At Prayer Meeting.

BY MARGARET E. SANGSTER. There were only two or three of us Who came to the p'ace of prayer Came in the teeth of a driving storm; But for that we did not care, Since after our hymns of praise had risen

And our earnest prayers were said, The Master himself was present there And gave us the living bread.

We knew his look on our leader's face So rapt and glad and free; We felt his touch wh n our heads were bowed,

We heard his "Core to me." Nobody saw him lift the latch, And none unbarred the door; But "peace' was his token to every heart And how could we ask for more?

Each of us felt the load of sin From the weary should rs fall; Each of us dropped the load of care, And the grief that was like a pall; And over our spirits a blessed calm Swept in from the jasper sea, And strength was ours for toil and strife In the days that were thence to be.

It was only a handful gathe ed in To the little place of prayer. Outside were struggle and pain and sin, But the Lord himself was there; He came to redeem the pledge he gave-Wherever his loved ones be, To stand himself in the mi st of them

And forth we fared in the bitter rain, And our hearts had grown so warm, It seemed like the p lting of summer flowers,

Though they count but two or three.

And not the crash of a storm; 'Twas a time of the dearest privilege Of the Lord's right hand,' we said, As we thought how Jesus himself had come

To feed us with living bread

Christ in the Upper Room.

BY REV J. R. MILLER, D. D.

The upper room was a sacred place. of Mary, the mother of John Mark. He kept to the last. If so, Mark was almost certainly "the

prayer for the relief of Peter from them. prison.

ter and His disciples gathered in this the upper room and went out into the upper room. Jesus knew all that was street and on toward Gethsemane, to peace as He took His place at the table. | then in an hour to be betrayed into In strange contrast, however, with the the hands of His enemies. It shows us also an essential quality in them as long as they lived. all true discipleship-"I have given you an example, that ye also should have come out from that upper room do as I have done to you.'

chosen and learned to love so tenderly The Lord's Supper, instituted there, was one who was false. Christ's treat- has sweetened the world with its frament of Judas is one of the most won- grant memories. The words spoken derful manifestations of His patient by the Master have been passed from love. Knowing of the treachery that lip to heart, wherever the Gospel has was ripening in His disciple's bosom, gone, giving comfort to uncounted He yet kept him in His family, show- millions. The petitions of the great He may wander, but this hallowed ing by no sign that He knew the black- high-priestly prayer have been rising influence will not forsake him. Memness of his heart, washing his feet, continually, like holy incense. This giving him the sop, the touch of His farewell has kept the Christian hearts hand, the look of His eye and the tone of all the centuries warm and tender of His voice, all making their appeal with love to Him who is the unchangto the conscience of the traitor, and ing Friend, the same yesterday and giving him opportunity for repentance to-day, yea, and forever. - N. Y. Witand confession. But in all the warmth | ness. of that wonderful love, under all these holy influences, the heart of Judas only grew harder, as he gave himself over more and more completely to the

the institution of the Lord's Supper. Christian home without daily prayer? we know just how much we owe to the in all the brain-sickening effluvia of In this Jesus revealed much of His It lacks one of the essen ials of a prayers of our fathers, we would be pleasure. The authority of my parents heart. It showed His love for the Christian home. If a stranger should more careful that our children should was feared, but not respected, and few twelve. He wanted them close to Him sojourn in that home for a week, or if not be forgotten at the family altar. serious impressions could prevail in a that last hour. He was loath to be a companion of one of the sons or The call to preach the gospel has come mind imbued now with frivolity. parted from them. It showed also His 'daughters should tarry under the roof to some young men while the morning desire to be remembered. No one wants for a season, would be carry away with prayer ascended to God from the fluence, an unmixed moral evil. It to be forgotten by his friends. No him the conviction that it was a Chris- family altar. Some have been guided drowned the voice of a well-instructed

repeats to us this desire of our Master, "Remember Me. Do not forget Me." Nothing has done more to keep His precious memory alive in the world through these centuries than the continued obeying of his dying request, for the Lord's Supper, wherever it is spread in the eyes of men, witnesses to the wonderful love of Christ and to the costly sacrifice made by Him in the redeeming of the world.

