

THINE.

BY LUELLA CLARK.

Oh, Thou, who didst die for me,
Let me ever trust in Thee;
Let no other hope be mine,
Make and keep me wholly Thine!

Let no earthly gain or loss
Separate me from Thy cross
No temptation lure my feet
From the path of service sweet.

That I may in thee have part,
Let my ever-grateful heart
Any worldly good forego,
That I Thee may better know.

With Thee counting all things gain—
Joy or sorrow, ease or pain—
Glad in light, in darkness still
Bowing to Thy gracious will.

The Banker's Experience And The Sermon.

It is very delightful to hear testimonies from actual life confirming the witness which the preacher bears from the pulpit. We have just received one which is well worthy of being preserved in this magazine of facts.

In our sermon published for November 21st, occurs the following passage:

"If it be true that you are willing thus to follow Christ, reckon upon deliverance. Nebuchadnezzar may put you into the fire, but he cannot keep you there, nor can he make the fire burn you. The enemy casts you in bound, but the fire will loosen your bonds, and you can walk at liberty amid the glowing coals. You shall gain by your losses, you shall rise by your down-castings. Many prosperous men owe their present position to the fact that they were faithful when they were in humble employments. They were honest, and for the moment they displeased their employers, and in the end earned their esteem. When Adam Clarke was put out apprentice, and his master showed him how to stretch the cloth when it was a little short, Adam could not find in his heart to do it. Such a fool of a boy must be sent home to his mother; and his godly mother was glad that her boy was such a fool that he could not stoop to a dishonest trick. You know what he became. He might have missed his way in life if he had not been true to his principle in his youth. Your first loss might be a lifelong gain. Dear young fellow, you may be turned out of your situation, but the Lord will turn the curse into a blessing! If all should go softly with you, you might decline in character, and by doing a little wrong learn to do yet more and more, and so lose your integrity, and with it all hope of ever lifting your nose from the grindstone. Do right for Christ's sake, without considering consequences, and the consequences will be right enough. If you take care of God's cause, God will take care of you. Rest assured that unrighteousness will be your preservation, and not your destruction. It will be your highest wisdom to let all things go that you may hold fast your integrity, and honor the name of the Lord."

Immediately after the issue of the sermon, we received the following letter from a gentleman who has been our friend and helper all along:

"DEAR FRIEND: I have just read your sermon, 'Is it True?' No 1,930. Referring to the latter portion of 635, I wish to send you the following statement of facts: Just forty-six years ago I was in a situation, and I was called upon to do that which I believed to be wrong. I was compelled in conscience to decline, and ultimately I received three months' notice to leave. I had a wife and one child, but no property. My father asked me if I was bereft of my reason for acting as I did, and I had no idea what I should do or where I should go. I mentioned my case to a dear Baptist minister, and his reply was, 'My young friend, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord.' The result was that, in a most marvelous way (I will not weary you with details), before the three months expired, the Lord gave me a new appointment, at exactly double the salary I lost; and that double has since been trebled: and here I am to this day! All praise and glory be to his great name! He is true and faithful! If you think well, you can make what use you like of this statement."

We have not given the writer's name, but it is one which is deservedly honored. The writer is a man who could not mis-state or exaggerate; what he records is the bare, unvarnished fact. How it ought to encourage every young Christian to "dare to be a Daniel!" The Lord has delivered, does deliver, and will yet deliver. A man may lose for Christ. The tempted servant of the Lord is the same to all who put their trust in him.—C. H. Spurgeon in *Sword and Trowel*.

For Young Men.

Not a sermon, young men, nor an address nor even a lecture—only a loving mother's letter to you. A letter from a mother, who is trying by God's help, not only to take up her own life-work, but to do that

also of her beloved son, who passed to the Father's house, and could not stay to finish the work he wanted to do. His message comes to her in the early waking hours of morning, and when the shadows gather over the hours of the closing day, and in the night-time when the darkness has gathered over the world: "Mother, do all you can to save young men—to show them the way to Jesus and to heaven." And so, in these first hours of her great sorrow, and amid the loneliness that fills her heart, while shut in from the great world, she takes up her pen to write you this letter.

