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WITHIN

BY REV. HENRY BURTON, M. A.

Within the circling storm there is a centre Of perfect rest; Within the cloud we so much fear to enter, Are visions blest,

Within the husk the harvest lies unfolded The chaff falls dead; But the sweet life the summer months have molded. Becomes our bread.

Within the bark, all rough and deeply wrinkled, Flow hidden streams, Bearing a thousand flowers with perfume sprinkled,

The sun's bright beams.

Within the shells are wings and songs unspoken, A perfect bird;
All useless wings until the shell be broken,

Within the spirit dwells, the outer letter Is not the whole; Tis but the body, or at times a fetter Binding the scul.

And songs unheard.

Within the veil, beyond this world's pol Are seas of light, Giving to each enigma its solution-

The perfect sight!

-Christian Advocate.

"REJOICE IN THE LORD."

One of my neighbors called on me the other day in great trouble. He is dyspeptic and inclined to look on the dark side. I saw as soon as he came in that there was something on his mind, but I did not like to question him. So we talked about the weather and the crops and labor troubles awhile. But pretty soon he said abruptly, "Oldschool, do you think a man can't the time?"

"Certainly not, why you ask?" "Well, I was reading in my Bible last night, in Philippians, where it says, 'Rejoice in the Lord always, in the Lord,' and to 1 Thess. v. 16 'Rejoice evermore.' I was troubled. You know I never was one of the rejoicing sort of folks. I have had a great deal of trouble myself, and the world is so full of sorrow and sin I don't see how I can be happy. Are we to rejoice because the crops are short ;

and murder?"

always find something to rejoice in. If he can do no better, he can fall back with David on the fact that the Lord reigns. Indeed, that is the one fact that comforts me. I see a great deal that is discouraging. Some of the bad people are so desperately bad, and even the best people are so imperfect. But then I think God knows it all, God permits it all, God controls it all, and he will surely bring good out of on a ship. A passenger was robbed. The captain ordered a general search and as he did so, said significantly ' We are sure to catch the thief, for he say, 'the wicked are sure to be overaround them. They cannot escape his are sure to be vindicated and rewarded.

holy God. 7 * "But doesn't it seem cruel to rejoice when there is so much suffering? One of my children was sick last night. I sat by him several hours as he moaned with pain. Could I be happy? Why dost thou afflict us so ?'

"Did your child die ?" much better this morning that he went

to school." "And why didn't your child die? great emotions of tenderness. night, while their parents watched be-

side them ?" He hesitated a moment. His eyes filled with tears, and then he said "God was good and spared him to us."

"Yes, and did you thank God and gracious ?"

Waiting a while, and receiving no reply, I continued: "Did you ever hear about George the Third's Thanksgiving Day?"

"Not as I remember. What about it ? "

"Well, at the close of the Revolutionary War the King of England issued a proclamation for a day of Thanksgiving. One of his bishops went to him, and said: 'May it please your majesty, I would like to know for what we are to give thanks? Is it because you have lost thirteen fair colonies? Is it because you have sacrificed of this great gospel revival among the wrong. The root of human misery is God's that we do not find it,-Edward thousands of lives? Is it because you heathen reached a mission station sin, and yet one hears many people Gannett.

have added millions to the national debt ?"

"' No, no, no,' replied the king. "' Then what are we to be thankful for?' 'That it is no worse.' That

was a good answer. It might have been worse. And it is so always. Jeremiah says (Lamentations iii. 22), 'It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed.' The prisoner condemned to die thanks the governor for a reprieve; rejoices if his sentence is commuted to imprisonment for life. If we are sinners who deserve only wrath, and he against whom we sinned spares us, and give us homes and friends, and food, and raiment, and his Huly Word, and his Holy Spirit, surely we ought to be happy. It is wonderful goodness; it is rich and abounding grace. Remember, neighbor, we are not to rejoice in worldly good, or in human friends, but 'in the Lord. His ways may seem dark sometimes, but Paul assures us that all things work together for good to them that love him. (Rom. viii, 28). Isn't this enough to make us happy? Though weeping may endure for the night, joy cometh in the morning. Then let us look away from those clouds and shadows, to the clear light beyond. Let us rejoice in hope of the glory of God."

I report this conversation because ! am afraid that many who read the Interior are spiritually dyspeptic like my neighbor. They persist in looking at the shadows, forgetting that wherever there is a shadow there is sunhe a Christian unless he is happy all shine somewhere. The old Hebrew psalmist sang, "The Lord reigneth, let the earth rejoice."

We know "the Lord" as Christ our Saviour. He is in the midst of the throne. He ordains or permits all and again I say, rejoice,' and I looked | that comes to pass. Can't we trust in the margin and it referred me to the him, and be glad and grateful that all third chapter and first verse: 'Rejoice our interests and those of the church and the world are in the hands that were nailed upon the cross ?-Obadiah Oldschool, in Interior.

AN AFRICAN WORKER.

