

MY HEAVENLY FRIEND.

BY ELIZABETH PALMER.

When wearied with the day's hard toil,

And burdened with its petty care,
To thee, dear Christ, I turn for rest,
And find true peace in answered prayer.

When friends I once had loved so well
Have proved unfaithful and untrue,
To thee, my Heavenly Friend, I come,
And ever find one tried and true.

When sickness brings an aching brow
And all my frame is racked with pain,
To thee, my Helper, I may look,
And ask for help in thy dear name.

When bruised by Satan's fierce assault,
And from the tempter's darts would flee,
To Calvary's hill I turn mine eye
And see what thou hast done for me.

When sorrows I may not escape
Have made my heart in anguish moan,
To sad Gethsemane I come,
And find thee suffering there alone.

And when death's sullen stream I reach
And this life's troubled dream is o'er,
Wilt thou my pilot be and guide
Till I shall reach the heavenly shore?
—Chris. Work.



What is the Matter with the Church?

BY REV. H. F. ACKERMAN.

I will say that, in my opinion, the church needs to get better acquainted with Jesus Christ. Jesus said, "If I be lifted up, I will draw all men unto me." The centre of spiritual power is in Jesus Christ; and if the church has failed to fulfill her mission in the world, it is because she has not truly interpreted him to men.

What are the facts in the case? It was said of Jesus, "The common people heard him gladly." But do the common people hear the church? Some of them do, thank God. But there is a class of common people, by no means small, who express their admiration for Jesus Christ, while with the same breath they curse the church. There is another class, perhaps larger, who are indifferent, if not hostile, to both Christ and the church.

The trouble on the side of the church seems to be, that she has failed to get an adequate view of his life and teachings to the experiences of troubled men and the problems which confront men in actual life. While truth is spherical, we too often content ourselves with looking upon one side of it. The church has too often dealt in half-truths. While men supposed the earth to be flat, they had a very narrow conception of the material universe; but when science set the world to rotating before their eyes, other worlds began to revolve before their astonished vision, and the heavens did indeed declare the glory of God. We need to set our truth rotating, that we may see all sides of it and form every possible angle. We have often made artificial distinctions of sacred and secular. We have been trying to save souls, rather than to save men. We have thought of the kingdom of God as a state of felicity in heaven, but have often forgotten that it as surely includes a perfected humanity on earth.

The church needs to gain the view point of Jesus Christ. It has been said of him, that "he viewed the problem of society from above, but approached it from within." The religion which envelopes itself in clouds of mystery and draws itself away from struggling humanity has utterly failed to understand Jesus, and is powerless to satisfy the heart hunger of humanity as the bald materialism which denies spirituality. Christianity has an earthward as well as heavenward relation. The church needs to follow the Master to the top of the mountain, that he may be transfigured before her, and, drawing aside the curtain, give her a glimpse of the glory beyond. But he will not fail to remind her that, in the valley beyond the mountain, is an arena of service, where she must come in contact with the actual needs of men. We have too often sought for the vision, that we might build a tabernacle, rather than that we might serve. We have sought for power, that we might feel its thrill; but we have not always set the machinery in motion. God gives a vision, but it is to inspire for service. He gives power, but it is to live over again among men the Christ life. The church has preached the truth in all ages, but she has not always declared the whole council of God. The truth has moved men in all ages, but the phase of truth that has profoundly stirred men in our age seems powerless to move the men of another age. It is not that truth is out of date, but that the emphasis needs to be laid on a different side of the truth. We are not so much in need of a reconstruction of our theology, as of a different application of it. The world is ready for a sane preaching of the scriptural doctrines of regeneration and sanctification; but we need more than ever to teach men that regeneration is being set apart from all evil (not from men), delivered from the life which centres in self, and swept out into the mighty current of God's purpose, which is a life of service and sacrifice through perfect love. Then men will be able to see that the Christ of the mountain-top and the cathedral is the Christ of the market and the slums. The church must go from the mountain-top and the cathedral to the busy mart, where men are fighting their battle; and when they really find that the church loves them, they will more readily accept our Christ.
—Free Baptist.



A Man of Happiness and Acquainted With Joy.

REV. R. B. BUCKHAM.

Isaiah the prophet pictures the Christ as a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief, and such indeed He was. When we consider the grief, the mental pain, the affliction and disappointment, which He must have experienced at the coldness and hard-heartedness of men, and their cruel and unfeeling treatment of Him when He would have gathered them unto Himself, but they would not, and the anguish and agony of the cross, we cannot but realize how awfully, how meaningfully, true, this characterization of Him really was.

But one serious error we have come to commit in our contemplation of Him as thus portrayed. We forget that this was not the only side of His nature. We thus form a distorted one-sided, misleading conception of

Him. From dwelling upon the darker side of His life, we have come to overlook the bright and attractive. We fail to appreciate His full and rounded character. Truly, Christ was a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; but He was also a man of happiness and acquainted with joy.

