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"Not as I Will."

Blindfolded and alone I stand, With unknown thresholds on each hand, The darkness deepens as I grope, Afraid to fear, afraid to hope; Yet this one thing I learn to know Each day more serely as I go, That doors are opened, ways are made, Burdens are lifted or are laid, By some great law unseen and still, Unfathomed purpose to fulfill, "Notice I will."

Blindfolded and alone I wait; Loss seems too bitter, gain too late; Too heavy burdens in the load, And too few helpers on the road; And joy is weak and grief is strong, And years and days so long, so long! Yet this one thing I learn to know Each day more surely as I go, That I am glad the good and ill By changeless law are ordered still. "Not as I will."

"Not as I will"-the sound grows sweet Each time my lips the words repeat, "Not as I will!" the darkness feels More safe than light when this thought steals

Like whispered voice to calm and bless All unrest and all loneliness. 'sNot as I will," because the One Who loved us first and best has gone Before us'on the road, and still For us may all His love fulfill, "Not as we will." -Helen Hunt Jackson.

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Holiness-The Great Want.

A great deal has been written and spoken about holiness, as to what it is, why it is necessary to be holy, and how we may become holy. Holiness in the the door; don't wait to be sent for! and the near make up the perfect New Testament always embraces both character and life. It always implies holy living. It embraces purity and consecration. It is not something added on to personal religion. It is per- It wants a cheery and joyous man to It is not only the distant opportunity, sonal godliness. In a word, conformity to the will and image of God. Though there must be an inner state or experience of the sanctifying grace of God, out of which a holy life flows, yet holiness is much more than the feeling of joy, or any other emotional experience. Bishop Newman, in a recent sermon, says the term indicates "the recoil of a pure soul from the commission of sin." This is certainly a central idea in scriptural holiness. No matter what men and women profess as to their feelings and inward experience, unless they show the spirit of Christ in their life and character, they are not truly holy.

The term holiness in Scripture is not identical with complete sanctification, though it is often used in that sense by Methodist writers of our day. Neither is holiness a mere negative we see persons seeking a particular cleansing from inward sir. Holiness implies the positive graces of Christian social prominence, and after uniting character, even the fruits of the Spirit named by the Apostle Paul in the epistle to the Galatians. It means faith, ceive little or no attention from the love, zeal for God, hatred of sin, and the consecration of the powers of the Yenewed being to the service of Christ, sign of church membership and no true But if these spiritual graces are elements in a holy character, then it follows that there are degrees in holiness. Among holy Christians some may have stronger faith, more ardent love, or higher joy than others who are also true Christians. St. Paul addresses all the Christians of the churches to which he writes as "saints;" but we would not be justified in assuming that all these had attained to a perfect and being included in a circle of holy Christian character, or that all who are and disinterested friendship. If that not perfect in love are to be classed be the real motive, its best purpose with the "anholy." To be holy does not mean to have reached a point will be mutually beneficial. But no where all who have attained this blessed state are exactly on the same level this step as taken by large numbers. of goodness with all others who are If one joins a church in order to secure ranked among the holy.

much time and thought in analyzing she has been accustomed, and still the meaning of such terms as holiness | more if one does it for the sake of seand sanctification, and yet failing to curing patronage in his business, he obtain the experience which they re- fails of any true benefit and debases a ures-or even questionable ones-is was an infant the mother was obliged, present. If to be holy is to be what professedly sacred relationship to God in the purposes and provisions of mere wordly end. He may secure comhis love means every Christian to be, panionship, but not Christian fellowthen each disciple of Christ should de- ship, temporal but not spiritual help. voutly study the teaching of the Bible | He is simply making "gain of godlito find out what his Father in heaven ness." would have him to be and to do. The terms we use to designate experience are of far less importance than the things signified. God calls us to be holy. He makes it our duty to be holy. What he would have us be, he will give the needed grace to become. In following after holiness, we are seeking things essential to a true spiritual for such a complaint. There is too life. Take for example the strong little real brotherly love in the church, faith which only the holy can have.

less desirable and necessary are those sistent members. - Christian Guar.

Pastoral Visiting.