Sixteen years ago there was a young man in Africa who was bound to do because thousands of people perished something. He belonged to an interin the earthquake; because the papers | ior tribe of negroes. But color could are full of reports of fraud and robbery | not hinder his working abilities. He did not know about God, nor a Saviour, "No, but you might rejoice that nor that there was any Christian there is any crop at all. You might | church, still he had an ambition to be rejoice that the earthquake was so far at work. Business all around him was away, not here. You might rejoice dull. Nobody cared to do anything that you have not been defrauded or | the people lived in very simple habits robbed, or murdered. A Christian can | had almost no dress : did but little cooking; would rather be lazy than industrious. This young man was not pleased with this state of affairs. He was spirited, bright, and had dash and adventure. Such a noble spirit could not rest under a coat of rust.

"Good-by, father and mother and native home," said the brave man, and started on a long journey in search of something to employ his powers. He travelled day after day; slept where what seems to us an evil. I was once | night overtook him; pursued his journey till seven hundred miles lay between him and his home. He came to Natal, where he found work. In his boyhood he had caught some rumors can't get out of the ship.' So we can of a strange, active mighty people in far-off Natal. Now he was here. He ruled and punished, for God is all longed to mix in with the busy throng. He came up to one man after another presence and his power. And the good | in that new country and motioned with his strong arms to make them know for they are in the hands of a just and | that he wanted to work. They could not understand his talk, but well knew what his impressive gestures meant. There he met a kind employer. He was Rev. Mr. Allison, a devoted missionary. Soon the young man of dark skin showed a disposition to learn Could I shout 'Bless the Lord' when and he was diligently taught to read. the little fellow was in such agony? The gospel was placed in his hand. No! no! I had to weep, and I cried His surprise was great to learn that a out bitterly, 'O God, why is this? Saviour was right at hand who was able and willing to deliver his soul from death and hell. His eyes shone "No, of course not. If he had I with the gladness of faith and hope as wouldn't have been here. He was so he poured over chapter after chapter.

"I can stay with you no longer," said he one day to Mr. Allison with

Thousands of children have died in the | "Why? What have I done? Where land's, and, father, it was the sermon are you going?" answered the minis-

"I must go to my own people," he answered, "and tell them what great things the Lord has done for me." And off he went. He returned on Did you rejoice in him, as merciful foot, across the seven hundred miles of strange country. His soul was aflame with love for God and the dear ones at home. He began to preach Christ in his simple but earnest way. The chief of the tribe forbade him. Then he went from house to house teaching Christ and him crucified. The old chief died. The enthusiastic missionnew energy. He built a church large enough to hold six hundred people. The work spread. Two more churches were erected in other places, and assistant laborers gathered around the slight investigation would be sufficient there's another way to it and a better devoted servant of Christ. The report to prove that they are egregiously one, and it is our own fault and not

tant. A man was sent to investigate He returned with the dusky missionary. He is of small stature; is said to have the courage of the Apostle Paul, and the tenderness of the Apostle John. He told his story in simple language; he felt no conscious pride he did not seem to realize the sublime greatness of his work. He had toiled

about two hundred and fifty miles dis-

nine years alone in the wilds of Africa. He was unknown outside his field. received no wages for his toil. was unvisited by any commission. received no recognition by any Christian church, and yet in that wilderness of heathenism he had built up three large congregations. What a

noble man! Pray for the heathen. God may answer our prayer by sending a little spark of the gospel truth, which will increase into a great light, spreading out over hills and valleys and showing many the way to heaven. - Selected.

THE MINISTER'S SURPRISE.

"Not a very promising evening for prayer-meeting, John," said little Mrs. Addison, the minister's wife, as her husband beat a dismal tattoo on the window pane.

"No, I am discouraged. It rained last Wednesday also, and our attendance lately has been lamentably small. I wish I could do something to increase This afternoon I saw twelve or fifteen of our young ladies going into Dr. Haverland's, and I could not help wishing they would care a little more for spiritual things; but come, dear, the bell has rung;" and a few minutes later the pastor and his wife entered the little chapel, where a few-very few-of his people had gathered to worship God. Deacon Cross was there-" cross by name and nature," the young folks said : and dear Father Brighthope was not, and the heart of the minister fell as he made the discovery, for Father Brighthope was the

minister's right hand man. A few others had gathered, and the service began. The first hymn dragged drearily, for the chorister was absent. At its close the door opened, and fifteen young ladies entered. It seemed to the weary minister as if the dull little chapel brightened wonderfully under the influence of their bright

Another hymn was given out. One of the girls volunteered her services at the organ, and the sweet old hymn floated out on the evening air and put new zest into the service.

Then the minister read one of the chapters of John; and if the prayer he made was unusually fervent, it came from a heart filled with thanksgiving to God for sending these young folks into the house of prayer.

Another song followed - " Must esus bear the cross alone?" and then Deacon Cross made a prayer, and the meeting was fairly begun.

