BRAMBLES.

The corn is reaped, the bare brown land Is sleeping in the sunshine bland Of late September time; Now, after harvest toil and mirth In restfu. calmness lies the earth, Like good lives past their prime.

Red tints of Autumn touch the trees That rustle in the freshening breeze, And wave their branches strong; From hillside meadows bland and clear Comes, clarion-like, a tone of cheer, The thrush's thrilling song.

The busy wild bee flittereth by, Where honeysuckle waves on high, And late clematis grows; A fair brown butterfly floats around A bramble branch, that on the ground It dainty tandle throws.

The lowly bramble, taking root In common hedgerows bearing fruit For common hands to pull; A boon to travellers on the road It shows its gracious purple load With blossoms beautiful.

White flowers like pearly-tinted snow, Fair foliage red with Autumn's glow, Ripe fruit-on one fair spray; Ah me! my heart, what beauty lives In lowliest things that Nature gives To blossom on our way.

Ah me! my heart, what beauty shows In lowly lives that to their close Bloom sweetly out of sight; Meek hearts that seek not worldly praise, That finds in life's secluded ways Dear love and deep delight. Fair lives that have humble root,

Yet keep their spring-time flowers
Upon the bough where fruit hangs ripe,
And where the fading leaf is type
Of life's decaying hours. We meet them in our daily path, These humble souls, and each one hath A beauty of its own,

Sweet lives that bear a gracious fruit,

A beauty born of duty done, Of silent victories dumbly won, Of sorrow born alone. And when the frosts of death fall chill On these fair lives, that blossom still,

Though summer time is past, We, sighing wish for quiet ways, Wherein, like theirs, our shortening days Might blossom to the last!

SUFFERING NOT IDENTICAL WITH PUNISHMENT.

our salvation," that he was "made worthy." O, it is well for all such cheering rays far out to sea save perfect through suffering." As of all | that a day of retribution has been aped with this world, he who sacrifices this to a principle can furnish no higher testimony of his integrity to what he believes to be the truth.

Now, this is the ordeal our divine Master passed through, and the orscene, they are to " shine forth as the learn from him the secret of the suc- these two things are true; first, that sun in the kingdom of the Father." Beyond His Gethsemane and Calvary, to crown his ministry in positions and secure that the world shall not harm He beheld "the joy that was set be- places where others had failed. In- or poison, unless there is going out fore Him." the innumerable white- stead, however, of directly giving me from him a living and life-giving invested throng on the mount of God : the information I desired, he told me fluence to other men; and, second, beyond our Gethsemane and Calvary, with great sorrow the reason why he that no man is really helping other we see the crowns and palms, which had accomplished so little, and said men unless there is true life in his are to reward our sufferings and la- with unaffected sadness, " My young own soul. Both of these seems to me bors. Beyond His crucifixion lay the friend, the mistake of my life has to be great and ever present truths. grandest achievements ever yet re- been that I have not prayed more. I Men try to act as though they were corded to Almightiness : beyond our fell into the common error of most not true, and thence come much crucifixion—for are we not to be cruministers. I studied and preached, I bad and useless living. Men think cified to the world, and the world to worked and worried too much, and I that they can be safe without being for AXES, TOOLS, DBILLS, &c. us ?- lies the noblest career of "hon- prayed too little! Could I live my helpful, thence come all the selfish or, glory and immortality" which life over again, I would be more with notions of salvation. Merely to Omnipotence can confer. It is no God and less with men. I see it all crawl through life with face and wonder that an apostle, who tasted now-what wasted years of unrest I mouth so bandaged up with caution the bitterness of this cup as no other being ever did, save only his Master, was simply my own doing, and how us, merely to strike out from the exclaimed, "I reckon that the suffer-little of God has been in my active wreck of a fallen world and swim thy to be compared with the glory of my days, only ask God to forgive men who clutch at us in the wild that shall be revealed in us."

