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In pastures green? Not always; sometimes He who knoweth best, in kindness leadeth

In weary ways, where heavy shadows be:

Out of the sunshine, warm and soft and bright; Out of the sunshine into darkest night.

I oft wou'd faint with sorrow and affright, Only for this-I know he holds my hand. So whether in green or desert land,

I trust, although I may not understand. And by still waters? No, not always so; Ofttimes the heavy tempest round me

blows. And o'er my soul the waves and billows

But when the storms beat loudest, and I Aloud for help, the Master standeth by,

And wispers to my soul, 'Lo, it is I!"

Above the tempest wild I hear him say, "Beyond this darkness lies the perfect day, In every path of thine I lead the way."

So, whether on the hill-tops high and fair I dwell, or in the sunless valleys, where The shadows lie, what matter? He is

He gives to me no helpless, broken reed But his own hand, sufficient for his need,

So, where he leads me I can safely go, And in the blest hereafter I shall know Why, in his wisdom, he hath led me so. -Anon.

### The Trifles of Life.

BY REV. G. B. F. HALLOCK, D. D.

When Jacob "lighted upon a certain place," it seemed to him as only an incident, as one of the trifles of life. At best, the spot where he tarried seemed only a fairly fortunate one for a night's lodging. He chose the spot only for sleeping. In the morning he would take up his journey again. But, as some one has well said : "Little did he know that what he called the chance was to be the pivot of destiny. God's plan was quite different from his own Jacob tarried there all night only be cause the sun was set. God made his sun set there that he might be forced to tarry there. The critical moment of his life had come, and it had come at sleeping time. Jacob's hour of sleep was to be the first hour of his real awakening. In that place, on that night, he was to have a dream, and his dream was to be his first reality. He was to have a higher birthright than the possession of flocks and herds-a ladder of inspiration, whose top reached unto heaven, and on whose steps he might climb towards the infinite. ... .. It was worth while to light upon such a place to get such a dream!

"My soul, never talk of the accidents of the life. Never say that any spot, and confides in his leader, he looks up however deserted, that any pillow, however stony, has come to thee by chance. The stone which thou rejectest may be the head of the corner. The stray moment which thou despisest may be the pivot on which thy fate revolves. The sleep which thou callest princely strength-thy prevailing power with God and man. Tread solemnly the trifling paths of existence. Walk reverently through the days that seem to thee without meaning. Uncover thy head in the presence of things which the world calls commonp'ace, for the steps of the commonplace way may be thy ladder from earth to heaven."

The infiniteness of God consists in his ability to comprehend and use all things finite and infinite. Because God is observant of us. Our lives are made up of little things, and not only does God judge our character by our conduct in little things, but the things which seem to us little may be the most important of all. They may control destiny here and hereafter.

Another fact is that little things may have a mighty influence for harm. little irritations of temper, little fibs, small spites and small affronts are the line of the school. At last the teach hall is shortened, the chairs are taken Bible as literature, to worship as an "foxes" that will spoil a very problockade a locomotive and its train So the aggregate amount of incondestroy many a Christian's influence. and impede the progress of the Church. What a mischief a little handful of fire from was not worth fifty cents, but it ]

hundred thousand dollars. God emphasizes our responsibility for every about her work. But at last the stub. more than a ton of sentiment, we wish cause of all the trouble. "No sin is so small that God does not forbid it. No virtue is so minute that God does not require it."

kill your tree," said a man once to a long one. It was a struggle with hergardener in his park. Sure enough, self rather than with her teacher. the gardener neglected the little borer, and next year yellow leaves showed of the most obedient and high-minded stant assiduity: for the time is coming in their own hearts for the cause of that the tree had been assassinated by scholars in the school. the worm. Facts prove that most of the spiritual declensions, and the most divine Master. He calls us, pleads lamentable bankruptcies of character, began with the indulgence of small makes the was easy for us. But with sins. No sin is a trifle, and little things may have a mighty influence for harm in our lives or over other lives.

Little things, on the other hand, may have a mighty influence for good The children sing how-

"Little drops of water, Little grains of sand, Make the mighty ocean and the beauteous land.