Visit all the families! Some min-

church. That is like repairing the wall when it is in good condition, and neglecting is where it has tumbled down. Very pleasant and very natugal, maybe; but it is not the way to win souls. Our Saviour went to people. "To every creature" does not mean to the families of respectability truly means to live. They cover the lerand good parlors. The weedy part of richest and highest possibilities of this the garden needs most hoeing. Call bright world where we now are, and oftenest on the negligent families. Don't give them a chance to feel our real self will be by and by. Let slighted; don't neglect the negligent. | the words stay with us for daily incen-Visit short. Five to fifteen minutes | tive as they are given by our heavenly will generally answer. A great deal Teacher. Let us mark in our Bibles may be said and done in ten minutes. as a reminder when we turn its pages Don't wear people out. Don't forget | these verses-Gal. vi, 10: "As we that their time is fully occupied. have therefore opportunity, let us do Short visits, on the whole, do most good unto all men, especially unto good. Call on people in their trouble. them who are of the household of Sicknesses and losses and sorrow are faith." 1 Peter iv, 18: "As every God. If you don't go near people in minister one to another, as good stewtheir adversities, it will be of little ards of the manifold grace of God. avail to go to them in their prosperi- Luke xvi, 18: "He that is faithful in ties. They all want friends in trouble. | that which is least, is faithful also in A tear of sympathy, will move men | much; and he that is unjust in the and women into whose crusted souls least is unjust also in much. Opporsermons never entered. Be sure to tunity, like a picture, bears to be go where sickness and sorrow open studied; as a landscape, the distant Be sunshiny and pleasant. Smiles whole. will do more missionary work than No blade of grass, or little bush, or frowns. Visit the hard places in your | tiny floating cloud, but has its essenhappiest moods, if you have moods. | tial part in filling up the sum of beauty. make pastoral visitation a success. but the near—the little commonplaces The more heaven he can carry in his of every day-which make up the face the better. Make your visits "well done." The habit of being largely to the children-these are the faithful in little things makes a faithhope of the future; and they are ful character which can be relied on also the best door to parents' hearts in great emergencies. Along a certain here and now. Every little sympathy | read-side on Long Island all the trees of kindness or gift to the child knocks are bent over sideways. Riding by off a prejudice about the older heart, If you can get the children to love and welcome you, the way is open to all the rest. "A little child shall lead them."—Congregationalist.

Why are you a Church Member?

We fear that there are a great many to whom this is an embarrassing ques tion. If we are to judge by both actions and words, self advantage is the primary and controlling motive. When church which has the most wealth and with it "standing all the day idle," or hear them complaining that they re members, one knows at once that they have no proper conception of the desense of responsibility as members.

It is very true that the church is intended to confer great advantages upon all who join and that no one can be a faithful member without reaping much benefit. Amongst these is Christian fellowship, the aid and comfort flowing from brotherly love, the joy and support which arise from being associated with godly men and women, will be realized by both parties. It such motive or result is connected with social recognition, especially in a grade There is a possibility of spending of society above that to which he or

> Nothing is more disgusting than the whining complaint from many lips, "I am never noticed by my fellow members, they never visit me in my home, they never invite me to their entertain-

can make no show." too much regard for wealth, station, It quickens love into an absorbing af- fashion, style, and the like. There is of the publicans." He raid, "Follow ed by a stranger who a certain deform- say "No!" fection. It kindles zeal into a flame of too much pride of person and family, Me," and then Matthew goes at once ed person was. The daughter was We are too apt to think what the earnest desire to spend and be spent too much isolation and alienation, and into a new life. for God. It soothes and calms the too little exercise of that feeling of spirit in the wildest storms which oneness and equality which Jesus in- Master commands. Begin to practice As the young woman was unwilling to right, and stand by it; and if we do disturb the atmosphere of life. It culcated upon his followers. We are religion. A child never would learn say, "This is my mother,' so they are not do this, we are not worthy to be

Linguisting of the Tennerson auestion | Bome, but it is not ten policy wearn I god a work be bigged lines of the

duty and consolation for sorrow. Not literate all social and intellectual dis- feet, even at the risk of many a tumtinctions. There must be freedom in ble. Wait not for more feeling, or graces of holiness of which faith is the choosing associates, and congeniality more pungent convictions, or for anyparent and precursor. We need a must be sought. Wet still it is true thing that you read of in other peomore burning zeal, deeper humility, that in all spiritual concerns the body ple's experiences. These are all snares and patient charity. As holiness of of Christ is one and on the same level. and hindrances, if they keep you from character is power, the influence and The poor and illiterate should never doing at once the very first act that success of a church depends upon the enter the church to get notice from will please Christ. Have you ever holiness of its members. There can the rich and cultivated. Yet the high- opened your lips to any unconverted be no such thing as a holy and mighty est classes should enter it, in part, to friend, either to avow your own feel-Church made up of unholy and incon- exercise the benevolence of true piety ings, or to do that friend some good? towards all in the church; and there is | Then try it; you will strengthen youra way of doing this without condescension and superciliousness. - Southern

Two Golden Words.

isters call only on those that go to be written in golden letters, or in letopportunity, fidelity.

meaning they comprehend all that it you have everthing .- Dr. T. L. Cuyof that other just as real world where always opening doors to the man of man hath received the gift, even so

one day, we remarked :

"There must have been a strong wind here to turn over all these trees.' "Oh no," was the reply; those trees were turned that way when they were little saplings to make a fence along

the road."