From the upper room we have this precious feast of memorial, and while we observe it reverently and with tender affection, the circle around that first table widens out and we find ourselves sitting in the company of Christ's friends, as the first disciples sat that night, partaking of His body and blood, and entering into the closest communion with Him.

address. In its every sentence we hear the heart-beat of the Master. From beginning to end it throbs with tender love. It opened to the disciples windows through which they looked into the future. It told them of the Father's house to which Jesus was going and where He would prepare a place for them. It told them of the coming of the Comforter and then made plain to them what their part would be as branches in the Vine, bearing fruit to feed the world's

Part of the Master's farewell words were answers to questions which certain of His disciples asked Him. These men had their difficulties and He helped them with these. After the conversations Jesus made His bequests, leaving the gifts of peace and joy to His friends. He had blessed We do not positively know where it them in wonderful ways during His was, but probably it was in the house life, but the best things of His love

When the farewell words were ended, good man of the house, 'the man bear- then followed the great intercessory ing a pitcher of water, whom the two prayer, in which Jesus gave His disdisciples followed, and who showed ciples into the keeping of His Father, them a large upper room furnished and now that He must leave them Himself. His pleading was full of tender love. Wherever this room was, it was made It was like that of a mother about to sacred by what took place in it that leave this earth, and who is commendnight. We may suppose that it was ing her children to the care of God. in this same room also that three nights | His wish for His disciples was, not afterward the disciples were gathered that they should be taken out of the when Jesus appeared alive among them, world to miss its persecutions and its showed them His hands and His feet, temptations, but that they should and said, "Peace be unto you." Here, stay in the world to witness for Him, too, seven weeks later, the disciple being kept meanwhile from the evil of company were together in prayer when the world. There was a pleading also the Holy Spirit came upon them. Some that they should be led into complete years after this we find Mary's house consecration of spirit, and should be the scene of an all-night meeting for to the world what He had been to

When the prayer was ended, the In the dusk of the evening the Mase | Master and His eleven disciples left before Him, but His heart was full of meet the anguish of the Garden and

holy calm of the Master was the spirit | There never has been on earth of the disciples. It would seem that another meeting of such wondrously even in that sacred hour there was a deep and sacred meaning and influence strife among them for precedence, a as that farewell meeting in the upper contention as to which of them was room. There the friendship of Jesus the greatest. It hurt the heart of and His disciples reached its holiest It is not a little thing. The restrain-Jesus to hear their murmurings, but experience. The yearning of His love He spoke no word of chiding. He appears in His giving up the whole of arose quietly from His place, and, re- this last evening to this tryst with His moving His outer garments and gird- own. He did it for His own sake, ing Himself like a slave, He took and we may be sure He received from water in a basin and began to wash the the sweet communing strength which disciples' feet. This is one of the pic- helped Him in the bitter hours which tures of Jesus we should never let fade | followed. He did it also for the sake out of our thought-Jesus with the of His friends, and the memory of basin and towel. It tells us of an those blessed experiences hung over essential part of His work - "If I wash | them like a star in all the darkness of thee not, thou hast no part with Me." | their sorrow, and was a benediction to

Then who can tell what blessings for the ages since that night? It is Among the company Jesus had the holy of holies of Christian history.

Daily Devotions in the Home.

be an altar in every house, and that for their children in their presence are myself. I lost the spirit of subordinareligion should sanctify everything in | not in vain. The larger part of the | tio ; did not love work; imbibed the After the departure of Judas came every home. What can be said of a history of each one is unwritten. Could spirit of idleness, and, in short, drank

of Jesus that He so craved to be kept and mother are members of the Church, in mind by His friends. The Lord's but no prayer that can be heard by Supper, every time we partake of it, the children is offered there from the beginning to the end of the year. We are told that this is a growing evil. In former days family prayer in Christian homes was the rule. Now it is thought to be the exception. If this is true, it is an alarming truth. One needs to inquire no further to understand what s the matter with the churches. If family religion is declining, all religion must decline; and if this decline shall continue, the time is not far distant when the churches will be empty and conversions will cease.

In former days pastoral visits meant more than they do now. The old time pastor went to the homes of the people, not to talk on secular questions or enjoy a social hour, but to inquire into the religious state of the family, to give counsel and stimulate religious life. Men now living can remember After the Supper came the farewell | the time when the pastor was wont to ask the head of the family whether family prayers were maintained regularly in the home. There may have been something embarrassing in such questions. It would seem now as though this were going too far. Perhaps the present generation would not tolerate such inquiries. But have we not gone to the opposite extreme Could not the pastor do much to aid parents in maintaining family religion in the home? Is the indifference of pastors to this important feature of Christian life justifiable? If pastors should set about the work diligently, conscientiously, and persistently, could not hundreds of broken down family altars be repuilt? Could they do a better work?

