HICZDICICS. MANICAM

Vol. VIII. No. 17.---Whole No. 381.

like this !

come, and "gilds them while they stay."

THE DELIVERANCE OF GETTYSBURG.

day and the 3d gone against the Army of the Poto-

mac, and our brave troops who rushed to the border, "what but a miracle could have saved us from de-struction?" The hostile tide would have rolled on

to our Capital and swept down the Susquehanna,

pouring through our city and our homes the death-waves of plunder and fire 1 While therefore we laud

the wakefulness and promptness of our government while we praise the wise foresight of General Meade

and give due honor to the valor and devotion of all

OUR COUNTRY.

geographical contour, wonderful in wealth, enter-prise and mind, in education, religious freedom and

thought. When it was only a wilderness stretching,

PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1863.

Poetry.

ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE SHORTER CATECHISM. NO. III, -THE SCRIPTURE.

T. Sacred sword to fight life's battles, Lamp to light the dying bed; Blest, who feel a Bible promise Soft beneath their fainting head

II. Thou dost give unerring guidance— Truths still heightening to the close; Glimpses of a deathless heaven— Warnings of eternal woes.

Blest the heart, the home, the nation Calmed, impelled, in all, by thee; Swayed, Grand Epic, by thy Hero, Martyr God of Calvary!

IV: Crash in Thee the Sinai-thunders: Yet, to nerve our drooping fears, Clad in life, each loftiest precept Realized in act appears.

Book of books! Full fraught with Jesus! His salvation through thee shines; How his blood, with awful sanction, Crimsons thy triumphant lines!

VT. Book divine, thy fruits attest thee: Hearts washed white from crimson stains Love, truth, meekness, self-denial, Martyr-deaths, and prophet-strains.

VII. Grand the honors still that wait thee; Coming glories, coming gloom; Till, from God's white throne of judgment, Bible words shall crown or doom.

VIII. Aid me, book of God, when dying, Lest my feeble feet should trip; my heart some Divis Bible prayer upon my lip. ELAHISTOTEROS: In my heart some Bible promise

Correspondence.

HOME-COUNTRY-CHURCH. THANKSGIVING DISCOURSE OF REV. E. E. ADAMS.

THANKSGIVING DISCOURSE OF REV. E. E. ADAMS. My mouth shall praise thee with joyful lips.— Psalm lxili. 5, Said an ancient sufferer — "Man is born to trouble My mouth shall praise thee with joyful lips.-Psalm lxiii. 5,

as the sparks fly upward." We admit the truth; yet I am persuaded there is more joy than sorrow among men. The world of perfect bliss lies about

Heaven's nursery and foretaste ! Oh, the bliss The battle is fought on ground which our army gained partly by retreat and disaster; and, against Where earth to wearied man can give a home he highest prestige of success, against the greatest Now if we describe not your homes as they are, we give the picture of what they should be. And if in some of them there have been shadows cast by valor on the part of the enemy, against the best mi-litary, talent when half of our forces were worn down with fighting and forced marches, we were enabled to gain the day. It was God's day, not man's. It the presence of death, we trust there has been also a saved our homes, our cities, our fields. our country. It saved freedom / It told the world that America divine light that makes even the darkest clouds wel-'still lives !" It assured tyrants that they cannot top liberty! that they cannot cut down this growth But ask yourselves what now were our social state but for the good hand of God? To say nothing f ages and of God! The day that followed, when the rebels hastened their retreat, was our second national birth day—a duplicate of our great Fourth! of the maladies that might have invaded our house holds, nothing of the calamities that might have falhe vindication and fulfilment of what was then declared! a new victory over opinion and over force. On Cemetery Hill, now consecrated forever to the memory of valor, were conquered more fears, more len upon us in the ordinary course of life, what hand can trace, what mind imagine our condition, had our can trace, what mind imagine our condition, had our enemies gained the victory at Gettysburg? Had not a portion of our army reached that little hill? Or had the battle been renewed by the confiderates on the morning of the 2nd of July, when the First and Eleventh Corps were exhausted by the conflict and retreat of the previous day, when the Third and Twelfth Corps were worn by forced marches, and the Second, Fifth and Sixth had not arrived on the field? It was a merciful Providence in our favor rejudices, more political obstinacy, more schemes treason than ever fell before in any single conflict. Not only the forms of fallen heroes sleep there; but slain hopes of the Confederacy. We had almost said -a dead revolution lies in that immortal field 1

Under God, we owe to that day the peace and the thanksgiving of this. The freshness and balm of, that summer time are breathed into this keener air. field? It was a merciful Providence in our favor The clouds which rolled across the path of that that the morning of the 2d passed without a battle; and that up to 4 o'clock in the afternoon the weary norning sun, revealed as they passed the brightness f many days. bands rested, and the distant corps had, time to reach the place of destiny, thus adding 50,000 strong hearts as a barrier between us and ruin 1 Had that THE RESULTS A GROUND OF THANKSGIVING.