This we can positively know to be a fact from the insight into His character and life which we have. First of all, the childhood of such a man must have been anything but dismal and unhappy. His calling a child and placing him in the midst as a type of heaven, happiness itself, is a sufficient proof of the fact that He well knew childhood to be all happiness and sunshine.

Then, again, Christ as a young man was a toiler at the carpenter's bench, and honest industry at anything useful is always happiness, as thorough and genuine as is to be gained in any other way. But, farther still, He was also a lover of Nature, many of His parables and most effective sayings being drawn from comparisons to her. The lover of Nature well knows what a calm and soothing happiness is to be experienced at all times while in association with her, what pure and sincere joys result from communion with her.

And, lastly, Christ experienced the supreme happiness and joy of triumph, achievement. He was the beloved Son, in whom the Father was well pleased. He did not suffer the cup to be put from Him, but endured the cross, that His mission might be accomplished. Sorrow and grief are, after all, but a means to an end. Happiness and joy must necessarily be their ultimate outcome.

Let us not forget that Christ's was a many-sided nature. Let us be careful not to present Him in too sombre a portrayal. Truly, He was a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief, but, above and beyond it, and because of it, a man of happiness and acquainted with joy.—Zion's Herald.



THE FRAGRANCE OF A GENTLE LIFE.

Once in crossing a meadow I came to a spot that was filled with fragrance. Yet I could see no flowers and I wondered whence the fragrance came. At last I found, low down, close to the ground, hidden by the tall grass, innumerable little flowers. It was from these that the fragrance came.

I enter some homes. There is a rich perfume of love that pervades all the place. It may be a home of wealth and luxury, or it may be plain and bare. No matter; it is not the house, nor the furniture, nor the adornment that makes this air of sweetness. I look closely. It is a gentle, woman, mother or a daughter, quiet, hiding self away, from whose life the fragrance flows. There is a wondrous charm in a gentle spirit. The gentle girl in a home may not be beautiful, may not be well educated, may not be musical or an artist or "clever" in any way; but wherever she moves, she leaves a benediction.

Her sweet patience is never disturbed by the sharp words that fall about her. The children love her because she never tires of them. She helps them with their lessons, listens to their frets and worries, mends their broken toys, makes dolls' dresses, straightens out the tangles and settles their little quarrels and finds

time to play with them. When there is sickness in the home, she is the angel of comfort. Her face is always bright with the outshining of love. Her voice has music in it as it falls in cheerful tenderness on the sufferer's ear. Her hands are wondrously gentle as their soothing touch rests on the aching head, or as they minister in countless ways about the bed of pain.

"The lives that make the world so sweet
Are shy, and hide like the humble flowers.
We pass them by with our careless feet,
Nor dream 'tis their fragrance fills the bower,
And cheers and comforts us, hour by hour."

—J. R. Miller, D.D.



How One Million is Spent.

Not less than one million dollars is annually spent by people seeking an absolute cure for Catarrh, Bronchitis and Consumption. Numerous are the remedies, but the one standing prominently above all others is Catarrhoxone. It cures these diseases because it is sure to reach them. Catarrhoxone is inhaled into the lungs, throat and nasal passages, and bathes every part of the diseased membrane with its germ-killing, healing vapour. You simply breathe Catarrhoxone and it cures. Price 25c. and \$1 at druggists, or Polson & Co., Kingston, Ont.

A Sprained Ankle is not an uncommon accident. Pain Killer relieves and cures almost as if by magic. The greatest household remedy. Avoid substitutes. There is but one Pain Killer, Perry Davis, 25 and 50 cts.

Wherever there are sickly people with weak hearts and deranged nerves, Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills will be found an effectual medicine. They restore enfeebled, enervated, exhausted, devitalized or over-worked men and women to vigorous health.

For the Overworked.—What are the causes of despondency and melancholy? A disordered liver is one cause and a prime one. A disordered liver means a disordered stomach, and a disordered stomach means disturbance of the nervous system. This brings the whole body into subjection, and the victim feels sick all over. Parmelee's Vegetable Pills are a recognized remedy in this state, and relief will follow their use.

For cholera morbus, cholera infantum, cramps, colic, diarrhoea, dysentery and summer complaint, Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry is a prompt, safe and sure cure that has been a popular favorite for nearly sixty years.

Free and easy expectoration immediately relieves and frees the throat and lungs from viscid phlegm, and a medicine that promotes this is the best medicine to use for coughs, colds, inflammation of the lungs and all affections of the throat and chest. This is precisely what Bickle's Anti-Consumptive Syrup is a specific for, and wherever used it has given unbounded satisfaction. Children like it because it is pleasant, adults like it because it relieves and cures the disease.

There is no form of kidney trouble—from a backache down to Bright's disease—that Doan's Kidney Pills will not relieve or cure.

If you are troubled with any kind of kidney complaint, give Doan's Kidney Pills a trial.