overwhelm you, "as though some which I have served my Master." strange thing had happened to I will not attempt to say how deep is not saved. It is not the hands that beset the pathway of a sairt, will pol-thoroughly schamed of myself. For down. And then the other truth; ish you as one of his jewels for a a time I could scarcely drag through no man can really save ano her unmore brilliant place in his crown. Only place your hand in His, and you may venture through floods and flames, and be infinitely safer than the ungodly in their greatest fancied security. Daniel in the lion's den was a thousand times more secure than Belshazzar surrounded by brazen walls and trusty legions of soldiers. The path of duty can never be perious so long as there are any resources with Almightiness. The very contest with Almightiness are any resources with Almightiness. The very contest with Almightiness are any resources with Almightiness. The very contest with Almightiness are any resources with Almightiness. The very contest with Almightiness are any resources with Almightiness and becomes their pavilion of safety—it coices in angry surges upon his enemies and becomes their winding sheet What is salvation to the righteous is destruction to the wicked. How oft-

tory of our race! Like the mystic and the sad failures of my life! on the path of the just, envelope the quicken thou me according to thy ways of the wicked with the blackness | Word!"-The Workman. of darkness! "Behold, therefore the goodness and severity of God!"

Suffering and punishment are not

synonymous. They may be the poles

asunder, both in their intent, and results. Job may have suffered the equivalent of a hundred deaths during his afflictions, while the vilest sinsad a blunder as when it reasons a results. Even Milton made this blunder when he inferred that the parliamentarian party, in the civil war of England, was right because they succeeded. He himself lived long enough to see all his reasoning set aside by the "Restoration." Judgendured, Christianity appears to a disadvantage when compared with the world. This was the rock on which David himself declares that his "feet had well nigh slipped." The prosperity of the wicked and the adversity of the righteous, presented a broblem to his mind that was solved only when he went into the sanctuary of God." "Then," said he, "understood I their end;" and as he contemplated that dreadful end, it drove him well nigh to the other extreme; for he continues, "surely thou didst set them in slippery places. As if he had said, surely their very prosperity had been their ruin! Innocence and uprightness were once crucified in the person of the Son of God by the multitude; and pretty much ever since this current of iniquity has been running in the same direction. Disaster, disappointment, suffering, death in its most terrific form, have often been the heritage of to prevent the lights from being ex-It is written of "the Captain of men "of whom the world was not tinguished. The lamps sent their things in the world we most instinc- pointed somewhere in the future, tively recoil from suffering, so it be- when "the earth shall disclose its comes the highest test of integrity blood, and no more cover its slain," and purity. A man that will go to and when the verdicts of earthly the stake for his principles does all courts, the Pilates and Herods of histhat a mortal can do to vindicate the tory, shall be reversed at the great asreality and sincerity of his convictions. size, and crushed and bleeding inno-He may be wrong, but no man thinks cence shall share the award of a glorof pronouncing him dishonest or in- ious benediction in the presence of shine where it should. So a single sincere. He has done that which an assembled universe. The faith, leaves nothing undone to throw and hope, and patience, that wait for hinders some of the Christian's light around his character the lustre of the that day may well "count it all joy highest heroic virtue. Life being the when they fall into divers temptamost precious boon properly connect- tions." What are the last sacrifices to the true light that lighteneth every that human nature can make weighed against that "far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory," reserved for those who pass honorably through this probationary scene! Eternity

only can express the amazing con-

you." If the adored Redeemer has ly humbled I was by this unexpected catch us and hold on to us, it is the set his heart upon you to bring you revelation! I returned to my own hands of helpless men which we shake to glory, the fiercest trials that ever home greatly cast down in mind and off in our selfishness, that drag us more brilliant place in his crown. my ordinary duties, so self-condemn- less he saves himself. It is the good

en has this been verified in the his weakness, the lack of spiritual power, sinners most. He is the annointed

INCONSISTENCIES OF CHRIS-TIANS.

GEO. M. HOWE.

The question is often raised why it is that the cause of Christ does not is the perlude to the death that never progress more rapidly in our church- a genuine passion. I know it to be dies. Earthly logic never makes so es or neighborhoods. In seeking for such, for I had loved intensely. And the cause various answers are given, from that hour I had Christ for a but too little stress is laid upon the daily companion and bosom friend. inferring right or wrong from simple inconsistencies of many professing But I have never been able since that Christians. There are men who hour to do enough for Christ. The have been governed in their daily coned solely by the amount of suffering their present attitude, never the less a true religion? It had a great world wholly destroyed by little indiscresjealousy or spite."

