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### The Near Christ,

So far beyond the things of space-So high above the things of time-And yet, how human is Thy face, How near, how neighborly, Thy clim:

Thou wast not born to fill our skies With luster from some alien zone; Thy light, Thy love, Thy sympathies, Thy very essence, are our own.

Thy mission, Thy supreme estate, Thy life among the pious poor, Thy lofty language to the great, Thy touch, so tender and so sure;

Thine eyes, whose looks are with us yet Thy voice, whose echoes do not die; Thy words, which none who hear forget, So piercing are they and so high:

Thy balanced nature, always true And always dauntless and serene, Which did the deeds none else could do, And saw the sights none else had seen,

And ruled itself from first to last,

Without an effort or a pause,

By no traditions of the past--By no hing save its own pure laws: All this and thousand traits beside, Unseen till these at least are known

May serve to witness far and wide That Thou art He, and Thou alone. Ah, none shall see Thee as Thou art, Or know Thee for himself at all, Until he has Thee in his heart,

And heeds Thy whisper or Thy call,

And feels that in Thy sovereign will Eternal Manhood grows not old, But keeps its prime, that all may fill Thy large, illimitable fold -Arthur Munby.

### Songs In the Night.

body and griefs of soul as well as others, but he does not sorrow even as others who have no hope. Out of the better land. depths he cries unto God, and He delivers him. His cry is not merely a cry of distress, but rather a cry of joy. The Chris ian has joy in sorrow. The waters are never deep enough to overwhelm him. In the darkest hour he can sing. Songs which are born in broken hearts and rise from the abyss of darkness are the sweetest songs.

of some of our best hymns, was a great sufferer. In childhood she met with an accident which rendered her a lifelong invalid. To add to her disappointments, she was engaged to be married to a worthy young man whom | think they are entitled to the release she loved with all the tenderness of from these duties which they are her ardent nature. All preparations for the wedding were made, the day arrived and the hour when the bridegroom was expected to appear, which a messenger came to the door with the appalling intelligence that he had just based upon and has its inspiration in lost his life by drowning. Her life was broken and crushed. All the light allegance is conditioned upon the deof her earthly hope was quenched. claration, Thou shalt love the Lord She bore her grief with Christian fortitude, and consecra ed her life to the service of God in works of charity and

Out of the depths of a wounded spirit, crushed by sorrow but comforted by grace, she wrote this beautiful and tender hymn:

"Father, whate'er of earthly bliss Thy sovereign will denies, Accepted at Thy throne of grace, Let this petition rise:

"Give me a calm, a thankful heart From every murmur free; The blessings of Thy grace impart, And make me live to Thee.

"Let the sweet hopethat Thouart min My life and death attend; Thy presence through my journey shine, And crown my journey's end.'

like that in time of sorrow? Can atheism, can paganism, can skeptical philosophy, can science, can worldly pleas. music in the depths? We may find polished literature, elegant poetry, classic music in other fields, but no God, no hope, no salvation, no consolation to inspire the song and tune the

fear. worry comes in to hinder prayer and the direction of the Holy Spirit, not, and calling, there comes no work and progress, there is nothing wrought so marvelously and success- answer. on there be perfect serenity sympathy with young hearts; keep in better than a Christian song to quiet the quivering nerves, to cool the fevered brain, and lift up the hands that hang down. It is Longfellow who things that fashioned his character,

"Such songs have power to quiet The restless spirit of care;

And come like a benediction Tnat follows after prayer.

And the night shall be filled with music, And the cares that infest the day Shall fold their tents like the Arabs, And as silently steal away.'

One reason why saints sing in the night is, they see the morning beginning to dawn. "Sorrow may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning." "The morning cometh." The shadows soon flee away. We shall not always dwell in the depths. There is a better country. Better than Canaan in its palmiest days, when honey trickled from the rocks, when the hills were covered with vineyards, and flocks and herds lay down in green pastures. Better than our own country which we love so well. This is a good country. It is a broad, fertile, rich, beautiful land, inhabited by a brave, free, intelligent, and happy people, with the best government under the sun. But there is a better country. It is inhabited by a nobler people, who dwell together in greater peace and harmony under a better government. Compared with that heavenly country, this is not very desirable. It is often dark and dreary here. The best men often have darkness and sorrow. But they can sing:

"We are traveling home to God, In the way our fathers trod; They are happy now, and we Soon their happiness shall see."