And now we have a country gained and secured y reverses which proved to be moral victories; a ountry of more than twenty loyal States; a country abundant wealth-of solid finance-of friendly relations with foreign powers, enjoying even the warmest friendship of the grandest empire in Europe he spirit of riot and murder quelled in our thronged cities; enterprise all alive throughout our bor-ders; moral victories gained over false sentiment and

inhuman institutions; a discipline that has invigo-rated the bodies, the intellects and the religion of the our officers and men in that terrible strife, we go be-yond all these and glorify the God who presided over the whole transaction. It is to his special interposi-tion that this day we can gather in peace about our tables, look upon our families as, if not wholly free from the invasion of sorrow and death, at least un-disturbed by the presence of grim war, and in the people; and a sense of dependence on God, such as ve have not felt before since our first struggle for ational existence. Here, to-day, therefore, "we offer unto God hanksgiving"—we take one another by the hand and press our herrts together in *tearful gratitude*

whose hearts throb as ours do for the freedom of the world! We say to them—Hope on !—pray on ! We shall not disappoint you. We have looked into the "temple of liberty," and our souls are full of its light. Swords, and bayonets, and canoni melt into phantoms in its beams! We are in the abyss of reedom—we are rising to its heights. Our gravita-ion is upward! We bail 14-1 disturbed by the presence of grim war, and in the enjoyment of as much ease and comfort as usually characterize our gatherings on this annual day of thanksgiving. And if here and there we miss the young and manly forms of those who sat with us in other years, we have the happiness to know that they are still living offerings to their country; or, if a few have fallen, that they lie in honored graves far dearer to them than a life of inaction and disloyal freedom-we are rising to its heights. Our gravita-tion is upward! We hail Italy! We say "God-speed" to Russia! We put her Act of Emancipa-II. We have a country. For this will we praise God with joyful lips. A country how rich in its products, grand in extent, varied in landscape and

ion with our own and say-Behold the twin birth f liberty-the new Gemini in the zodiac of the political heavens! "God precipitates the world into light. Who shall stop it?"

Shall we not praise for the memory of great men; for the influences of virtue and philosophy; for brave hearts in the past and in the present? Shall we not praise for our free government: for the symwe not praise for our free government; for the sym-pathies which flow toward the suffering; for justice done to a people for ages enthralled; for lessons learned by our whole population; for consolidated law; for schools; for social joys; for the deeper so-berness with which we begin to look on duty and destiny; for the clearing up of our national sky, and for

under the influence of Christian love, are types of disordered and torn by the favoring breeze, and heaven's fellowship and life, while we bless God for | soon the bird so beautiful as to suggest to the neaven's fellowship and life, while we bless God for our country in which these homes are set like gems in a caronet, like stars in the firmament, a country emerging from the clouds and storms, and set in the radiant way of freedom and immortality, we glory more in the home that awaits us beyond the flood, where greetings shall follow these dark separ-ations; where thanksgiving time is perpetual as the day, and more blissfull every hour; where forms come home to us from earth's torms and carks and swept from the soiled plumes by the opposing come nome to us from earth's tombs and caves and oceans and battlefields, the dust and the brine and the mould dropped for God's robes and Christ's im-mortality, lips long dumb breaking into song, and eyes long dim opening on the lighted spheres all peopled by angels by infants, youths, fathers and mothers, fair, great, beautiful, and holy as angels! We prior the sone and breaking into song, and mothers, fair, great, beautiful, and holy as angels! come home to us from earth's tombs and caves and defilements of sin and clothed in the robes of a

mothers, fair, great, beautiful, and holy as angels I We glory more in that great country—the pro-mised land, the eternal inheritance, where Christ reigns and the saints are with him on thrones; where law is equal and perfect, society pure, and man free; where the rich and poor forget their distinctions, and white is no better nor brighter than black; where the amount of sanctified mind and the intensity of love will set the sont highest; reversing the order of this world. a country whose warfare is over—on this world; a country whose warfare is over on whose records shine the names of all the good. We glory more in that church of which glorious things are spoken which is the household of faith, the family of God, the nation of them that are saved; the heavenly birth, and promises fairer skies and a better country for his everlasting habitation. And yet even such an one, to reach his heavenly home, must face the storm. The favoring church in whose grandeur and permanency all carth's kingdoms will yet lose themselves and be forgotten, or before which they shall be shattered like the pot-ter's vessel, when God "rises up out of his holy ha-bitation" to shake terribly the earth." breeze of earthly prosperity will disarray the garments of his glorious beauty. The heavendyed plumes of his soaring spirit will be soiled by success. The abundance of temporal blessing Oh! my brethren, these earthly homes will ere long be desolate. All their bright faces, like those already gone, will soon lie hid beneath the pall, and every fair will impede his flight and cast him down to earth. If he would join the angel reapers in and manly form lie low. We may plant flowers aroun singing the harvest home in the great reaping our dwellings, we may cause our halls to glow with the radiance of beauty and echo with song, we may fill our rooms with gorgeous furniture and load our tables with costliest abundance; but our feet shall time of the earth's ripeness, he must be content to plough the desert in tears and to sow in not always tread therein our voices shall not long mingle there! The scenes of the past will be acted over again, and others of our households shall die sorrow, beside empty streams waiting for the rain. Many a time must he pray in unison others of our kindred pass into the shadows. We shall soon cease to feel the power that sits enshrined

with the prayer of the Hebrew exiles in the strange land, "Turn our captivity, O Lord, as the streams in the south."

PRESENTIMENTS.