There was, in a moment, a slight stir in the girl's corner, and sweet Grace Haverland rose to her feet, and in a voice trembling with emotion, said: "I have found Jesus, and I love him beyond all earthly telling."

Staid Helen Grant next rose: "I ove God because he first loved me and gave himself for me."

There was a pause, and Effie Carroll at the organ burst out into the hymn, "Wishing, Hoping, Knowing," dwelling joyfully on the chorus:

> "I know he is mine, I know he is mine, No longer I'm hoping, I know he is mine.

"And I know he is mine, too." was a boyish voice—the voice of Arthur Haverland-that spoke those words, and tears of joy sprang to the

Two more of the girls expressed a hope in Christ, and three of them, including the minister's daughter Amy, expressed a desire to come to Jesus. It was a glad meeting, for God was there; and after it had ended and the minister had grasped the lad's hand, Amy whispered: "It was a prayermeeting we attended at Dr. Haveron Sunday that led us to think of this the sermon you called a failure. It was from the text, 'Immanuel, God with us,' and I think God has been with us ever since."-Church Home.

CHRISTIAN CHEERFULNESS.

BY WM. M. TAYLOR, D. D. LL. D.

The joy of the Lord is your strength.

Everything done by God for his people is to promote their joy on earth. The gospel, really understood by us, would make us joyful in the Lord. It ary then entered into his work with is said that the very reverse is the case; that religion is a melancholy thing. But they who hold this neither understand what they say nor the

aver that the world was conscious of no degradation until the gospel came, when the misery of man began. The source of depravity lay back in the depravity of the ages, and it will not do to make the gospel responsible for that which existed long before the angels' hymn was heard in Bethlehem. Find ing men already sinners, the gospel offers repentance and consolation, and it is the rankest nonsense to charge it with the very evil it is intended to obviate and cure.

Here is a man condemned to death for instance, and the gospel holds out to him the hope of mercy. How is this hope of forgiveness and immortality to fill him with misery? On the contrary, will it not fill him with cheerfulness? Let your whole life, then be a holy festival, a long festival of joy and consecration to God. If we do so. all gloom will be banished from our hearts and all of us who accept Christianity in its fullest sense will find the Christian's life, from whatever side we regard it, a continual festival of cheerfulness and joy. But you cannot see the beauty of the stained-glass windows from the outside, and who can judge of the cheerfulness of the Christian life except those who live in it? The joy is not of a demonstrative character; it is a calm and holy joy felt in the spirit. Yet it should be shown, and Christians should not walk about hanging their heads like a lot of bulrushes. They should not do it, for undeniably the gospel produces joy. Every individual worker in his harvest field should show it. The cheer of their hearts should lie over all their work like the glorious sunshine over the landscape. Seek, then, this joy in the Lord, and, in the language of the apostle, "Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, Rejoice."-The Pulpit Treasury.

A THOUGHT FOR MOTHERS.

Talking the other day with one of the most sensible women I know, one, too, whose large family is so well ordered that there never seems to be a particle of friction in its management, I was pleased with something she said about children, and I determined to repeat it to a wider audience than the one my friend had at the

"I never fret about little faults of manner, nor even about transient irritability, in my children," said the lady, "Children as they are growing up, go through many temporary conditions which, if apparently unnoticed, pass away. In fact, there are little moral disturbances to be expected, like whooping cough and measles in physical life, and, if the general home atmosphere be wholesome and the trend right, I do not think it worth while to be too much distressed over occasional naughtiness."

Is there not comfort here for you. dear friend, who cannot understand why John, carefully trained as he is, sometimes, in the eager heat of play, bursts into the room like a tornado, or forgets to put cap on nail and books on shelf, as an orderly boy ought? And if Sarah is not so patient as she should be with the younger ones, sometimes has mysterious fits of depression, or is hysterically gay with no cause that you can see, summon your own gentle selfpossession to the front; remember that the period between childhood and youth, like all transition periods, is very trying, and while you pray a great deal for your darling, do not worry about her or talk to her too much. Above all, do not suffer yourself to be always censuring a sensitive boy or girl, to whom judicious praise now and then will be a tonic.

Line upon line, precept upon precept, we must have in a home. But we must also have serenity, peace, and the absence of petty fault-finding, if home is to be a nursery fit for heaven growing plants. - Christian Weekly.

RANDOM READINGS.

A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches. - Bible

Each human being does not solely bear its own sin, nor work out its own retribution. Upon others near and distant falls the debt, and it must be paid. - Miss Mulock.

There is no knowledge for which so great a price is paid as a knowledge of the world; and no one ever became an adept in it except at the expense of a hardened and wounded heart. - Countess of Blessington.

The happy person will be the natural heart-singer, who has found delight in that sweet psalm, "Fret not thyself; rest in the Lord; wait patiently for him, and he shall give thee the desire of thine heart."-Rev. H. H. Lowell.

If there's a right thing to be done and we seem to pass through a wrong teachings of Holy Writ, and a very thing on our way to it, depend upon it

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