

BRAMBLES.

The corn is reaped, the bare brown land is sleeping in the sunshine bland...

Red tints of Autumn touch the trees That rustle in the freshening breeze...

The busy wild bee flittereth by, Where honeysuckle waves on high...

The lowly bramble, taking root in common hedgerows bearing fruit...

White flowers like pearly-tinted snow, Fair foliage red with Autumn's glow...

Ah me! my heart, what beauty shows In lowly lives that to their close Bloom sweetly out of sight...

Fair lives that have humble root, Sweet lives that bear a gracious glow...

We meet them in our daily path, These humble souls, and each one hath A beauty of its own...

And when the frosts of death fall chill On these fair lives, that blossom still...

SUFFERING NOT IDENTICAL WITH PUNISHMENT.

It is written of "the Captain of our salvation," that he "made perfect through suffering..."

Now, this is the ordeal our divine Master passed through, and the ordeal through which He has predestinated His followers to pass...

Christian reader do not be startled or alarmed when dark providences overwhelm you, as though some strange thing had happened to you...

tory of our race! Like the mystic cloud that settled between the camp of Israel and the camp of the Egyptians...

Suffering and punishment are not synonymous! They may be the poles asunder, both in their intent and results...

I was lately in company of one of our older ministers, who has labored long and with much success in some of the most difficult fields of the church...

I MUST PRAY MORE.

I will not attempt to say how deeply humbled I was by this unexpected revelation! I returned to my own home greatly cast down in mind...

The mistake of this father in Israel has been mine also, only in a ten-fold greater degree. I, too, have asked forgiveness of God, and by his grace have amended my negligent ways...

and the sad failures of my life! I see it all now, and repent in dust and ashes!

INCONSISTENCIES OF CHRISTIANS.

GEO. M. HOWE.

The question is often raised why it is that the cause of Christ does not progress more rapidly in our churches or neighborhoods...

Many years ago the keeper of a light house off the coast of Florida, accidentally broke a pane of glass while lighting his lamps for the night...

THE SAFETY AND HELPFULNESS OF FAITH.

Safety and helpfulness go together in all life. So is the whole world bound into a whole, so does the good that comes to any man tend to diffuse itself and touch the lives of all...

one who carries on Christ's salvation. In the deepest need, the wickedest men look to the purest men they know...

RELIGION IN EARNEST.

A precious saint wrote in the secret pages of her diary: "My religion took, one happy day, the character of a genuine passion. I know it to be such, for I had loved intensely..."

WELL BUILT CHRISTIANS.—A well built Christian is harmonious in all his parts. No one trait shames another. He is not a jumble of inconsistencies...

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