

The Sweet Old Story.

Tell me about the Master! I am weary and worn to-night, The day lies behind me in shadow, And only the evening is light!

Tell me about the Master! Of the hills he in loneliness trod, When the tears and blood of his anguish Dropped down on Judea's sod.

Tell me about the Master! Of the wrongs he freely forgave; Of his love and tender compassion, Of his love that is mighty to save;

Yet I know that whatever the sorrow Or pain or temptation befall, The infinite Master hath suffered, And knoweth and pitieth all.

Give Me Back My Boy.

The bar-tender sits half asleep Tipped back in his chair against the wall. Two or three stupid customers are waiting for the effects of their drinking to subside sufficiently to give them strength or courage to start for home.

To-day there are thousands in the land pleading with all the agony of a mother's love, "Give me back my boy!" See this pleasant home. To make it attractive nothing that money could buy has been spared.

Let us go down this narrow street or this back alley. See this poor hovel. Rags take the place of glass in the windows. It looks gloomy and dreary!

What Should Young Converts Read?

Many years ago there was in a New England town a young lady under deep conviction, seeking to become a Christian. She wept and prayed, and asked for prayer, but saw no light for long weeks.

How often we have been gratified and satisfied by the hearty way young converts have testified, when examined by the church of their love for God's word.

Now this feature is not some sign of conversion only, but it means that a spiritual appetite has been created, that the young convert's soul is hungry for true food.

So above all things, the young convert will read the Bible. If wise, he will get a good copy of God's word, large, clear type, avoiding a pocket Bible or a quarto Bible.

"How is Sandy doing with his reading; can he read his Bible yet?" eagerly inquired a good minister who had been teaching a Scotchman to read.

"Oh, splendid!" was the reply. "He's out of the Bible and into the newspaper long ago!" Ah, yes, that newspaper! It takes many a young convert away from the Bible he once dearly loved.

Improprieties of Church-Goers.

One of these is that of converting the churchyard into an arena for political and railroad discussions and other secular subjects, which are so unbecoming the place and time, that we deem the simply mention of them as being all that is necessary for the present.

Irreverence is another, being manifested by words and actions that indicate an ignorance or disregard of the sacredness of the place, which is dissimilar to Moses putting off his shoes before the burning bush at Horeb the Mount of God.

Listlessness or inattention comes in among the improprieties. It is due to ourselves, to the audience, to the minister, and, most of all, to the Lord of the house, that on entering the sanctuary we put ourselves in the posture of hearers, if not of worshippers.

What puts our church-goers in such haste to get out of the church? They seem to be restless. "Trenaus," of the New York Observer, on one occasion in a certain church counted fourteen men who drew on their overcoats while the minister pronounced the benediction.

Great Men and the Bible.

WASHINGTON.

"Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism, who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens. The mere polit-

cian, equally with the pious man, ought to respect and cherish them. A volume could not trace all their connections with public and private felicity. Let it be simply asked, where is the security for property, for reputation, for life, if the sense of religious obligation desert the oaths which are the instruments of investigation in courts of justice?

GEN. U. S. GRANT.

"Hold fast to the Bible as the sheet anchor of our liberties; write its precepts on your hearts, and practice them in your lives. To the influence of this book we are indebted for the progress made in true civilization, and to this we must look as our guide for the future."

GLADSTONE.

"If I am asked, what is the remedy for the deeper sorrows of the human heart—what a man should chiefly look to in his progress through life, as the power that is to sustain him under trials and enable him manfully to confront his afflictions, I most point him to something which, in a well-known hymn, is called 'The old, old story,' told of in an old, old book, and taught with an old, old teaching, which is the greatest and best gift ever given to mankind."

STANLEY (THE AFRICAN EXPLORER).

"What I wanted, and what I have been endeavoring to ask for the poor African, has been the good offices of Christians, ever since Livingstone taught me during those four months I was with him. In 1871 I went to him as prejudiced as the biggest atheist in London. I was there away from a worldly world. I saw this solitary old man there, and asked myself: 'Why on earth does he stop here?'"

The Mother's Place.

Teach the children to respect you. Perhaps you smile at this. Love seems so far above and beyond respect! The children love you with all their hearts. Granted. But for all this, neglect not to cultivate respect in them.

When Isabel longs for a new hat which she does not really need, and the family purse reminds you that you cannot purchase that without wearing your old cloak another winter, buy the new cloak, and let the hat wait.

Encourage the children to work. Something more than encouragement may sometimes be necessary. In most cases, however, a judicious mother can so interest the boys and girls that work will not be a heavy burden.

All this may require self-denial on the part of the loving mother, who would gladly give herself and her possessions for the dear ones; still, in kindness to them, as well as to herself, these simple rules should be followed.

into the background when parlor company comes, will become what God designed her to be, the queen of the home.

Begin at Home.

In our work of saving souls, God means that we shall begin with those nearest to us by the ties of kindred. Grace works from the centre outward. So we are constrained to this, not only by Christly love, but by that peculiar love which binds together the family.

Random Readings.

Any coward can fight a battle when he is sure of winning; but give me the man who has pluck to fight when he is sure of losing.

There is something like an undiscovered continent in every human heart and character—something yet undiscovered and of course unexplored. Happy will he be who acts as his own Columbus and clearly discovers his own soul.

God's laws were never designed to be like cobwebs, which catch the little flies, but suffer the large ones to break through.

Many a man put in the seed who never saw the harvest, just as many another brought home ripe sheaves on which he bestowed no labor save that of the sickle. The worker for Christ, therefore, is expecting the divine hand to secure the result. He has abundant reason to believe that good is done of which he has no knowledge, and will have none till that great day.

He who does no good gets none. He who cares not for others will soon find that others will not care for him.

Those who excel in strength are not most likely to show contempt of weakness. A man does not despise the weakness of a child.

No person ever amounts to anything in this world who has not at some time or other fought a battle. Moderation is the silken string running through the pearl chain of all virtues.

The world may make a man unfortunate, but not miserable; that is for himself.

Even the weakest man is strong enough to enforce his convictions.—Gæthe

Be not diverted from your duty by any reflections the silly world may make upon you.

Who is the most miserable, daily? He who makes more of his troubles than he might do of his joys.

It is better to have wisdom than gold, as gold can only shine of itself, but wisdom makes its possessor to shine.

They who have experienced sorrow are the most capable of appreciating joy; so that those only who have been sick feel the full value of health.

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