There are many hindrances in the way of family prayers in this day. Parents are pressed for time. In the morning the father must eat his breakfast while his children are in bed, and hurry away to catch a train or a boat, and travel many miles to reach his place of business. When he returns at night the children have retired. When the sons and daughters are old enough to go to school they are also under a constant pressure of duty. In some cases they must study far into the night and leave home early in the morning. The new conditions which have come with our great cities, our educational enterprise, and our advancing civilization are not friendly to daily family devotions. But it will never do to allow so important an interest as family prayer to be crowded out of our life. The business and education which demand so much time are not more important than this. The life of the Church of God, the spiritual life of our children, the good of the nation, are at stake. Better conduct family prayer every day, even though only a part of the family may be present to participate. One Christian woman was so jealous of this great family interest that she sometimes conducted family prayers in the parlor alone. But the children who were preparing for breakfast could hear her voice in prayer, and it was not in vain.

What is more seemly or more profitable than this feature of family life? ng power of the morning prayer in the home is very great. Both parents and children feel it through the day. The father who offers a fervent prayer for the care of divine Providence over himself and his children will feel the influence of that prayer when temptation arises and dangers threaten. That prayer is the keynote of the day. Whatever is out of harmony with it will produce a rude shock and cause anxious thought. That prayer sanctifies the secular affairs of the day.

Daily devotional services in the home tend to familiarize the children with religion. It is to them a part of their daily life. The domestic affections and memories are insensibly euchre tempts in the direction of mingled with religious emotions. The son who is brought up in such an atmosphere will feel a golden chain about his spirit wherever he may go in the world, holding him to the best things. ories of home and religion are insepar- but in measured time, and was conably united in his mind. Many a way- stantly tripping, moving, and shuffling ward son has been brought back to the in all times and places. I grew impaths of virtue and religion by the patient of control, was fond of comsacred memories of the family altar, pany, and wished to mingle more than

of fathers and mothers.

prayer continue to rise in the sanctuary where the multitudes assemble. All those who believe in religion realize the importance of secret prayer. They will admit that if secret prayer should be abandoned it would not be long before religion itself would be abandoned. Is family prayer less important? If this should fall into disuse, will not the kingdom of God suffer as much as it would if men should cease to offer public prayer? This is a serious matter which calls for serious thought, self-examination, and action. Where no family altar has been established let it be done at once. In those homes where the fires have gone out and the altars have fallen into decay let them be speedily rebuilt and the fires of family worship re kindled, never more to burn low. I family prayer should be observed in the right spirit in all the homes of the Church, wonderful changes for the better would soon take place. Is it not a solemn duty? Can we refuse or postpone duty without guilt and shame; -- Chris. Advocate.

The Leading of Providence. We are very much impressed by little incident in the life of the now sainted Rev. T. S. Winn, told us the other day by a gentleman who was at the time a member of one of hi churches. On one occasion, when Mr. Winn was preaching at Carthage church in Hale county, Ala., while the hymn that immediately preceded the sermon was being sung, he discovered that he had failed to bring with him the sermon he intended to preach. He was accustomed, as are so many of manuscript, and it was with consider- his extended hand. able trepidation that he thought of his predicament. He hastily took the Bible from the sacred desk, and opened at once at the passage of Scripture that he had used as the basis of his week before. All the divisions of his subject came back to him in an instant, and he preached with unwonted force

and unction. At the conclusion of the service, Dr. B-, one of the elders, came to him as he was leaving the pulpit, and with tears streaming down his face, thanked him for the good his sermon had done him. He told the of his differences with one of the memhad enabled him so to preach as to cause him to see his fault, which he would lose no time in correcting. Mr. Winn had heard nothing of it.

As Mr. Winn was about to leave the church grounds, he was stopped sults, and was informed that he had been powerfully awakened by the sermon to see himself a sinner in God's sight. He soon thereafter connected bottle accomplished a perfect cure. himself with the church.

Was not the preacher under the direct leading of God when he forgot his sermon, and was led to make a direct appeal to the heart and conscience of these two men?—Christian Companion.

