rally possessed least of its spirit. Bunyan was released from prison in 1672, under the Act of Charles II. which annulled the penal statutes against Protestant Dissenters. Before he obtained his liberty, he had commenced the work which has made his name immortal, "The Pilgrim's Progress." The exact date of the publication of the first edition is unknown, there not being, it is supposed, a single copy in existence. A second edition was published in 1678, and in the course of the next four years no less than six editions were printed. Some of his religious friends considered the work as altogether scandalous, while others thought that no praise could be too extravagant. In 1682, his "Holy War" was published, and in 1684 the second part of "The Pilgrim's Progress." Between 1656, the year when he was called to the ministry, and 1688, when he died from the effects of a cold caught in a journey which with characteristic warm-heartedness he had undertaken for the purpose of reconciling a prodigal son to an angry father, he wrote no less than sixty different works. "The Pilgrim's Progress" has had a circulation second only to that of the Bible. It has been printed in every European language, and has recently, we understand, been introduced into China and India. After his release from prison, Bunyan became a man of note among the Baptists, not only in his native Bedfordshire, but also in London, which he frequently visited, and there preached to very large congregations. He died, as we have mentioned, in 1688, at Snowhill, London, and was buried in Bunhill Fields.

We may not inaptly bring this brief memoir to a close by relating the only practical joke which Bunyan is reported to have indulged in, and which was played off upon one of his friends, who was a cooper. Bunyan, on passing his friend's shop one day, noticed some tubs piled one above another, and threw them down. "How now, Master Bunyan," said the cooper, "what harm do the tubs to you?" "Friend," said Bunyan, "have you not heard that every tub should stand on its own bottom?"