We recently saw a letter from a brave volunteer, asking religious reading to distribute, giving substantially the following statement we love, and whose wounds we deplore, be to us, in During a severe engagement, he stood beside its best characteristics and privileges, only a fore-taste of the kingdom which hath foundations; and his brother, who was a devoted Christian; and let the gratitude we feel for our hones and our na-tive land be but the first gentle note in that thanks-giving which shall mingle with the raptures of "the general assembly and church of the first-born," and who, taking from his pocket little mementos for friends, said, "Brother, I shall fall in this battle! But I am ready to go. It is glorious to die for the old flag; and I shall go home to This life of ours, these lingering years of earth Christ." The third round, he fell dead, pierced by a minnie ball, in his brother's arms; telling him a little tract among his effects had led him Of time is here, the prophet's ancient theme ! Then He the King, the Judge, at length shall come, to Jesus, and begging him to read it, and follow him. This led to his conversion. We

melancholy, but distinct and clear, excepting the

sovereign interposition of God to secure a cer-

tain end. which in no other way could be secured

The celebrated William Tennent was saved

from the pillory by a dream and presentiment

attending it, when on trial for the crime of ano-

ther. It is a wonderful and glorious truth that

God can touch all springs of action, and will

make all things work together for good to

them that love him, the called according to his

P. C. H.

Indeed, he never damns men without making Daniel in the lions' den, Jeremiah in the dunthem pay well for it beforehand. And yet geon, Jonah in the depths of the sea, may alike what crowds rush forward to purchase hell, send up a word. Every one, at home or abroad, who might have taken heaven as the free gift of God in Christ Jesus! upon the keys of this divine instrument. Break

Do you turn from the Bible, and from books or derangement can never take place. Constant of Christian counsel and story, to read what access and constant success are the privilege of nflames your vicious propensities, and chases all

Signals often come from above, sensible intievery solemn feeling from your heart?. The mations from the other world. The first recorpage which you voluntarily spread before your ded prayer in the Bible is Abraham's; when Jeye, is the mirror of your heart. Alas for the hovah specially revealed himself. "Thou wilt heart thus reflected 1 It is the fountain of prepare their heart, thou wilt cause thine ear to hear." With what promptness should these diwhich the life is the stream. The stream can never rise higher than the fountain. Alas then for the life !

be saved !"

GENESEE EVANGELIST .--- Whole No. 918

Do you pray in your lonely hours? They dren be, noticed I It is peculiarly the time for Esther to make known her requests when the are all the closet which you have now. In the king, stretching out his sceptre, invites her ap-proach. Here is the ladder Jacob saw reaching dead of night, when your comrades are stretched around you in sleep, do you seek and find a to heaven, and on which angels ascend and defew moments of quiet communion with God? scend. Who need ever be lonely? Here is a When you are pacing your night watch, do you nerve going direct to the central heart of the unseen world, and along which every feeling, every desire; may pulsate immediately and sensibly to Him who is head of the church; and along which ift to Heaven the soft earnest prayer for grace to watch against the enemy-sin, and to be kept in the hour of temptation; in prayer the in return the Holy Spirit sends the fulness of his soul stands sentry over itself. The penalty for consolation to waiting souls. sleeping on the post of military duty, is death.

A British soldier in India was lying near death. He had neglected and even reviled religion, On the spiritual guard, if you are prayerless, it but now he was dying and had no one near to tell him how ho might be saved. He bethought himself of a Christian friend living at the distance of one hundred and sixty miles to whom he sent a telegraphic message, "I am dying: what shall I do to be saved?" Instantly the message was sent back to him, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." Thus messages kept passing till the soldier sank in death; and he expired with words of hope and joy on his lips. To every wounded, sinsick mortal there is telegraphed from the best of friends, "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ ! Look unto me, and

HOW GRACE CHANGES A MAN.

