

"FEAR NOT."

"I cannot say
Beneath the pressure of life's cares to-
day,
I joy in these,
But I can say
That I had rather walk this rugged way,
If Him it please.

I cannot feel
That all is well when darkening clouds
conceal
The shining sun,
But then I know
God lives and loves, and say, since this
is so,
Thy will be done."

PROSPERITY.

Political parties inscribe the word "prosperity" on their banners as though there were magic in the word itself. It is doubtful whether many of the party leaders who have so much to say about prosperity really know what it means. The Bible says a deal about prosperity. It is well for us all to study this subject in the light of the word of the Lord. Concerning the man that walks uprightly the Psalmist says, "Whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." Does this mean that every enterprise to which he puts his hand shall prosper financially? Shall he never have financial losses? Will he surely become rich? No. The man whose financial schemes always turn out according to his mind is not necessarily a prosperous man. One who dies leaving a good name, a good record, a good influence, and a pure life is far more prosperous than his neighbor who leaves ten millions to his children without a good name and a good life. Prosperity means advancement in knowledge, in manliness, in righteousness, in usefulness. In this sense whatsoever a good man does shall prosper.

According to the Bible it is the man who takes God into partnership with him that prospers. He will set the Lord before him in all he does. He will remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy, make his money honestly, and use it according to the will of God. This applies to all kinds of business. Whether a Christian engages in the dry goods business, the real estate business, the coal business, the railroad business, the newspaper business, or the grocery business, he will set the Lord before him. Some say this is absurd. They tell us that business is business, and men who succeed must observe the laws of business. Competition is sharp, there are many unscrupulous competitors, and the man who will succeed must keep his conscience quiet and take leave of his religion when occasion requires it. How can a man succeed in the grocery business without selling liquor with his groceries when all his competitors do so? How can a man succeed in the newspaper business and exclude improper advertisements and all corrupting and vile news items? How can a man succeed in the railroad business and keep the Sabbath?

It is this pernicious sentiment that corrupts our political life, degrades our business life, and curses our country. Prosperity is the cry, and prosperity on a low scale. Important as it is to make money and make a living, it is far more important to have a good conscience, a good character, a sound manhood. Why not try to please God in everything? He made the world, and whatever laws of trade there may be which are worthy of our respect were

made by Him. He rules the world. His hand is on everything that belongs to our life. To ignore Him is not to eliminate Him from the problem. One cannot overcome the temperature of the atmosphere by breaking the thermometer. One cannot get rid of God and His commandments by stifling conscience and turning a deaf ear to the voice of the Lord. He is still with us, and His hand is on us and our work. One may make a great financial success by refusing to take counsel of the Lord and to hear His voice, but his losses will be more than his gains. When he comes to reckon up his accounts and take his trial balance he will discover that he has made a great blunder.

If anyone shall decide not to set the Lord before him in his business, then what? Ignoring the Lord, he takes Satan into partnership. He becomes a worker together with the wicked one. Think of it! Satan for a partner in business, and the Lord for a partner in religion. Satan six days in the week and the Lord on Sunday. Satan in the office and the Lord in the church. This cannot be. If he does not take the Lord with him always he does not take Him at all. If the Lord is not at his right hand in the office He is not at his right hand in the church. To ignore God in business, in politics, and in social life is to cut one's self off from the mercy seat and vitiate his religious profession.—*Chris. Advocate.*

THE INDIVIDUAL COMMUNION CUP.

Let's see. We happened to be near a school house the other day, and a group of children were gathered around the pump, all drinking, one after another, from the same cup. They came from families of all grades, and no one of them thought of washing the cup before drinking. Several men were in the vicinity, and, it being a warm day, they gathered around the same pump and drank from the same cup. No one seemed to think of rinsing out the cup.

We sat in a crowded railroad car. It was warm and many wanted water. So they went, one after another, to the water tank and drank—men, women and children. No one washed out the single tin cup from which all drank. Mothers and children sat together, and one went and brought the cup out of which all drank, from the mother to the baby all out of the same cup, with no thought of microbes.

We were at a reception, given to a large company in honor of a favored guest. There was a large bowl on a table in a side room, and around it were several little glass cups, pretty, to be sure, but not half enough of them to go round; yet all present came and there was constantly a throng around that bowl of lemonade, from five to a dozen or more drinking from the same cup, draining the last drop in it, every time. No one seemed to care for the microbes.

We were in a little home company, which spent the evening together, and some one suggested a glass of water. So a pitcher of water was brought and a single tumbler. After one had drank, some water still remained in it, and it was again filled and offered to another. Only part of the contents was drank, and again it was filled and offered; and so it went around, the cup at no time being fully exhausted. Some of those who drank used tobacco, some had mustaches, and whether any had ulcers in their mouths we do not know. But all drank of that tumbler. No one seemed to think of microbes.