> light house off the coast of Florida, accidentally broke a pane of glass while lighting his lamps for the night. It was too late for him to repair it, and as the wind was blowing strongly he gtted a strip of tin into the sash where the piece of tin threw a dark shadow, widening as it fell upon the distant waters, till it covered many a mile. Vessels passing that way during the night saw no light where one ought to have been and some where wrecked upon the rocks and precious lives were lost because, while the fault, or an uncontrolled temper often and souls are lost because they abide in that shadow, and they are not led man that cometh into the world. "Oh light divine, so full, so free!
> Oh, world that lies in night!

> Oh, guiding radience shrine through me Brightly and still more bright, Nor ever be thy rays in vain Because I am a 'darkened pane.' "

cess with which it had pleased God no man can be really safe, really ings of this present time are not wor- ministry! I can now, in the evening ashore, shaking off all the drowning my shortcomings and to aid me in water, and leaving the screaming Christian reader do not be startled spending my few remaining years dif- wretches to their fate-the man who or alarmed when dark providences ferently from the imperfect way in so seeks salvation finds, at last, to his disappointment and dismay, that he

one who carries on Christ's salvation. cloud that settled between the camp see it all now, and repent in dust and In the deepest need, the wickedest of Israel and the camp of the Egyp- ashes! I can only pray to God for men look to the purest men they tians, how often does the very provi- my pardon and send up the piercing know, the deadest to the livest; first, dence that throws a halo of light up- cry, " My soul cleaveth to the dust; to those who they think most escaped sin, then to those who think they have been most cleansed of sin by repentance and forgiveness. - Phillip

RELIGION IN EARNEST.

A precious saint wrote in the secret pages of her diary: "My religion took, one happy day, the character of date their first impressions against day is too short; my poor hands are religion from having observed how too feeble. I long sometimes for an many of Christ's professed disciples alabaster box of precious ointment, and some Lazarus to anoint for his duct by the principles of his gospel. beggar's burial, that so I may serve They are conscious of the falsity of my blessed Lord." Was not this they are powerfully influenced in the of sweeping emotion in it. It seems wrong direction despite all warnings to shake the simple sentences as with and counsels. It is a lamentable fact the breath of the Holy Ghost. And and one that should lead every Chris- yet it had hands to work, furnished tian to humble himself before God, with hard tasks, which the glad heart that the best of us by our weaknesses, made delighted by her love. Such a foibles and inconsistencies afford the devotion will not be apt to spend itunconverted too many occasions for self in words. It is too genuinely stumbling. Some one has justly re- hearty to be content to talk about itmarked that "as the usefulness of self; its healthy impulse is to do every Christian life grows out of little Christ's work. And do we fancy deeds well done, so the influence of that loveless hearts can render him a many a Christian is sadly marred or full measure of service? We might learn from all other forms of fealty sions, little sins or little meannesses and devotion that it is the full, loyal, in their business, or by some petty restless heart inspires the best and largest work. Happy are they who Many years ago the keeper of a love much the Master whose work is always waiting for loving hands.

> WELL BUILT CHRISTIANS.—A well built Christian is harmonious in alhis parts. No one trait shames another. He is not a jumble of inconsistencies, to-day liberal to one cause, to-morrow niggardly toward another; to-day fluent in prayer, and to-mor-row fluent in polite falsehoods. He does not keep the fourth commandment on Sunday and break the eighth on Monday. He does not shirk an honest debt to make a huge donation. He is not in favor of temperance for other folk and a glass of toddy for himself. He does not exhort or pray at each of the few meetings he atat each of the few meetings he attends, to make up arrearages for the more meetings which he neglects. He does not so consume his spiritual fuel during revival seasons that he is as cold as Nova Zembla during all the rest of the time; nor do his spiritual fervors ever out-run his wellordered conversation .- Cuyler.

REST AND COMFORT to the SUFF-ERING

deal through which He has predestinated His followers to pass. He was "made perfect through suffering." His disciples, in their measure, are to experience the purifying power of tribulation. When He passed the ordeal and reached the crown, Ho received "a name above every other name"—when they pass the trial scene, they are to "shine forth as the learn from him the secret of the suc-Brown's Household Panacea" has cents a bottle.

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