All changes, truly, are not from bad to, good, or good to better. They may be from good to bad, or from bad to worse. Moisture most as readily as messages are sent at night from the outer door to the pillow of a physician hey might be sent through the dark and silent dims the polished blade, and turns its bright ea to a friend thousands of miles away. No insteel into dull, red rust; fire changes the sparkercontinental event so stirring has transpired ince Columbus's first voyage of more than two ling diamond into black coal and grey ashes; hundred days. It was fitting that there should disease makes loveliness loathsome, and death be demonstrations of delight in the ringing of converts the living form into a mass of foul bells, in processions and illuminations, at an ac-currence which was announced simultaneously in this, that like heaven it changes whatever is he evening journals of two hemispheres, and applied to it into its own nature. For as which was to give impulse to the whole civilized | leaven turns meal into leaven, so Divine grace world, helping on to a practical ubiquity of en- imparts a gracious character to the heart; and terprising minds, and to a recognition of the this is what I call its assimilating element. brotherhood of all nations. of God changes all who are brought in conver-If now from this world, as Valentia Harber, sion under its influence, it does not impart any there were carried a cable across the vast ocean of space, touching at the moon; then at the new power or passion, but works by giving to those we already have a holy bent; by imnearest planet of our system; thence to the farhest one; thence to some fixed star; and so on, pressing on them a heavenly character. For example, grace did not make David a poet, or from constellation to constellation, till that dis-Paul an orator, or John a man of warm affectant place were reached, where we may suppose tions, or Peter a man of strong impulses and the more immediate presence of God-the of the great sea, instantaneous communications natural features of the mind than it does those could take place, what a sensation ought it to of the body-as the negro said, it gave him a create !. How should the mountain tops be while heart, but it left him still, to use the lighted up! How would the spheres give a new | language of another, the image of God carved and louder chorus; the sun come forth from his in ebony. Be the meal into which that woman tabernacle with a more smiling face, and the pale | hides the leaven meal of wheat; or meal of barley, it will come from her hands, from the pronoon fill her horns anew; cess of leavening, from the fiery oven, cakes of "While all the stars that round her burn, the same grain. For it is not the substance but the character of the meal that is changed. And all the planets in their turn, Confirm the tidings as they roll. And spread the truth from pole to pole." Even so with the effect of grace. It did not give John his warm affections; but it fixed Such a spirtual telegraph exists; it was laid them on his beloved Master-sanctifying his centuries ago, and has held two worlds in unlove. It did not give Dorcas a woman's heart; woken connection. her tender sympathy with suffering; but it as-The great mass of men, however, seem to have sociated charity with piety, and made her a holy philanthropist. It did not give Paul his o practical belief in any real intercourse between eaven and earth. The only Son of Him who genius, his resistless logic, and noble oratory; out the worlds thus in communication has come but it consecrated them to the cause of Christ ither to bear witness to the truth: "Pray to -touching his lips as with a live coal from the thy Father in secret, and thy Father which seeth altar, it made him such a master of holv elon secret shall reward thee openly." Did not quence that he swayed the multitude at his that Son come from the bosom of the Father? Is he not perfectly acquainted with the whole will, humbled the pride of kings, and compelled his very judges to tremble. It did not system of intercourse, and with all arrangements give David a poet's fire and a poet's lyre; but at the celestial station? it strung his harp with -chords from heaven, A well-known European astronomer was acand tuned all its strings to the service of relienstomed to announce his discoveries in a pubication called Nuncius Siderius, or Herald of gion and the high praises of God. So grace ever works! It assimilates a man to the the Heavens. There have been spiritual astroncharacter of God. It does not change the mers, men familiar with the celestial mechanism metal, but stamps it with the Divine image; who have published their observations. It is and so assimilates all who have received certainly pertinent to take the testimony of wit-Christ to the nature of Christ, that unless we nesses who have made proof of the reality and have the same mind, more or less developed, power of this instrument. Going back to an early period, and looking into the biography of the fa- in us that was in him, the Bible declares that we are none of His.-Dr. Thomas Guthrie. ther of the faithful, we find this wonderful ap-paratus in full play. Abraham said unto God, Oh that Ishmael might live before thee." In "I IMPROVED THE TIME." he memorable intercession for Sodom, what ra-Passing through the hospital one day a young pid and repeated transmissions from earth to man was pointed out to me whom the nurse heaven and from heaven to earth! The great said was near his end. I approached, and general and lawgiver of Israel, at a certain jnnckneeling by the side of his cot, took his hand and the answer was returned, "I will make all in mine. As he opened his eyes and looked my goodness pass before thee." Samuel, urged up into mine, a smile of recognition passed over his features. "I know you, I know you." the elders of Israel to give them a king, said he. "Do you remember Eckington Hosuel, "Hearken unto the voice of the people in pital? Not long since, you and a good lady rayed to the Lord; and the Lord said unto Samwere there. Under a grove of trees in front of all they say unto thee." In critical circumstanthe building, you preached to us about the great Physician. Then the lady sung to us ces, David inquired of the Lord, "Shall I go and smite these Philistines?" and the word came some sweet songs of Zion, and reading matter o David, "Go and smite the Philistines." One furnished by the Christian Commission was of the longest despatches of old was at the dedidistributed among the men. Well, chaplain, I cation of Solomon's temple. The immediate rewas then a convalescent soldier, and a poor, onse ran thus: "I have heard thy prayer and wicked young man. When I was a little boy, thy supplication which thou hast made before my mother used to kneel with me at the bed It was in the temple, and while at prayer side and teach me the little prayer-'Now I the message came to Paul, " Make haste, and, lay me down to sleep,' and till I left home I get thee quickly out of Jerusalem." was instructed how to live, but for all that. I Answers have also come without words in the never became a Christian. Well, as I listened estowment of what was asked. While Abrato the preaching and singing of those sweet ham's servant was saying, "I pray thee send me good speed this day," behold Rebecca presented herself. When the children of Israel fell into songs, I began to feel that at last I ought to give my heart to God. I saw how good he had been to me all my life, and I felt that I had dolatry in the very light of burning Sinai, Moses done nothing but sin against him while my esought the Lord, "Turn from thy fierce wrath," and the Lord repented of the evil which he heart was at enmity with him. I resolved to thought to do unto his people." Samuel asks for go to Jesus, and through him, seek salvation. thunder and rain amidst the wheat harvest, and That night I begun to pray, and though for a the Lord sent thunder and rain that day." time it seemed very dark, yet it was not long before I felt that Jesus was my Saviour. That Elijah prays for rain, and the heaven gives rain. he saved me now. No sooner did I commit my He prays for the restoration of a widow's son. and the soul of the child comes into him again. soul to God with all its interests through Jesus. The supplication of Asa went up, "Help us, O than I felt, yea, I knew I was accepted and Lord our God ;" so "The Lord smote the Ethioourse between heaven and earth through the me-

s the just judgment for such guilty slumber!