A NEGLECTED COLD is very dangerous, and the farther it goes the faster it goes. A very small quantity of Adamson's Botanic Balsam will cure a 'young" cough. An older one requires more Balsam to stop it—but no cough is too old for it to cure. 25c. at all Druggists.

Dr. Adam Clarke on Dancing.

That dancing exerts a fascinating, dissipating influence upon young people is as certain as it is that rum inebriates and that familiarity with gambling. In evidence of this we have the testimony of the above named great scholar and Bible commertator. Of the influence and effects on him of dancing, when a young man, he wrote

I learned to dance; I grew passionately fond of it. Would scarcely walk and thousands of others have been I had ever done with young people. 1 kept from wandering by the same holy also got a passion for better clothing than that which fell to my lot in life, Besides all this, prayer is answered. and I was discontented when I found Surely God means that there should The daily prayers which parents offer a neighbor's son dressed better than

Dancing was to me a perverting inin the choice of a secular pursuit in conscience, and was the first cause of might not be remembered after he is Family prayer is neglected in many the same way. The most important impelling me to seek my happiness in gone. It told also of the humanness so-called Christian homes. The father events in the history of the children this life. And I can testify that I

have been determined by the prayers have known it to produce in othe s the same evils it produced in me. No one would think of dispensing consider it, therefore, as a branch of with public prayer. Let the voice of that worldly education which leads from heaven to earth, from things spiritual to things sensual, and from God to Satan. Let them plead for it who will, I know it to be an evil, and that only. They who bring up their children in this way, or send them to those schools where a cing is taught. are consecrating them to the service of Moloch. "No man in his senses will dance," said Cicero, a hea hen. Shame on those Christians who advocate a cause by which many s ns have become profligate and many caughters have been ruined.

> LAKE TITICACA, in South America, has the peculiar quality that prevents metal from rusting in its waters. A chain or an anchor or any article of ordinary iron can be thrown into it and remain for weeks, and when it is hauled up it will be as clean and bright as when it came from the foundry. And, what is stranger still, rust that has been formed upon metallic objects elsewhere will peel off when mmersed in its waters. This is frequently noticed by railway and steamship men. Rusty car wheels and rails, and even machinery, can be brightened by soaking them in the waters of this lake, There is a fountain that has power to cleanse the stains of sin and guilt from the human heart. Cowper sings about it in his famous hymn There is a fountain filled with blood

Drawn from Immanuel's veins; And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, Lose all their guilty stains."

Our stewardship of God's bounties s a real or e, for we must yield up all

Our blessings are as much from God our older ministers, to preaching from as though we took them directly from

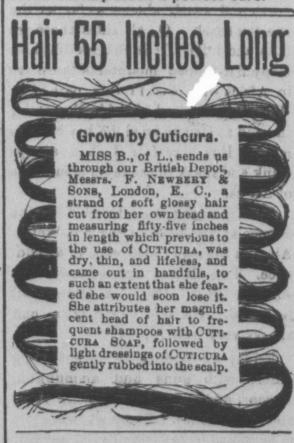
God's love is just as great in a poor harvest as in a rich one, for all our blessings do not go into the corn-crib. He who spends saves, he who hoards wastes, for money is not an end in remarks in the prayer-meeting of the itself to be sought for. It is a means to be used for spiritual good, which is the real end .- Our Morning Guide.

> It is a royal thing to be ill spoken of for good deeds.—Marcus Aurelius.

Defect in manners is usually the defect of fine perceptions. Elegance comes of no breeding, but of birth.

Make sure that however good you may be, you have faults; that howminister he was glad he had been told ever dull you may be, you can find out what they are : and that however bers of the church, as the information | slight they may be, you would better make some patient effort to get quit of them.—Ruskin.

SORE FEET -Mrs. E. J. Neill, New Armagh, P. Q., writes: "For nearly six months I was troubled with burning aches and pains in my feet, to such an extent that I could not sleep at by a man who had long attended upon night, and as my feet were badly his ministry without any apparent re- swollen I could not wear my boots for weeks. At last I got a bottle of Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil and resolved to try it, and to my astonishment I got almost instant relief, and the one



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I doctored back and forth for my

ness, but I got no relief from any m until I tried Milburn's Heart and Pills, and I can say that they he wonderfully. Sometimes my for arms would swell and puff, but a troubles speedily yielded to the influences of Milburn's Heart and Pills, and I am now strong and did not use them long until I regul blessing of healthful, refreshing sh it will always be a pleasure to recommend them to others."

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