You remember the little speech you used to make, beginning: "Great oaks from little acorns grow." Well, it is ittle acts. One sentence converted the And more than this: where'er the pathway | juilor of Philippi. A word of praise from his mother made Benjamin West a painter. A kind sentence or two of commendation bestowed on a short talk in prayer made Rev. Dr. Theodore L. follow his leader whithersoever he may Cuyler, of Brooklyn, a minister. On a hot summer's day a farmer's daughter | battle, ready to endure hardness, responded to a request from Rev. Dr. Wm. Wisner, of Ithaca, for a cup of cold water. He repaid her by a kind and tender word about Jesus as the water of life. Years afterwards she had the opportunity to thank him, telling him that his words had led her

Look carefully after the small thing of life, and the big things will take care of themselves, for it takes only a certain number of small thing to make a big thing. A mountain is simply a huge pile of small bits of sand and gravel and rock. The fields and forests are green, these summer days, because they are covered with such a host of minute grass blades and leaves; each of them, all by its own little self, takes care to keep green and bright.

There are no trifles in life. May God help us to understand the import ance of little things, and to be "faithful in that which is least," in order that every moment of our lives may be spent so as to yield results for God .-Chris. Observer.

## The Ready Man.

The prominent characteristic of th thristian is readiness. In this he is distinguished from all others. He is ready to receive any order from his Lord and to obey. Standing like a loyal soldier who thoroughly believes into the face of his Lord and says "What wilt Thou have me to do?"

With other men it is not so. They have chosen to have their own will. They, too, hear the voice of the Lord, and, for the most part, they acknowledge His authority, but they protest weakness, may be the origin of thy that they are not ready. When Felix the marriage; and the door was shut, heard Paul reason concerning righteousness, temperance, and judgement to come, the voice of God touched his heart and he trembled, but he was not ready to forsake his sins- Felix dismissed the apostle with a patronizing promise that when he should find a convenient season he would call for him. Amazing audacity! Puny man presumes to require the Almighty God to wait his convenience!

turn to God when first they hear the call. The blind are not ready to rebecause they are not ready to yield to the authority of their rightful Master

We are often great sinners in little of an incorrigible scholor who was so resting-place. Sooner or later, and and give the second place to God, things. Little meannesses of conduct, willful and disobedient as to be a con- in one way or another, they are all Men may become devoted to the mising grape-vine. A snow-flake is a of authority to definite and sharp is no one to occupy them, and the ten. In such a church prayer is an very small thing, but enough of them issue. Drawing a circle with chalk on old folks are left to each other as ab- empty form, preaching is sounding rebellious child within that small tersistencies in acts and neglects of duty she could not cross the boundary line began life together. Well, indeed, is religious effort are unavailing. Then These snow-banks block up revivals obey. It was a severe test of nerve once wrought in Chicago! What wide- looked upon her with an eye of pity union between two human beings. spread evil has been done in a church and compassion, and, desiring earnestby a single scandal or a single quarrel! ly to make the way as easy as possible not even the experience of fifty years improved." Another says: "The A big ocean steamer once went on the she asked the child whether she was had disenchanted of the glowing trouble is in the polity of the church. rocks and was totally wrecked, because not ready to obey. Without speaking ideals that floated before their vision Give us a change here and there, and some one had carelessly broken off a a word, with compressed lips and debit of the point of a knife blade in fiant look she gave her teacher to un-

her weary head upon her shoulder, glory to fade out of wedded life, and with a sigh that came from the bot- suffers it to become a dull, monotontom of her heart, she said, "I am "Let that worm alone and it will ready." The struggle was a hard and But when it was over she became one

with us, waits for us, pities us and compressed lips and defiant look we give Him to understand what we do not say with words, that we have made up our minds not to yield. "The heart of the sons of men is fully set in them." We will have our own way. But when the struggle is over, and we yield to our Lord, henceforth we are ready to hear His dictates and obey. Herein is a good test of faith. If we are not ready to do whatever He commands, we have good reason to doubt the thoroughness of our conversion true that great results grow from very and the genuineness of our religion. By this test many a religious profession is found to be nothing more than a hollow pretense. The true Christian is always ready to hear what Christ will say. The soldier stands ready to lead; ready to march, ready to go into ready to die in the discharge of duty.

ly competent and perfectly safe. The soldier holds himself in readiness to love, the gentleness, the self-denial, hear the orders of his commander and that finds in that divine sphere the he is human and liable to err. In some cases he knows that his superior officer air, but become incorporate in the in utterly incompetent and almost sure to blunder. Those are grand lines in which Tennyson sings The Charge of the LightBrigade:

"Forward, the Light Brigade!" Was there a man dismayed? Not though the soldiers knew Some one had blundered. Theirs not to make reply, Theirs not to reason why, Theirs but to do and die. Into the jaws of death Rode the six hundred!"