when the Atlantic and Pacific shores of our coun-

try were bought into immediate intercourse. Still more sublime was the event of instantaneous communication between two remote con tinents,-when persons began to talk across and inder the ocean, and it was supposed that al-

Selections.

s because you are asleep. God save you,

brave soldier, from the everlasting death which

B. B. H.

PRAYER A TELEGRAPH. It was a noble achievement of modern science

us, and from its deep, glorious ocean, waves dash over and fall among us; alblet from the other world comes, ever and anon, a breath of wailing, a billow of despair. Not to speculate on the condition of a triumph for him more grand than that of Roman our species, we have facts which outweigh theories heroes; even majesty itself permitting the fortunate

notes that break forth spontaneous to welcome the light, the opening bloom, the rich incense floating up from the broken soil, every leaf that quivers in the breeze, every tree that claps its hands in the orient ray, the fields; and shores, and forests, the stars set to music in night's high dome-all have a life of joy. Their sounds and motions and burning splendors are expressions of jubilant existence.

Even the storm, trampling with million feet field and battlement and tower, unsheathing the sword that slays "with touch ethereal," is a sublime reveller whose laugh shakes the great concave as he looks down on the world holding its myriad cups for the blessed rain. The infancy of all living creatures is a holiday. It has its mishaps and griefs, but they are washed from life's bright shore by the ripples of joy that follow after. Even in society, where man feels the wounds of neglect, the cares of wealth and station, the resistances of opinion and interest, where the circle of happy kindred is invaded by death, there is a prevalent satisfaction, -not always true happiness, but real delight. It is joyous to labor for the loved, a blessed boon to feel that we are doing .- that there is truth for our minds. that there are objects for our affections. that there is variety for our tastes, food for our hunger, shelter for our persons, society for our friendships. The joy we have may not indicate a sound religious condition, it may be a bright and pictured drapery behind which dark thoughts lurk and sad spirits droop, but it satisfies for the hour, and proves that our state is not altogether pitiable and forlorn; that sin has not blotted out hope, nor quenched all the sunlight of

the heart. This day is the voice of our nation's gladness Let us consecrate and hallow our joys; let us feel that they are the sacred fruits of the divine good-

When David uttered the words of our text he was a fugitive in the wilderness of Judah-away from his home, his sanctuary and his throne; his son a rebel, and the hearts of all Israel turned against him. The desert stretched its awfal solitude around him. There he thirsted for the living God, and there too did he learn that the loving-kindness of his Maker was "better than life,"-and to say with his whole heart: "My mouth shall praise thee with joyful lips." Our condition to-day, brethren, is far superior to that of the exiled king in the wilderness.

THE BLESSINGS OF HOME.

I. We have homes. For these will we offer praise. There may be with us now some stranger whose weary feet pause here for a season to mingle his praise and his prayer with ours, while his home and family are far away. His thoughts go back to them with tender longing and hope, and he finds in this thanksgiving hour, this common brotherhood of citizens and Ohristians that which is akin to the Perhaps some soldier is here whose arm has been bared, whose breast has borne a wound for us and for his country, while wife, or child, or mother spends a substitute, brother, poor indeed, for that toward which you have looked in vain; take to your heart the pleasure of having rendered us a service which we feel but cannot repay. But we have homes, resting-places in life's weary way, where, by mutual sympathies, by the cultivation of knowledge and plety, by the cheer of young hearts, and gleeful voices, by the calm thoughts which come after the storms of outer and conflicting life, the soul grows stronger and more hopeful. The family is divine. It was ordained of God as the nursery of the church, and the source of virtue and moral power in the state. It was a beautiful trait in Israel that, notwithstanding their wandering life, they loved their separate tents. A holy relationship was felt in each family to the great sanctuary; that tie centralized their life while it tended to preserve the household love. It is eminently true of the Anglo-Saxon that of the same spirit, the same endearment. A peaceful, religious, quiet home! Love and song, intelli-