One look at their big trunks showed hat they could never stand straight again. It was a daily growth ending in a fixed life. As we have therefore opportunity, let us be faithful in that which is least.

Prayers for Children.

Surely among all prayers that go up o God none are dearer or more prevailing than the intercessions of parents for their children. They are the hallowed breathings of the purest tenderest leve. Such prayers, if persistent, believing, and importunate, may we not say that God always answers in some way in the end? Monica, the mother of Augustine, prays for her son. For a time he goes deeper and deeper into sin, and it seems that the mother's supplications are unheard or unavailing. But she faints not; she will not give him up; she refuses to be | pray. disheartened. For many years her son wanders far from God, but she he replied. stays at her altar, undismayed, believing still and pleading with renewed father made this remark in my hearearnestness. At last all her intercessions are answered in one hour, when Augustine falls down at Jesus' feet in submission, and instantly turnsall the wealth of his splendid life into the service of his new Master. - Presbyterian Observer.

Practicing Religion. ments, and all because I am poor and there is little space left for weeds. and carried it out safe, but was her We do not say there is no ground on the "thou shalt nots." Christ did she hung between life and death, and, his business; and it was Gou's business

Begin at once to do whatever your

self, and may bring an unexpected blessing to him or her. In short, you must begin to obey ? w Master; to serve a new Savio ; to strike out a new line of living, and rely on God's There are two words which should almighty help to do it. When you give yourself to Christ, in this wholeters of lambent flame, like holy altar hearted and practical fashion, He will fires, upon every heart and brain- give you a thousand-fold richer gifts in return. Yea, He will give you When looked at in their deepest | Himself! When you possess Christ,

A Wife's Power

The power of a wife for good or evi is irresistible. Home must be the seat of happiness, or it must be unknown forever. A good wife is to a man wisdom and courage, strength and endurance. A bad one is confusion, weakness, discomfiture, and dispair. No condition is hopeless where the wife possesses firmness, decision, and economy. There is no outward prosperity which can counteract indolence, extravagance, and folly at home. No spirit can endure bad domestic influence. Man is strong, but his heart is not adamant. He delights in enterprise and action; to sustain him he needs a tranquil mind and a wholeheart. He needs moral force in the conflicts of the world. To recover his | They are morose, petulant, and disequanimity and composure, home must agreeable in business life and social be a place of repose, cheerfulness, intercourse. Even ministers are somepeace, comfort; and his soul renews its | times found who make their presence strength again, and goes forth with so repulsive that their own children fresh vigor to encounter the trouble breathe more freely in their absence. and labor of life. But if at home he | They justify themselves in the indulfinds no rest, and is there met with gences of such unhappy tempers on the bad temper, sullenness, or gloom, or is ground that it is their nature, their assailed with discontent or complaint, way, and their habit. They say hope vanishes, and he sinks into des- | "Why should I care how I appear to

What Do Your Children Read.

emaciated form, pale, hollow cheeks and sunken eyes-all telling me that his sojourn on earth must be brief. "How are you to-day, Arthur?"

"About as usual," he replied.

"Do you suffer much lying here? "Sometimes I suffer a good deal, especially from difficulty in breathing. "Do you think you will get well?

"No sir." "Would you like to get well?" It makes but little difference with

me whether I do or not." "Does the thought of approaching

death give you anxiety or alarm?" "I have no fears nor care about it." "Do you feel willing to die?"

"I have wished I were dead a hundred times since I have been sick,

to get rid of my sufferings." "What is your hope for the future." "I do not concern myself at all

about the future." Afterwards I asked him if I should

"I do not care, if you want to pray," In two or three days he died. His

ing: "My son lies in yonder cemetery -an infidel-from the effects of novel reading!"

Parents what do your children read? -Selected.

The Guilt Of Pride.