The most important time of your whole life is when you are crossing the threshold of manhood. You may be a light-hearted boy, with a fresh, young face, and well taught in the ways that lead to a noble type of Christian manhood. In your earliest day, you learned how to talk with the Saviour at your mother's knee. You have started on the road of life with every aid that promises a safe journey. But all about you are thieves watching for your coming. If you do not keep constantly watching, and place a guard about your soul, they will meet you on the highway and will strip you of your raiment, wounding you sorely, and will leave you half dead. Take Christ for your guide and helper at this very beginning of the journey—O, my dear boy (you know a son is always a boy in the mother's heart, no matter how old he is), do not take the first steps in those habits that sooner or later will ruin your manhood. You cannot tamper with them. Many a young man, who felt as strong as you do to-day, took his first glass of liquor because some evil advisor told him it would make a man of him, and is to-day a poor helpless drunkard. Habits begin in cobwebs, but they end in iron chains. "Seeing life" and "sowing wild oats" are productive of a harvest that must be gathered in sorrow and in bitter tears.

"We reap what we sow." It is a wonderful truth. The young do not appreciate the fact of retribution following on misdeeds. When a gifted man, whose life had been spent in prodigality, lay dying, a friend asked if he could do anything for him. "Yes," replied the dying man, eagerly, "give me back my youth." "Live as long as you may," says Southey, "the first twenty years are the longest half of your life, and the most pregnant in consequences. It is the seed time of life, and what is sown then must be reaped when the harvest-time comes."

One of the most effective causes of the ruin of young men is bad company. "Keep good company," says George Herbert, "and you will be of the number." At first the low jest, the oath, the contempt of things good and pure, makes the hearer blush and tremble, but by association he too, is soon using the same language without a shudder. The best property a young man can have is a good character. "Character," says Samuel Smiles, "is the greatest of all possessions." It is an estate in the general good-will and respect of men, and they who invest in it—though they may not become rich in this world's goods, will find their reward in esteem and reputation fairly and honorably won."

When the shadows of evening gather, how many young men in our large cities are wending their way to the gilded saloons of sin, which are the destroyers of young manhood. Many of them are away from the loving circle and the good mother's influence—they wouldn't have her know where they were—no, not for anything. They are ashamed of their associations themselves, but the fascinations of "seeing life" are strong. They think they can break off at any time from their alluring snares, but how they deceive themselves! Lost! lost! lost! how soon the word becomes branded on their once pure young faces.

Young men are you in a city full of temptations and being led away by them? Are you taking your first steps away from your mother's teaching? O, be warned in time—choose good associates—put yourself under good influences and pray to Christ to be your strong helper and guide. Should some poor mother's boy, who has wandered into a far country chance to read this letter, a poor hungry boy who has been feeding on husks and has spent all his portion in that which satisfieth not, let him not be discouraged.

Our Lord's precious talk to the multitude on the day he told them the parable of the Prodigal Son, assures the wanderer of a loving return to the Father. His father met him when he was yet a great way off and fell on his neck and kissed him. Did he put on some of the cast off garments in the home to cover his son's nakedness? O, no, he called for the best robe. Yes, poor sinner, Christ waits for you—he will forgive you—in your weakness he will put his strong arms about you and keep you from falling.

He didn't come to save the

righteous—only sinners. It is they who overcome by his help the sins of the flesh, and come up through great tribulation that He clothes with the robe and bids them stand before the throne forever and ever.—*Susan Teal, in Christian at Work.*

Revivals.

The change wrought in any community, blest with a genuine revival, is a sufficient vindication of the Christian religion. In many instances, such a revival has proved irresistible in overcoming long-existing skepticism, when all other Christian evidences have been adduced in vain. Not long since an aged skeptic, well known and most influential in an important town, said: "I can easily refute all the arguments usually adduced in support of the Christian religion, but when I see, through the agencies employed in the recent revival, how the slothful diligent, the passionate man quiet and neighborly, I must own that there is a power in all this that I cannot understand." Comparatively few persons ever come to a full realization of the necessity of revivals. The church needs them. Many professing Christians are content with their present religious privileges; having themselves no questionings, no doubts as to the grounds of Christian doctrine, they live on with scarcely a thought of the vast multitude of unsaved souls about them. How much they are in need of the Holy Spirit to open their dull hearts and reveal their own sad condition, and also that of the impenitent! Nothing will do this in the church save a gracious visitation from above.

And who can say what will then be the blessed result in rescuing the unsaved? Indeed, we may well lose our hope for very many unless there come upon the community in which they live a special refreshing from the presence of the Lord. They are so fully entrenched in old and sinful prejudices, so thoroughly given over to selfish habits, so obedient to the will of the wicked one, that no ordinary method for reformation will avail. Unless God's power is revealed in awakening them to a sense of sin, they are inevitably lost. The outward life may be partially improved without this, but the inward and everlasting benefit will never be known by them. O, that every one might become fully alive to the importance of having revivals of religion! One reason why such revivals are not more frequent is that we have not a just estimate of their absolute necessity.