Then let the shadows lengthen. Let the night be ever so dark. We shall not cease our singing. Paul and Silas sang in the night. Those who s ng amid the shadows of this world shall also sing amid the glories of the heav-The Christian has his afflictions of enly world. Let the night be filled with music, and the journey will soon end a nid the immortal symphonies of that

### Motives of Christian Service.

The coming of the summer season, with its opportunities for temporary release from the usual routine of life seems to be seized upon by some Christians as a notification of release from the ordinary activities of the Miss Anna Steele, the gifted author | Christian life. They say that after months of faithful attendance upon the services of the church and the performances of every duty devolving upon them as members of the Chnrch and of the Christian community, they under the impression they need. The impression is a mistaken one, and the ideal of Christian service which the impression illustrates is a faulty and dangerous one. Christian service is allegiance with Jesus Christ, and this with all thy heart, and with all thy strength and with all thy mind, which is reinforced by the command, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. It is, therefore, the blossom and fruit of a profound and over mastering affection manifested toward the divine Master on the one hand and toward humanity on the other.

True Christian service is absolutely free from selfishness. It yields rich and abundant reward, but the securement of this reward is not in its primary and impelling motive. The service is rendered in response to the command uttered by the Master when He instituted the sacrament of the supper, "Do this in remembrance of Me." The example of Him who "came not to be ministered unto, but to Can anyone except a Christian sing minister," is constantly before the disciple, and his service, of whatever sort it may be, is the utterance of an ure or worldly honor inspire such desire to perpetuate among men the

"Though I walk through the valley of these responsibilities. He will rather subject of ridicule the shadow of death, I will fear no rejoice that he has been found worthy So the opportunity passes. The evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod to have a part in the working out of souls have been within speaking disand Thy staff they comfort me." The any of God's beneficient plans for the tance but have failed to communicate inger did not know that anyone was benefit of men. No greater honor can with each other. Each goes on its simism. Losses are unduly magnified near. Unwittingly he was inspiring come to him than to be designated as way. The friend of Christ, who might comfort and strength into a weary a colaborer with God, and to be identi- have won a soul to him, has been spirit almost ready to faint in the fied as such, and to be associated in silent, ash med, afraid. What wonder of the things that are old, and darkness. There is nothing like a the great work of human redemption if to that faithless friend there comes are all the better for having been well spiritual song to drive away doubt and with the disciples, apostles, saints, the sad experience that the Beloved tested, let us not seek to put our eyes And when the spirit of care and have, under the inspiration of God and that, seeking the Spirit, it finds him in the past. fully in the world.

> when asked to indicate some of the important a duty?-Margaret E. said that chief among them was Nelson's thrilling message to the fleet under his command at Trafalgar, purchased at the price of eternal tears. an old book.

"England expects every man to do his duty." Now, while there can be no doubt of the value of such a sentiment in inspiring men to fidelity and to heroic exertion, yet much depends upon the quickening motive back of the performance of duty. One may discharge his duty in an indifferent and perfunctory way, and yet meet all the legal and moral requirements of the situation. But when the impelling motive is a deep and abiding affection the act is glorified. The supreme test of love is sacrifice, and the Christian in whose heart the tender and all-pervading love of God has been shed abroad, will rejoice in every occasion that puts that love to

With one's idea of Christian service based upon these high principles it will not be easy for the sincere follower of Jesus Christ to seek fr release from the sweet and satisfying responsibilities of Christian service, fr it will be contrary to the instincts of his spiritual nature to desire it. Rather he will welcome the opportunities for service as intimations from God to give practical evidence of the work of grace in his own heart and life, and as tokens of his own personal acceptability in the sight of God. As to the rewards of his service he will not greatly concern himself, being assured that faithful performance on his part will win for him at last that supreme mark of divine approval, "Well, done, good and faithful servant !" - N. Y.