There was once a daughter who was unwilling to confess that her mother Giving up sinful practices or pleas- was her mother. When that daughter not enough. Such negative religion on a certain occasion, to leave her will not last long, or avail much. children at home whilst she went to a Genuine piety is a positive thing; it neighbor's. On returning, she saw is doing right, it is keeping Christ's flames bursting from her window. commandments. Pulling up weeds She found that her infant child was does not make a garden in the bright | yet within, and was about to enter May days. Mellowing the earth and when she was prevented and told that dropping the seeds, and setting out death would be the inevitable consethe young plants, is the only substan- quence. She nevertheless rushed in, The three Hebrew children said, "We tial way to do it. When the soil is and found the child where she had left will not serve thy gods;" and there busy in growing vegetables and flowers, it. She wound it up in a covering, they rested. They had nothing to do Less than half your religion depends | self shockingly burnt. For months | them into the fiery furnace, that was not say to Matthew, "Thou shalt stay when she recovered, was a frighful to look after the fire when they were here at the toll-booth, and try to keep object. Twenty years afterwards the thrown into it. They simply said, and out of cheating and other evil practices | infant, then a young woman, was ask- acted, "No; we will not." Dare to

opens to mortal want and weakness not communists. We do not think to walk by a hundred talks about the unwilling to say of him who died for called by His name. - Mrs. M. Botin and the takes of attended to the transfer of the transfer to the transfer of the transfer o

marred than any man's, "This is my Redeemer and my King, and I will serve him and love him forever." Reader, have you been guilty of such baseness?

Jesus, and shall it ever be, A mortal man ashamed of thee! Ashamed of thee, whom angels praise, Whose glories shine through endless days!

Ashamed of Jesus! Yes, I may, When I've no guilt to wash away; No tear to wipe, no good to crave, No fears to quell, no soul to save.

The Wasted Years.

What a remarkable promise that is of the Lord to his repentant people: "I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the canker-worm, the caterpillar, and the palmer-worm." The past years of unfruitfulness may be restored.

Christian, it may be that with youthe sun is going down. You have but one life to live. Count up the years of your Christian life that the locust of worldliness and the canker-worm of the cares of the world and the caterpillar of sinful pleasure and the palmerworm of secret sin have devoured and made unfruitful! How dreary the record! Can they be restored to you? There's the promise. Claim it. Fly to Christ. Henceforth know nothing among men but him crucified.

Die unto the world. Live unto righteousness. Pray for the restoration of these devoured years. It may be that even you may reap a harvest that will gladden your heart through all eternity. There is no time for anything else. -Chaplain C. C. McCabe.

Some Christians take no pains to cultivate an amiable disposition. others, so I am conscious of honest and upright intentions?" The answer is plain. From a Brooklyn A lad of sixteen lay upon his death- pulpit this beautiful sentiment was bed. A wasting consumption was spoken. It is the duty of every slowly but surely doing its fatal work. | Christian to make his religion beauti-He was a former pupil of mine. I ap- ful and attractive to those who are proached his bedside, took him by the without. If we behave so as to make hand, and gazed a moment on his thin our Christianity appear uncomely and disagreeable, we misrepresent the Gospel. "The beauty of holiness" is one of its chief recommendations; and if our holiness fails to impart to us a beautiful spirit, an amiable disposition, and a winsome way, it is not Christian holiness.

RANDOM READINGS.

Everybody is wise after the event. There can be no Christianity where there is no charity. - Colton.

The Master's work may make weary feet, but it leaves the spirit glad. -- Mrs.

Keep your conduct abreast of your conscience, and very soon your conscience will be illumined by the radiance of God. - W. M. Taylor.

I have read in Plato and Cicero say ings that are wise and very beautiful but I never read in either of them, 'Come unto me, all ye that labor and

are heavy laden." - St. Augustine. Do not be desirous to have things done quickly; do not look at small advantages. Desire to have things done quickly prevents their being done thoroughly. Looking at small advantage

prevents great affairs from being ac complished.—Confucius... I have read somewhere the legend of one who, day-dreaming in his chair, be-

held a vision, which stood before him and beckoned him to follow her to fortune He waited sluggishly, heeded not her call nor her beckoning, until at last she grew dim and disappeared. Just as the vision faded he sprung to his feet and cried out, "Tell CLIFTON HOUSE, me who thou art!" and received the answer, "I am Opportunity; once neglected, I never return." to say "No." I have a friend who says

WE WILL Nor.—It takes character the first thing she would teach a boy, if she had one, would be to say "No." with the results. If the king threw

ashamed to confess it was her mother. result will be if we say "No," All So thousands treat Jesus Christ. we have to do is to decide what is

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