memories, ministrics filial and paternal rende your mind surround itself with visions from viaus before Asa and before Judah." Peter How I love him now," he said, as floods of more dear by sorrows and separations, hopes that bathe in the promise of the future, parental smiles annals? What influences have gone forth from it to of the slain Lamb. Thus all the way pain is the world of glory? In whichever direction prays in the room of Dorcas, and she opens her tears flowed from his eyes, "and how I long to elevate man, to quicken the intellect, to purify the the price of pleasure, and at last life eternal and tender chidings, repose for the weary, lessons for the young, the mellowed piety of age, the glow-ing affections of youth, the tears and smiles of inyes. Can' any one doubt the reality of inter- be with him. I did not expect to die so soon these fancies strike out, they are sure to bear heart, to consolidate nationalities, to promote and springs only from the charnel of death, and -but a few days have elapsed-thank God I control civilization, to hallow our homes and social your heart along. From these meditations, HAVE IMPROVED THE TIME." fellowship, to open the hearts of the rich, to stimuium of prayer? 'beauty immortal awakes from the tomb." tempt of our generals marched northward one hunfancy, hours of regalement and seasons of healthful you will come back to your comrades with an lred and fifty miles. Washington trembled. Panic This spiritual telegraph is no private enterprise; I spoke of his mother. "Mother will be late the industry and encourage the prudence of the There is a bird in Eastern lands possessing a abor, confidences not known in the bustle of the and despair ran through our cities, and lethargy or is it designed for the Tew, but for the many, happy," said he. "I had just as lief die as not. oor, to offer the bereaved soul divine consolation inflamed zest for sin, or a truer heart for your boor, to offer the bereaved soul divine consolation, the sinning, lost soul the favor and forgiveness of form so graceful, and a plumage so brilliant Lord. They will make you a worse sinner, or world, births over which older hearts glow with joy, deaths which mellow the tone of happiness and win and is open gratuitously to all. The old man and I shall see her in heaven. / Father has already seized on our rural districts. The enemy had an eye to our rich valleys and our pletheric banks, and God! How large its claims, how grand its history, how bright its promise. Greater than all human kingdoms as its Lord is greater than all earthly to men, too bright and beautiful a creature to What is the real What is the real the child, the learned man and the one who can gone." He was so much affected that I feared the spirit toward the realm of eternity-these make to whatever else he might seize-whatever else achieve. He thought so little of our generalship his tears and emotions would hasten his deput re neither read nor write, the mill lionnaire and the up a happy, holy home. We have such for which to so I said to him, "Be as calm as you car" Bu What is the reading of your lonely hours? beggar are alike welcome to the freest use. kings, filling heaven, conquering the world, not by power, but by character. Even in its imperfections, the church of God surpasses all other compacts, con-tains the noblest and best of souls, the sublimest in Eden, they have named it the "Bird of money and without price. Satan has also his as to run the greatest hazard of annihilation. In the There are no mistakes in transmission. Much brother." 'He' only whispered back, render praise. event of success, his conduct was sublime! In the event of defeat, it was madness! He felt secure in as it may be crowded, various as messages may wept." I left him with the light of be in length, topic, and character, they are sent beaming through his pale feature "O name for comfort, refuge, hope and peace, O spot by gratitude and memory blest; Where, as in brighter worlds the wicked cease the presence of an army whose strategy he had often the presence of an army wrose strategy he had often outwitted, whose valor he had repulsed. But just at the awful crisis, when hope filled the scale that swung over the enemy, and dispair hung heavy verities and relations. It has the greatest work to Paradise." And travellers say that that bird agents among you, loaded with publications forward without loss of a word. Be the language soul all radiant with glory-dwel d that six From troubling, and the weary are at rest. do. the happiest life to live, the most glorious good a day, are never from its own choice flies before the wind. which are corrupting and damning. But he is what it may, grammatical imperfections what whispers, with idescribable to And tender loves and graces have their nest, And when from fright or danger compelled to a bookseller, and not a bookgiver. He filches the bookseller, and not a bookgiver. He filches racy when despatches reach their destination. Peter on the house top, the thief on the cross, to animate and to be won ! by women. in ours, a new leader appears; a change is made at the hour of expected onset. The rebel is caught in his own pit. The balance swings the other way. they may, there is no confusion and no inaccu- the word JESUS. How brightly here the varied virtues shine, THE BETTER HOME, --- THE BETTER COUNTRY. - B. - -And different tastes and talents all unite While then we offer praise for our homes, which do so, its long train of brilliant plumes are your pockets in exchange for his vile trash. Like hues prismatic blending into white. Mr. Guinness is in Ir Thou little kingdom of serene delight,

through the continent of Europe; and when he re-turned to Spain, with specimens of its ores, animals and men, the streets of Barcelona witnessed and set the reality fairly before us. Life is naturally joyous. When the breath of spring floats over the earth,—the budding twigs, the bursting germs, the free wing that cuts the air, the bursting germs, the free wing that cuts the air, the stern Puritan is in it; the genius and religion of the French Huguenot are woven into its industries and its society; the persistence and conservatism of the dignity of the old English Quaker, the intelligence and massive faith of protestant Scotland and northern Ireland mingle in its institutions and balance ts social forces ;--- and sad to say, as an offset to the whole, as an almost fatal resistance to our freedom and civilization-we have the theft, the ingratitude, the falsehood, the mobs, the murders, and the dis-loyalty of others, not from the north of Ireland. We have a country which, in its moral aud political aminence, is the result of a costly, stupendous re-volution, of statesmanship and legal talent, of broad commercial views, of eloquence, industry, common sense and piety. We have a liberal, paternal, de-mocratic government; freedom of mental culture and eligious worship; room for the largest enterprise for the utmost reach of personal endeavor in every profession, every field of labor and of study. We have just the institutions and the liberty that will let man make the most of his powers, and his opportunities. If there is something in the vastness four natural domain to stimulate ambition, to

> also as much in the genius of our government to quicken thought, to develope manhood, and to bear us as a people to the last goal of humanity.