### The Personal Factor.

Again and again we need to emphaize the fact that organizations are only the means through which vital force expresses itself, and that, for every kindlof Christian work, the personal factor in the problem is of supreme importance. The method of Jesus with his friends is the great example Christian people must be done. It is machinery of the church. It is by put ting two persons into living relations with each other as friends, where one gives his best to the other, that men are to be won to the kingdom of God.

The secret of success for every church lies in this matter of personal work, definite, persistent and prayerful, for others. The preacher can reach the audience that gathers in the public service but his message must be taken up by the members of the church, and carried in personal conversation and appeal to those who are outside the church, if it is to be finally effective. We need to work back to the simplicity and power of the method of Jesus with the Twelve. A church may have a perfect equipment, its members may be wealthy, its pastor newest sort; but unless there is a united body of members who are willing to work personally for the conversion of individuals, even such a church cannot make permanent gains The personal factor is the most important of all. No church can do its work without the personal assistance of every member working for definite results with their friends who are outside the kingdom of God. - Zion's Herald.

# Why Do We Hesitate?

A strange reluctance comes over miny when they try to talk about the soul and its relation to God. It is felt instinctive, and generally unconscious by the converted and the unconverted. Very often the gay young girl, whose gracious and self-sacrificing spirit of heart is running over with mirth and devotement to humankind manifested fun, and whose speech sparkles with so richly and wonderfully by the Lord | wit and humor, has deep in her consciousness the feeling that she is un-This being so, there is no justifica- satisfied - that she wants something tion whatever for the desire for release better purer and higher. She wishes Bunyan represents his pilgrim pass- from the obligations which Christian that the Christian woman who is talk- Then you are conscious that the soreing through a dark valley infested with service entails. The consecrated ing with her would ask her a question, ness is leaving you, and presently the goblins and demons, where he was Christian, who desires above all things would give her a hint, would lead the desire to cough grows less frequent. All this process is brought about by frightened almost to death. When his else to make this calling and election conversation to the subject of personal the healing properties of the Balsam. faith and hope had well-nigh failed he sure, as far as good works can bring religion. The other has no thought of It is a compound of barks and gums. heard a sweet voice not far away, and about this result, and whose meat and the kind. She even has a faint, un- You can test it. 25 cents at any druglistening attentively he discovered that drink it is to do the will of the divine definable dread that any effort on her a man just before him was singing: Father, will not seek an escape from part would be received coldly or be the

Readiness to do Good.

If we spend our time proposing to do something and never do it, it will Our . "Indian Summer" ought to be time lost. The claims of the Church and of the world are on us. We cannot be all our lifetime getting bought us with his precious blood. ready, but must stand ready to put our hand to any good work within our reach. A comparatively little effort done at once may be better for the cause of religion than ten times as much labor ten years afterward. If one soul is saved and set on the road to heaven, it is better than to wait in uncertainty for an opportunity to save ten. The condition of sinners is desperate; and what is done for them must be done promptly. Like shipwrecked men, they must be rescued soon, or it will be too late. When the first alarm is given the life-savers on the coast haste to the rescue. The world of unconverted men is sinking in the waves of sin, in jeopardy every hour. What is done for the present generation must be done now. A boy called to a passer-by that a man had fallen into a swamp, and to make haste, or he would die. "How deep is he in?" "In to his waist," was the answer. "O, well, there is plenty of time to get him out." "Yes, but he is in head first." This case was desper. ate, and did not admit of delay. So opportunities must be seized on, or lost forever. In almost any case, what is done must be done quickly, if success is to be attained.—The Presbyterian.

