Saturday, of the apostle when he represents believers We have looked on awe-stricken as we and walk three, five, or perhaps eight miles have seen the apparently sound professor out, and back again on my preaching work, suddenly sink in the deep waters of sin and when it rained I dressed myself in never to be heard of again. Keep us, O waterproof leggins and mackintosh coat, ent idea. No doubt, the young oarsmen Lord, yea, keep us every moment, lest we and a hat with a waterproof covering, and find a stimulus in every eye that gazes upon come to an untimely end. Even in the I carried a dark lantern to show me the them, and, if the crowd were thinned, they company of our own brethren we are in way across the fields. I had many advenwould take less interest in their task. The danger unless thou thyself shall be on board tures, but what I had gathered by

rence which has somewhat impressed us. and was greatly profited by the exercise. course; and much more may those who This was the "German Squadron of Evo- I always found it good to say my lesson gaze upon the Christian's life be thus lution;" fit name and fit country to remind when I had learned it. Children do so, and spoken of. Myriads lean from heaven, or us of the school of modern thought who it is equally good for preachers, especially look from earth, or peer upward from the proudly float upon our seas at this time and if they say their lessons by heart. There threaten the peace of our churches. These is no way of learning to preach which can philosophers are all iron-clads, and cannot be compared to preaching itself. If you be touched by the heaviest guns of those want to swim you must get into the water, poor simple souls who believe in the Bible and if you at the first make a sorry exhibwe need not fear them, for happily they de- you can that you learn to swim as you if they were created on purpose for this and with beginners, for they will do better by nothing else. A little change in the steer- and by. If young speakers in Cambridge ing and they ram each other to the bottom. had been discouraged and silenced, I might As it was of old, so is it now, "the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against I hope I shall be the last to bring forth a letes straining themselves even more than the inhabitants of Mount Seir, utterly to wet blanket for any one who sincerely they had done, for the glance of Royalty slay and destroy them; and when they had speak for Christ, however humble may be made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, their endeavors." every one helped to destroy another." One

and lend us arguments for unabated energy. with reasoning; but by God's Spirit, we Of course, the apostle was not alluding will save them by the gospel and by

WANT OF LIGHT.

have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judg ment, mercy, and faith.-Matt. 23: 23.

A correspondent of a newspaper, dated May 9, writes as follows: "The arrangefect that in many cases the lower portions competitors. In this race, a course was marked of the pictures are in a full glare, while the out for the candidates for public fame, and a upper are in comparative darkness. The

Yet this is by no means an uncommon arrangement in far greater matters than the greater and highest matters of consideration are left in comparative darkness. The title-deeds of an estate are made as secure as law can make them; but the men in the Church of God who have, them- eternal inheritance is utterly neglected. selves, behaved worthily, take the deepest Honesty toward man is made a prime virtue; while God is robbed, and his claims are rejected. Concern to be respectable is often greater than anxiety to be useful, and to be a gentleman is more the subject of care that to be a Christian. The body is dressed, and the soul is left naked; the month is fed with the bread of earth, but the heart knows no hunger for the bread of heaven; all things are prepared for this life decessors, and draw forth the approving even to a superabundance, and the life to come is disregarded as if it were a mere fiction. Many men spend more thought over shirt-collars than over their souls. Dogs and horses are more the themes of meditation than heaven and hell; and the next race, or ball, or kettle-drum calls forth more thought than the coming of the Lord or the Day of Judgment. Is this according to sound reason?

Oh that men were wise, and could see eternal things in the full noontide of God's countenance; then would there be a balanced light upon the whole of life, and men would find "the promise of the life that now is" to be wrapped up in prepara-tion for the life which is to come. Alas, it is not so: "What shall we eat, and what shall we drink, and wherewithal shall we The ship went down in a few seconds with the larger part of her crew."

We meurn over this sudden wreck and the dreadful loss of life; and then we take breath and moralize. Peace has its danover the worldling's head, but he is looking over the worldling's head, but he is looking the multiple of the multiple over the worldling's head, but he is looking over the worldling's head, but he is looking the multiple over the worldling's head, but he is looking the multiple over the worldling's head, but he is looking the multiple over the worldling's head, but he is looking the multiple over the worldling's head, but he is looking the multiple over the worldling's head, but he is looking the multiple over the worldling's head, but he is looking the multiple over the worldling's head, but he is looking the multiple over the worldling's head, but he is looking the multiple over the worldling's head, but he is looking the multiple over the worldling is not a supple over the worldling is not a downward, busy with the muck-rake, scrap-ing together earth's trifles, and so he has neither eye not heart for immortal glory.

picture is greatly to be desired.

MR. SPURGEON'S BEGINNINGS.

The London Metropolitan pastor opens "My college course was after this fashion: the injured man has no longer been num- could not have obtained a degree, because We never dreamed that such a result would was a better thing for me to pursue my

my studies during the day, I handed out to There is another aspect of this occur- a company of villagers during the evening, and its plenary inspiration. Nevertheless ition, never mind, for it is by swimming as Wrot Raiway and Ship Spikes, terest upon the Christian's work and way. stroy one another, and that very readily as should. Hence we ought to be lenient CABLES, Oakum, Hitch, Tar, &c. not have found my way here, and therefore

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behaviour in the race. A mother in heaven smacks and luggers to attack an iron-clad; ease, I would kindly recommend to try it for the takes delight in the order of her son; they are far better distinguish themselves

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