But Tennyson could not sing in such a strain concerning our army or our leader. He never blundered. He cannot blunder. He is a safe Leader Therefore His followers are ready.

fo Christ. "Be ready always to give an answer to everyone that asketh you a reason for the hope that is in you.' They are ready to work for Christ. Be ready to every good work."

They are ready to suffer for Christ What mean ye to weep and break my heard? I am ready, not only to be bound, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus."

the son of man cometh." "And they that were ready went in with Him to

## The Dissolution of the Home.

Few things are sadder than the gradual dissolution of a family circle. When, moreover, it once begins, it goes forward with a rapidity that is almost startling. The eldest son, it may be, dissatisfied with his narrow surroundings, takes his journey into some far country to seek a better for-Few men are ready to repent and tune; or the eldest daughter, obeying the deepest instinct of a woman's nature, listens to the voice of a ceive their sight. The lame are not stranger, and forsakes with a light from a soul or a church the life has ready to receive strength to walk. and hopeful heart the roof that shel- gone out also. Other things amount Lepers are not ready to be cleansed. tered her girlhood, to become the to little. What are wealth and cul-Sinners are not ready to be plucked as mistress of a new home. Then the ture and refinement and music and brands from the burning. All this younger children follow in quick suc- art in the church without God? Good cession. Some of them, most likely, as these things are, they are, are wrapped in white robes, and borne 'only accessories. It is possible for us A school-teacher in the West tells forth amid blinding tears to their last to give the first place to these things stant menace to the order and disc p- gone. The long table in the dining church as an organization, to the er felt called on to bring the question out of the family room because there entertainment. Then God is forgotthe floor, she placed the stubborn and solutely as they were in those far- brass, and worship is a mere perfordistant days when under bright mance, S nners are not converted, ritory, giving her to understand that skies and with buoyant spirits they the kingdom of God is not enlarged, until she was ready to submit and it for them if the young love that once the inquiry, "What is the matter animated their hearts has deepened with the church ?" is heard on every power and will power. When the and ripened into that rational affecweary body began to droop the teacher tion which is the most sacred bond of ter. It never was in better condition.

when they first set their feet in the the cause will prosper as in former Would that there were more such! preaching they hear. It is not suffici- with it. Her heart was fully set in her to At the risk of being sneered at by that ently eloquent, learned, or attractive. alue in Diphtheria, Sore Throat, Quing destroyed a vessel that was worth five have her own way. Hour after hour large class of people to whom a bushel Still another points to the worldly ad Ulcerated Tonsils. A large bottle age

passed away, and the teacher went of corn or an ounce of silver is worth lives of some of the members as the act. Christ bids us be careful to keep | born heart yielded, and, touching her | to protest against the criminal carlessthe least" of his commandments, teacher gently on the arm, and laying ness and indifference that allows all the tions and recriminations will take the ous, and commonplace thing. It is a matter of vast importance that husbands and wives, instead of losing their tender interest in each other, should but each one thinks his neighbor is to cultivate this holy feeling with conwhen it may be the only human re-So we often try the patience of our source upon which they can draw for

> old man and his old wife trying still to keep a cheerful spirit in the empty house that once rang with the laugh- with God. Me hods and machinery ter of happy children. But it is not are not useless but without God they without features that relieve it of its sadness. No true home was ever created in vain. In the order of God's fruitlessness begin to be manifested it providence it serves a useful pur- is a sure sign that the peop'e have pose, hough it may afterward perish from the earth, and even the memory of it utterly decay. One of the failures. Begin in the right place. most inestimable blessings that a boy or girl can carry with him into the busy world is the recollection of the dear familiar harthstone on which, perhaps, no fire now glows, and around which no cheer ul faces gather. This reco lection is strength against temptation, courage in the teeth of hard conflict, fortitude un er the pressure of grievous disappointment, and il uminating hope when sun, moon and stars are obscured by cloud and There is one consideration which spiritual quality in the family life of later generations. The purity, the obey them, even when he knows that fittest theater for their display and you find you can't for by that time character of the children, and are transmitted in increasing volume to bless the souls of men and women still unborn. It is a question that all parents may well ask themselves, whether they are making such homes as will still be telling for good long after they themselves have gone.

"Beneath the low green tent, Whose curtain never outward swings. -Christian Advocate.