kindle our ardors for high achievement; there is

EFFORTS TO DESTROY OUR NATIONALITY. Think next of the mighty efforts put forth to destroy this grand nationality; to stop its march of freedom and of mind, and drag it back into the dark ages; to dig a grave for all its high hopes. What intrigues of politicans for thirty years; what sophestries in public speeches and documents ; what plans for the quiet accumulation of arms and defenes among those who are now at war with freedom ; what deep and damning hypocrisies; what betrayal of friendships and confidences; what departure from avowed principles; what abuses of office; what beguilements of foreign courts; what secret preperations abroad; what appeals to the lowest passions of men; what falsehoods to inflame the ignorant; what blandishments; what threats; what gathering of armies; what invasions; what inter-play between open enemies and pretended friends; what treachery in our Capital and in our armies; what organized mobs secretly aided by an Archbishop, his priests, and a recreast Governor; what influences from the misinterpreters of the law; what cries of "unconstitutionality ;" what railings at our executive, and at the spirit of liberty and Christianity; what scorn from woman; what expenditure in men and from woman; what expenditure in men and means; in piracy, in rurning the blockade; in a lying press at home and abroad; what truckling to foreign powers; what barbarism and violation of belligerent rights; what appeals to heaven and clamors about oppression; what cries about State rights and the divine institutions by valencies mad upheaving of all our institutions by volcanic madness-and in them all the hypocritical cry of-"Let

us alone, we only ask for peace." We have had arrayed against us the best military talent of the land, which was educated and developed by the Government whose existence it assails. The skill of British mechanics, and the wealth of British gentry and Lords, have poured into the Confederate ports wherever a steamer could run the blockade, luxuries, clothing and munitions of war, while governments at peace with us winked at the proceed ing. Traitors among ourselves, sheltered by the na-tional flag, and in the paid service of our Government, have informed the enemy of our plans and sent them supplies, while a third, at least, of our northern in, avowed, in various ways, their sympathy populatio with the rebellion.

Take into view all these adverse agencies, together with the blunders we have made, the incompetence and treachery of officers in the crisis of affairs, and to what power but that of God, who has our nation his home is a sacred place. Nothing will inspire his heart for sacrifice, or his arm for war, like the danger which threatens his fire-side. 'We partake of things just before the grand victory at Gettysburg.

THE PERIL AND THE VICTORY.

Redeemer's glory with exceeding joy, they are gence and virtue nestle beneath its roof. Happy The Army of the Potomac, at Chancellorsville, saved. Oh, how I loved Jesus in a moment. washed from the defilements of sin in the blood The Army of the rotomac, at onancenorsvine, numbering at least one hundred and twenty thou-sand, under a leader brave and efficient, when he is himself, was met by the rebel army of only fifty thou-sand and shamefully defeated. Then, with a rein-forcement of thirty thousand, the rebel leader in con-tempt of one work are another than the same hard and the same hard another the same her ther the same her the same her the same her the same he what heroes of faith and warfare have adorned its

the bright promise that spreads a glory over the fu prosperity is at hand. Like the waters of Niagara our life is now falling, to be dashed and broken in he abyss; but like them, too, it shall flow on here after with tranquility, and fulness, and peace. We do not delude ourselves with the fancy that,

with the close of our conflict and the overthrow of oppression, there will be no sin in the land, but everyhere virtue, plenty and pleasure. We do not ex pect that the millennium will begin in America. as opes are not in any great social movement; but hey are in the promise and the power of God. He alone can render us a peculiar people, and make us high above all nations that he hath made, in praise, ind in name, and in honor, and that we may be a

holy people unto the Lord." And when he shall do this, "The mighty West shall bless the East. And sea shall answer sea. And mountain unto mountain call-Bless God, for we are free !

Free in limb, free in mind, free in soul, "with the lierty wherewith Christ makes free." THE CHURCH.

III. Finally, we praise God for the church. We have already intimated that the family and the State are divine institutions. We say with emphasis the CHURCH is divine. There was the germ of this sacred body in Eden, and afterwards in single families before the time of Abraham. But that old patriarch was in a sense "the Father of the univer-

In him it assumed its organic life, sal church." and took its first grand inspirations. In him was concentred all that has since "formed the substance and fibre of the whole Christian church." In his family was the first element of nationality, and the first fact of ecclesiastical history. The family was and is the home of individuals, the nation a vast as-semblage, we may almost say system of homes, each independent of all others and yet each related to

all, while the church is the home of souls, the place culture for the best part of our manhoodor the whole of it, preparatory to the grand and plorious destiny of our being. We rise above the primary definition of a church. It is something nore than an assembly of worshippers with its laws f faith and practice, something more than the em-odied religion or christianity of a town, or state, or nation. It is Christ's family destined to grow into an eternal kingdom. It is the gathering of believers to himself, the medium of his spiritual presence on the earth, the agency by which his laws and his life are diffused over the nations, the power by which the family and the state are to be sanctified and all nationalities as the only immortal campact of souls, as ultimately to embrace all kingdoms, having scended to universal supremacy and absolute sway over bodies, over minds, over institutions, over laws over all interests, affections, thoughts and estates. All the history of the past in the works of great men, in the rise and growth, the conflicts and decay f nations, has had in view the final glory of the hurch. Nations have been sacrificed for the truth and righteousness which their pride would trample, and which God would preserve as belonging to this