Don't Step There.

A Man started out for church one icy Sabbath morning, and presently came to a place where a little boy was standing, who, with choking voice, said:

"Please don't step there."

"Why not?"

"Because I stepped there, and fell down," sobbed the little fellow, who had thus taken it upon himself to warn the unwary passer-by of the danger into which he had fallen. There are many in the world who have good reasons for giving such warnings as this. The man who has trod the dark and slippery paths of intemperance, as he sees the young learning to take the first glass of spirits or wine or beer, has good reason to say to them, "Don't step there, for I stepped there and fell down." The man who has indulged in gambling till he is despised by others and abhorred by himself, has good reason to say to the young when they are entering on the same course, "Don't step there, for I stepped there, and fell down."

How many there are to-day in prison and convict settlements, with reputations ruined and lives blasted, who could say to the young man tempted to enter the paths of dishonesty and wrong-doing, "Don't step there, for I stepped there and fell down."

It is well for us to be warned by the sad experience of others, and it is sometimes a duty for those who have fallen by these temptations to lift a warning voice. There are slippery places all around us, and thousands are passing heedlessly along. Let us entreat them to beware, and, as we remember the bitter experiences of our own sinful lives, let us say to those who are just yielding to such temptations, "Don't step there, for I stepped there and fell down."

How to Help a Meeting.

Come.

Come early.

Bring somebody else.

Take a front seat.

Sing. Supposing you don't know one note from another, you will feel better for having tried and will encourage others.

Say something, if it is only two words; twenty-five short testimonies are better than a whole "posy-bed of glittering nothings, or beautiful sunset sky rhetoric." Men who come don't want gush, but they want life.

Don't keep your mouth shut for fear of making mistakes. Bless your heart, a hundred years from now the fact that you used frightful grammar, won't bother you a bit if some soul was saved because you did say something.

Don't start a discussion.

Don't wait till the last one; somebody will say just what you wanted to. It always happens so.

Don't think about that engagement tomorrow.

Too much world in your heart will act like water on a fire.

If the meeting drags don't you drag; make it snap somehow.

Look just as pleasant as you can. It's contagious. Remember that it's God's service and not the human being leading.

Remember that the leader needs prayers, sympathy and support.

Remember that long prayers are too good for a good meeting.

Finally take home that part of the meeting that hit you the hardest and think it over.

Don't pass it over your shoulder to the one back of you.

Make the stranger welcome.

Take the meeting up and not down. If you cannot say anything good about it, keep quiet.

Pray much for blessing.—*First Church Herald, Chicago.*

Asked To Be Discharged.

A confession written but never signed was the means of reclaiming a drunken workman some time ago. The Youth's Companion describing the methods adopted by John Roach, the ship builder, in the management of the 25,000 men he had in his employ, mentions the case of a smart workman who was apparently an irreclaimable drunkard. Mr. Roach forgave him and reinstated him so many times that the man himself was ashamed and asked to be discharged. "No," said Mr. Roach, "you shall resign, but not now. I will write your resignation for you and you must promise me to carry it around with you, and when you feel tempted to drink take it out, read it, sign it and send it to me before you take your glass." The man promised, and Mr. Roach wrote: John Roach, Sir: You helped me when I was penniless. You gave me work when I was idle. You taught me when I was ignorant. You have always paid me well. You bore my infirmities over and over. But I have lost my self-respect and have not enough regard for you or love for my wife and children to behave like a man, and I withdraw from your employment." The man touched liquor no more and was in Mr. Roach's employ many years afterward. In keeping his promise the heinousness of the thing he was tempted to do was forced on his mind, and the temptation was vanquished. "It is the heedless and unwary whom Satan captures." (Deut. 4:9).—*Christian Herald.*

RELIGION AND BUSINESS.

A devout Christian layman, recently called to his heavenly reward, had the daily habit through all his busy life of occasionally holding silent communion with God, even in the midst of the most exacting worldly engagements. His testimony, in substance, was that this sweet strengthening intercourse came to be most natural and easy, and that in no sense did it interfere with promptness and correctness in transacting business. It is said that, in order to fix this habit firmly he set apart a few moments each day for this special purpose. When the chosen period came, if he found himself under an unusual pressure, even a single uplifted thought toward God brought unspeakable comfort and joy.