### Losing Touch With God.

Individuals and churches do sometimes lose God out of their life. They once knew him and enjoyed sweet fel-They are ready to bear testimony lowship with him every day. The evidences of His presence were with them in the victories which they achieved and the fruits of their labors. The joy of the Lord and the peace of God filled their souls. But a change has taken place.

In some cases it is very easy to tell how this all happened. Some great sin committed at a definite time grieved the Spirit of God, and from that They are ready to die. "I am now hour they have walked in darkness. ready to be offered." Be ye also ready, In other cases the cause is not as clear for in such an hour, as ye think not Men lose the joys of God's salvation without knowing exactly when or where or how. They are not conscious of any particular sin whereby they grieved Him. But a change has taken place, and they are no longer the men of God they once were. Like Samson when shorn of his locks, they have to be awakened by some emergency to find out what has happened. It is said that "Samson wist not that the Lord had departed from him." He thought he was as mighty as ever. But when he rose up to shake himself and go out against his enemies he dis covered that his power was gone. He was weak as other men.

When the Spirit of God departs side. One says : Nothing is the mat-I see no cause for complaint. I do We have known aged couples whom | not know how the church could be

The danger is that mutual criminaplace of prayer and holy living. Brotherly kindness goes out and bitterness comes in. The members have no confidence in one another. Perhaps there is no room for confidence, blame, and few, if any, think to look the trouble. They know not that the Lord has departed from them. The great need is that each one shall come back to God. Enter into he secret It is a pathetic picture, this of the place of the Most High and seek a renewal of spiritual life.

The great need of the churches and of the country today is a closer walk avail nothing. They are only useful when God is in them and in the hearts of His people. When weakness and lost touch with God. In is needless to inquire about other troubles. This one is sufficient to account for all our When the heart is right with God it will be easy to make all other adjustments. All other things will fall into place readily. Many are singing, "Nearer, my God, to Thee." It is well to sing it, but so long as we come no nearer to Him the song will not avail much. How long shall we sing and continue to follow Him afar off? Chris. Advocate.

### The Hacking Cough.

One of the meanest things to get and tempest. Whatever is of high rid of is a hacking cough. There is apparently no cause for it. No soreshould aid us in coming to this happy abides, and passes on a quickening involentary efforts of the muscles of ness, no irritation at first; but the state of mind. Our leader is perfect- force into the thought and aspiration the throat to get rid of something is almost constant. Of course, with many cough is a habit, but it is a bad habit, and should be stopped When you realize this and try to stop it, exercise, do not evaporate into empty there is an actual irritation, which will never get better without treat-

It is a curious thing that nearly all treatment for cough actually makes the cough worse. Then, too, most medicines for cough have a bad effect in the stomach. This is especially true of so-called cough remedies that contain a narcotic. The true treatment for cough is one that heals the critated surfaces. This is what Adamson's Botanic

Cough Balsom does. It protects the throat also while the healing process is going on. When this remedy was first compounded our old men were young boys, and all this time has been doing a steady work of healing throats. The most obstinate hacking cough will quickly show the effect of the Balsam. People who have been trying for years to break up the mean little cough, will find a ure friend in this old-time soothing compound made from the barks and gums of trees. All druggists sell Adamson's Botanic Balsam.

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In the case of Rheumatism, Neuralgia, ams Back, or muscular soreness the Oi ives wonderful relief.

For Caked Breasts or Cracked Nipples. hich cause women so much suffering sey will find nothing to equal Troop Oil Internally the Oil may be taken with reat benefit for Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis long road which begins at a marriage days." Another believes that the the internal use of the Oil, the throat tightening a screw in the compass- derstand that her mind was made up altar and ends in an open grave. difficulty is to be found in the kind of eck, and chest should be rubbed thorough

## WOMEN WILL TAL

Can't Blame them for ling each other about burn's Heart and Ne Pills.



It's only natural that when a woman a remedy which cures her of nervou and weakness, relieves her pains aches, puts color in her cheek and vita her whole system, she should be ar to let her suffering sisters know of it. Mrs. Hannah Holmes, St. James S St. John, N.B., relates her experience this remedy as follows:-" For some I have been troubled with fluttering heart and dizziness, accompanied smothering feeling which prevente from resting. My appetite was poo was much run down and debilitated "Since I started using Milburn's and Nerve Pills, the smothering fe has gone, my heart beat is now re the fluttering has disappeared, and I been wonderfully built up through the effect of the pills. I now feel stronge better than for many years, and c say too much in praise of the remedy restored my long lost health."



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