Most of the persons present were members of the same church, and when they came to the Lord's table, the following Sabbath, there were fifty little cups, so that no one of them might imbibe microbes by sipping a swallow of the contents, after another had touched the cup which contained the emblem of their Lord's blood. That day they were afraid of microbes. And so, on every occasion of the observance of the Supper, the ghost of microbes rises up before the participants and they take those little cups and, bobbing up their heads, try to get the contents without getting a microbe. True, the cups were filled before the congregation assembled, because the filling is a very delicate operation, and they stand there during the preceding service, covered with a cloth which is not able to keep out the microbes which are floating in the air, especially where a large congregation is assembled. Unfortunately for some among us, the Lord Jesus did not know anything about microbes, and so gave to his disciples an ordinance which has endangered the health and the lives of his people for nineteen centuries. We have just found it out and are governing ourselves accordingly.—*Journal and Messenger.*

HAPPY LIVING.

Cultivate faith, obedience, service. The secret of holy and happy living is gathered up in these three words. There are a great many things we cannot understand, but these lie within our reach and if we hold to them they will bring us through the darkest night beneath which the soul of man ever wrestled, into the perfect day.

1. Faith. If you cannot see God clearly look toward the spot from whence His voice comes, as a child instinctively turns in the dark toward the place from which its mother's voice issues; and remember that the mountains which soar the highest in the dark will be the first to catch the glint of the morning beam at dawn. From the east, though you be in the dark. Following on to know the Lord. Faith is the motion of the soul Godward.

2. Obedience. Every time you obey you pull up the blind and let in more light. Every time you obey you break down the restraining reef and let more of the sea into the bay of your life. Obey the voice of God in the Book, the voice of God in your heart, the voice of God as He speaks through circumstances and His servants—obey.

3. Service. Never let a day go by without making the world a brighter, happier place for others and, as you do so, the life abundant will gush out. A friend once told me that while he stood in the old Forum at Rome, watching the workmen using the pick axe, one of them happened to strike away some rubbish and debris which had lain for centuries, and, as he did so, a fountain of water, well-known in classic times as the Virgin's fountain, but which had been imprisoned for centuries, found glad utterance again; the imprisonment was over, the stone was taken away from the sepulcher, and the beautiful fountain gushed into the Italian sunshine.

It may be that today such an experience is to be yours and that some debris which has accumulated upon your heart, choking your life, by the grace of God and by the act of your own choice shall be put away, so that the life which has been checked and restrained may become abundant and you

may know the fulfilment of our Lord's word: "It shall become in them a well of water, springing up into eternal life."
—*F. B. Meyer.*

WAIT QUIETLY.

When troubles assail, let us not rend the air with complaints and murmurs and impatient words, but call silently upon God, leaving all our cares with him, feeling assured that he will make all things work together for our good.

In our everyday home life how many things we meet to perplex and annoy! A trifle often causes so much vexation that, coming in an unguarded moment, we utter hasty words in return which, on sober reflection, we remember with regret. Let us then study to be quiet and to wait on the Lord. He will never forget to succor and aid. One impatient word from Moses forfeited for him an entrance into Canaan, while the calm patience and quiet of Noah, who plodded on one hundred and twenty years building that grand old ark, was rewarded, when dark clouds arose and pouring rains came, by its floating with him and his on the tidal waves, to safety and rest.

So it was with Jacob and Joseph and Daniel and a host of other biblical characters, and so it will be with trusting Christians always. To wait quietly on the Lord will be to find security, peacefulness, and heaven.—*Sophia L. Schenk.*

There's a Story in Morning Tiredness.

A story of poor blood, weakened nerves, of starved brain. Plenty of food, mind you, but perhaps poorly prepared and too poorly digested to maintain a vigorous body. Ferrozone quickens blood, gives strength to the nerves, cures the fagged feeling that prevents vigorous thought and action. Use Ferrozone, it makes blood, and good blood feeds the nerves. Strong and vigorous nerves are just another name for good health. If you seek health, and a relief from the tired morning feeling, use Ferrozone. Sold by all druggists.

If we would read the secret history of our enemies, we would find in each man life sorrow and sufferings enough to disarm all hostility.—*Longfellow.*

A Successful Medicine. — Everyone wishes to be successful in any undertaking in which he may engage. It is, therefore, extremely gratifying to the proprietors of Parmelee's Vegetable Pills to know that their efforts to compound a medicine which would prove a blessing to mankind have been successful beyond their expectations. The endorsement of these Pills by the public is a guarantee that a pill has been produced which will fulfil everything claimed for it.

The next revival of religion will start. I have no doubt, for the recovery of personality. Religion will call men back to its service, and will accept nothing in place of themselves. One cannot give money or anything else with the same passion with which he gives himself. All other forms of consecration are secondary—valuable, but secondary.—*William J. Tucker.*

A Soothing Oil.—To throw oil upon the troubled waters means to soothe to calmness the most boisterous sea. To apply Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil to the troubled body when it is racked with pain means speedy subjugation of the most refractory elements. It cures pain, heals bruises, takes the fire from wounds, and as a general household medicine is useful in many ailments. It is worth much.