grand kingdom. All the revolutions among men ave only rolled out of the way the obstructions that vere cast before the virtue, the faith, the holiness which, for ages the great Head has wrought into his church. He expends his love and power for its elevation and enlargement. It is precious in his sight, both for its cost and its inherent worth. Therefore e says to it even in its infancy and dimness, "I gave Egypt for thy ransom, Ethiopia and Seba for gave Egypt for thy ransom, Ethiopha and Secal for thee." I have created thee for my glory, I have formed thee, yea I have made thee." The Psalmist of Wallenstein in the thirty years war—"never peaks of it in still higher strains. His foundation in the Holy Mountains. The Lord loveth th ates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob. Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God," And the apostles in later ages call it "The body of Ihrist, the fullness of him who filleth all in all, A glorious church." "The Temple of God." "God's husbandry," "God's building," set forth in all the splendors of richest gems of pearl and gold, as the city of light, "coming down out of Heaven | new incentives to press on more vigorously in from God;" as the bride of the great King ; as "the | their ceaseless march to meet a yet sorer confamily in Heaven and earth;" as the everlasting kingdom of holiness and love. What children have been born in this family? What achievements have been ushered into history by its members? What

grand truths have been announced by its heralds?

The land of which we dream !" SACRED SYMBOLS.

And, for this desert, where we sadly roam, Shall give the kingdom for our endless hom

Are briefer, swifter than they seem ; A little while, and the great second birth

roll its high strains through eternity.

BY REV. DANIEL MARCH. II. STREAMS IN THE SOUTH. Ps. 126: 4. Turn again our captivity. O Lord, a the streams in the south.

The streams in the south were torrents, nowing only when rains had fallen on the distant hills. In anticipation of their coming. the husbandman sowed the still parched field, and trusted that the fertilizing flood would flow in due time among all the valleys. But while purpose." While to the disloyal,-the impeni it delayed its coming, he watched every tent, all things must conspire to his overthrow

gathering cloud; he listened for the sound of and eternal ruin. the wind that might foretaken the needed rain ; he rose early to observe the goings forth of the morning; he studied the reddening hues of the

and to sing aloud for joy.

Soldier's Scrap Book. setting day, and he compared all the signs of the earth and the skies, if peradventure he FOURTH SCRAP.-LONELY HOURS. might gather any promise of help from the SOLDIER :--- How do you spend your lonely

hours? If the question seems abrupt, please among the valleys. And if the needed blessing reflect that it springs from a true Christian soof the skies was withholden while the beds of licitude for your immortal welfare, and then I the torrents were bare, and the fields were am sure you will not be angry that I press it. burnt with drought and the food of the flocks I know that you have the such hours. In dried up, and lean famine looked in at the your tent you are almost never alone, and if peasant's door, his must have been a brutish you wander outside, men are everywhere heart not to mourn. And when the deliverance around you. You have no private chamber to came in a single night, there was music for the which you can resort for holy exercises ; there husbandman in the voice of the thunder, and is no quiet grove inside of the guard, where there was beauty in the blackness of the storm. you can roam, and not even a fence behind And when the morning shone upon the glad- which you can kneel to pour out your heart

dening torrents bursting from the hills, and the before God. reviving herbage rose with new life from the Still you have some lonely hours; and the fresh baptism of the flooded streams and the very fact that they are so few, adds immeafalling rain, then the husbandman needed only surably to their preciousness, and imparts una human heart to rejoice with tears of gratitude, speakable importance to the question how they are spent. In our homes of peace, those hours So from natural and necessary reasons as are the most influential of all, for good or for

well as from divine appointment, must we all, evil, over our whole life and character. If as faithful husbandmen in God's great field of those hours are devoted to communion with drawn to Ohrist. Nay, he has set his church above this world, sow with tears and with the tremb- God, and to securing the defence of his grace ling of uncertain expectation, if we would reap against temptation, we shall probably come off with joy unutterable, when the pitying heavens without spot from our intercourse with men, are bowed and the gracious rain descends and and our open conflicts with sin. If they are ensures a plentiful harvest. The tears shed in given over to corrupt meditations and desires, the time of sowing, themselves give promise they will stain our whole lives with moral that the reaper shall bring home his full sheaves. foulness. and the second second

rejoicing. The troubles and sorrows, the This universal law of the power of solitary temptations and burdens which try the spirit hours follows you to the camp, and there are most severely, only give it wings to rise and reasons why its working is doubly sure there. help it on in the heavenly way. The sore You will not be offended, for you know I speak conflict, through which the children of God the truth, when I say, that there virtue has pass in their journey to the promised rest, is fewer outward guards than among the refinethe merciful chastisement of their peace. The ments and gentle amenities of life which only life of the good soldier of Jesus Christ, is well scenes of peace develope. You are far away from the eye of loving, perhaps praying parents and sisters; some of you far away from wives resting homeless, their life was but a battle and and children, in whose sight you would not a march." For the faithful children of God, for worlds bring moral disgrace upon yourself. there is no rest here, no home till they reach Where you are, your chief restraints from sin the better country. Their victory over one must be found in your own heart; and the few adversary does not secure them spoils with lonely hours which you do have, will probably which to be enriched and to repose, but only be decisive of the character of that heart.

What are your meditations in those hours? You cultivate pleasurable thoughts; do you flict and a greater foe. And when at last seek them from corruption or holiness; from presented faultless before the throne of the earth or heaven? Does your imagination revel in vile delights and perishing good, or does

know of no solution of the mystery of presenti ments, when, as in this instance, not or morbid