What an experience is insured by such fidelity! How the soul ripens in spiritual living! Truth is readily apprehended whenever we acquire the power to turn our hearts fully, habitually, consciously, upward. This power is for every one. It comes only through the indwelling Holy Spirit; and yet it comes by our personal faithfulness. He who is faithful toward God will ever find God faithful to him.

When death, the great reconciler, has come, it is never our tenderness that we repent of, but our severity.

There are those that we can help in no other way, whom we can meet and help in prayer.—*J. F. Clarke.*

The mind, in order to be kept pure, must be employed in topics of thoughts which are themselves lovely, chastened and elevating.

When we meet with the little vexatious incidents of life by which our quiet is too often disturbed, it will prevent many painful sensations, if we only consider how insignificant this will appear a twelve-month hence.

One of the sweetest passages in the Bible is this: Undone beneath are the everlasting arms. What a vivid idea it gives of the Divine support! God knows our feebleness. He remembers that we are dust.

SUN LIFE Assurance Company.

Head Office--MONTREAL.

The rapid progress made by this Company may be seen from the following Statement:

	INCOME.	ASSETS.	LIFE ASSURANCES IN FORCE.
1872.....	\$48,210.93.....	\$546,461.95.....	\$1,076,350.00
1874.....	64,073.88.....	621,362.81.....	1,864,392.00
1876.....	102,822.14.....	715,944.64.....	2,214,093.00
1878.....	127,505.87.....	773,895.71.....	3,374,683.43
1880.....	141,402.81.....	911,132.93.....	3,881,479.14
1882.....	254,841.73.....	1,073,577.94.....	5,849,889.19
1884.....	278,379.65.....	1,274,397.24.....	6,844,404.04
1885.....	319,987.05.....	1,411,004.33.....	7,930,878.77

THE SUN

Issues Absolutely Unconditional Life Policies.

THOMAS WORKMAN, President.

R. MACAULAY, Managing Director.

J. B. CUNTER, General Agent.

61 Prince William St., St. John, and Queen St. Fredericton, N. B.

W. H. VANWART'S FIRST-CLASS GROCERY, GOOD GOODS! FAIR PRICES!

QUFEN STREET, - - FREDERICTON.

Watches! Watches!

—LADIES', GENTS' AND BOYS' SIZES IN—

GOLD, SILVER, FILLED AND NICKLE CASES,
From \$3 to \$130!

—A SPLENDID DISPLAY OF—

Rich Gold Jewelry!

In Sets, Bracelets, Lace Pins, Necklets, Lockets, Buttons, Diamond Rings, Scarf Pins, Fob Chains, Charms.

THE LARGEST STOCK OF SILVERWARE EVER OFFERED IN FREDERICTON.

CLOCKS—ALL PRICES, FROM \$2.00 UPWARD.

Call and examine our prices and be convinced that we are selling Lower than the Lowest.

JAMES D. FOWLER, (Opposite Post Office) FREDERICTON.

YERXA & YERXA,

—DEALERS IN—

General Groceries!

—IN STORE—

50 BBLs. GOOD HALIFAX SUGAR.

We are giving 20 lbs. of this Sugar for \$1.00.

—ALSO:—

30 HALF CHESTS BREAKFAST ENGLISH TEA.

New Crop, good value, 25 cents per lb., or 5 lbs., for \$1.00.

WE KEEP OUR STOCK FRESH AND NEW.

CALL AND SEE US BEFORE BUYING.

—SECOND DOOR ABOVE PEOPLES' BANK.—

Fredericton, - Queen street, - No. 158.

YERXA & YERXA.

W. FENWICK, COMMISSION MERCHANT.

Agent for the Sale of all kinds of

BUTTER, CHEESE, EGGS,

OATS, BUCKWHEAT, FLOUR,

POTATOES, TURNIPS,

PORK, POULTRY, &c.

NORTH MARKET STREET,

SAINT JOHN, N. B.

Receiving Daily!

Butter, Potatoes, B. Meal,

AND ALL KINDS OF SEASONABLE COUNTRY PRODUCE.

P. NASE & SON,

GROCERIES & HARDWARE,

INDIANTOWN, ST. JOHN, N. B.

New Boots!

NEW SHOES.

NEW RUBBERS.

A VERY LARGE NEW STOCK OF

BOOTS & SHOES,

LATELY RECEIVED AT

Lottimer's Shoe Store,

No. 210 Queen St., Fredericton