### How Not to Grow Weary.

The way to enjoy Christian service and not tire of it is to be diligent in spirit. The hard workers never become weary in well-doing. The more we do for Christ the more eager we become in his service. We tire most when we do the least. The idlers are the weary ones. Those who do the most enjoy it best, and complain the of the manner in which the work of least. Those who keep growing in grace never weary of the race. Faith. not by committees or by any of the fulness in prayer and diligence in the study of God's Word make the soul proof against weariness in God's ser-

Redoubled diligence is the remedy for discouragement. The trouble with discouraged ones is that they always feel like quitting, when to quit is the worst thing they can do. Discouragement lets go the moment that a man sets his face against it with grim determination not to give up, but to press forward with renewed diligence.

There is no misery like the misery of spiritual despondency of a man who has been in close touch with God and in the front ranks of hope and heavenly aspiration and godly influence among men. To know how to avoid such a state or how to escape from it, is a matter of grave importance. The outmay be an eloquent preacher, its pas- come involves the honor of God and methods may all be of the best and the destiny of a man.-Evangelical

# Hard, Hacking Coughs.

Barring accidents, the person who gets along with the least amount of cough will live the longest. Of course, the right time to attack a cough is at the commencement, when it is a simple thing for the right treatment to drive the cough quickly away. As a general thing, however, people spend so much time experimenting with various remedies that the cough is well under way before they know it. Then comes the long siege. You feel the hard, racking all through your system, and get relief from nothing. You fill your stomach with nauseating mixtures to no purpose. Then you use compounds containing narcotic, which deceive temporarily, and leave you slightly worse. Some coughs of this kind hang on for weeks or even months, and, of course, they frequently develop into serious lung troubles. A true specific for all coughs is Adamson's Botanic Cough Balsam, and it should be kept in the house against any emergency. With a cough that has become chronic the first effect of this remedy is a lessening of the dull sensation of pain which usually is felt with such a cough. gist's. Get the genuine with "F. W Kinsman & Co." blown in the bottle.

# Keeping Young

A sore tomptation to the aged is a tendency to querulousness and pesand gains are not rightly appreciated.

While we cherish and cling to many martyrs, reformers, and leaders who has withdrawn himself and is gone; in the back of our heads and live only

Keep step with the times; keep and the full sense of communion with touch with every new born enterprise A well-known English scientist, God to one who refuses or neglects so of charity and in line with the marchings of God's providence. A ten minutes of chat or play with a grand child may freshen you more than an hour The fleeting smile of the world may be spent with an old companion or over

Above all, keep your hearts in the ove of God and walk in the sunshine of Christ's countenance. be about the most golden period of a life consecrated to him who

Eye hath not seen, tongue hath not

And ear ha h not heard it sung, How buoyant and fresh, though seem to grow old, Is a heart forever young.

-Rev. T. L. Cuyler.

### Gloomy Christians

Faith and grace stand for good cheer courage, and contentment. Despondency is a contradiction of blessed assurance and the lively hope of a true follower of the Lord. Satan has many ways of duping the children of light One of his most successful methods is to hold up the dark side of things. If he can get a Christian under a spell of gloominess and keep him there, and then induce him to go about sowing seeds of discontent and discouragement among others, he has a good emissary.

Gloomy Christians cannot grow un til they get out into the sunlight of God's grace and shine for Christ, instead of exhibiting a long, cheeriess, hopeless face in the name of religion. Wake up, cheer up, and be a lightbearer, a comfort to others, and not a vexation to the faithful to the Lord.

Prayer and personal activity in the Lord's work will chase away gloom, and tend to cultivate a cheerful, hopeful disposition of heart and mind. To think of God and to talk with Him, and to study His will and His purposes concerning the redemption of the world, inspires faith and hope and courage, and brings joy and gladness, leaving no room for morbid sadness. -Evangelical Messenger.

To be willing is a rarer grace than to be doing the will of God. For he who is willing may sometimes have nothing to do, and must only be willing to wait. -Henry Drummond.

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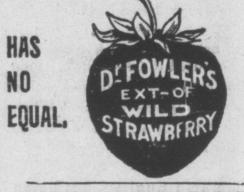
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