

In Directum.

BY MARY B. C. WYTHE.

Press on. Dost thou complain, "The way is strait?"
Ah, sweet, my love, 'tis love that made it so;
Love worketh no ill will. Strait is the way,
And rugged, flint-lined, sharp with many a thorn
To tear thy garments, pierce thy skin, and aye
To vex and weary thee from night till morn,
As, pressing on, thy steadfast footsteps go
Along the narrow way shut in by the straight gate.
Yet O,

Press on. Though tears shall dim the way,
Though thy feet falter, though thy limbs are weak,
Though few walk with thee, yea, though thou alone
Of all thy kindred tread the narrow path
That leads, ah! heavenly love, that leads His own
To Him who every rude and painful footstep hath
Trodden before them—yet press on, and seek
The strait way's end, life's everlasting day.

Press on. And, pressing on, take heart of grace.
Bless God, the way is strait, that thou may'st be
Hedged in and safe from all marauding ill
That throng, in various guise, the devious way,
So broad and smooth, where song and laughter thrills
Through all the moments of each sun-bright day
And mirth and pleasure join in minstrelsy,
Beguiling to the end of death's mad, heedless race.

Press on. Though few there be that find the gate
Or strive to enter, through the hurrying crowd
Throng the broad way, O love, no step retraced,
Turn not aside, do valiantly, be true.
The toilsome journey ends at last, and grace
All grace of beauty lacking here, in new
And tender radiance, fair and heaven-browed,
Thou'lt find where angel bands thy coming wait.

—Illustrated Christian Weekly.

Examine Yourselves.

Paul writes to the Corinthians: "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove yourselves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?" This verse troubles some good people because they do not understand it. They think that it teaches the duty of a frequent and minute introspection. They regard themselves as required to sit down, now and then, and invoice their stock in trade, making out a schedule of their debts, and strike a balance which will show their exact spiritual condition. All prudent business men do thus examine their affairs from time to time. The Government appoints examiners to visit the banks, the mints and the post-offices. Sometimes these examinations show that a bank is insolvent, and then its business is suspended, and its assets placed in the hands of a receiver. It is this idea of the word "examine" that makes Christians shrink from the duty which they suppose is here enjoined. And because such an examination would be tedious, and its result unsatisfactory, they do not make it, and yet they feel guilty, because they neglect. It seems to me, however, that a careful study of what the apostle wrote will show that the exhortation is a reasonable one; that he only tells us to do what we can do easily, and ought to do frequently. The figure is that of a coin. It is offered to us, or owned by us, and we want to determine whether it is genuine or not. It bears the stamp of a Roman denarius, or a Jewish shekel, but it may not be counterfeit. We test it by its ring, or by applying an acid. If it has the sound of silver, and stands the test of a liquid that will corrode base metals, we accept it. If not, we reject it. The test is simple. The Christian is like the coin. He bears the name of Christ. He proposes to pass among his fellow men as a disciple of Christ. He hopes to be received at last into heaven, as one who has been washed in the blood of the Lamb. But is he really what he professes to be, and hopes that he is? He longs for certainty on this point. How is he going to secure that certainty? Not by long and minute analysis of his feelings, his motives and his deeds, but by applying a simple test. Here is Paul's statement of it—"whether ye be in the faith." We may be very imperfect in many respects; nay, we certainly are. But if we do love Christ, and trust in him, we are his; we have a right to bear his name, and to cherish the hope that is full of glory and eternal life.

Let us take the common illustration of a voyage. The captain of a vessel, if he is faithful, will make frequent examinations. But how? Will he go down into the hold, and invoice the cargo over again? Will he take a light and hunt everywhere for a possible leak? No; he will take his observation of the sun, and by it determine his position on the chart. When he thus finds that he is on the right course he is satisfied. And that is the kind of examination we need to make. We compare our feelings and our principles with the Bible. If we find that they are in accord, we know that we are in the new and living way. We may not be exemplary Christians, but we are real ones.

There is little profit and great peril in frequent and minute introspection. It tends to the fatal error that our hopes depend on what we are, rather than upon what Christ is to us. If he is ours, we will, of course, try to be like him. Studying him as revealed in the gospel mirror we will be changed into the same image, by the Holy Spirit. The transformation may be slow, but it is sure. Now we can not help the gracious process by looking persistently at ourselves, and sighing over our want of likeness to Christ. It is better far to keep our eyes fixed upon the image in the mirror.

I came across an old book the other day which was filled with rules for self-examination. If a man followed the directions in that book, he would not be able to do anything else, and he would get such morbid and mournful views of himself as would be more likely to drive him to insanity than to Christ. We must, of course, realize that we are sinners; that in us, by nature, there is no good thing, and that we can no more think a good thought without the aid of the Holy Spirit than we can gather grapes of thorns. But when we know that a tree is full of thorns and can't bear anything but thorns, what good will it do to count them one by one, and to prick our fingers with them? Better far to ask God to cut off the branches with their thorns, and graft into them the scions that will bear fruit unto holiness.

A young man, who was depressed by overwork, nervous and dyspeptic, went to seek the advice of a friend who was a physician. But the doctor being absent, he thought he would examine his books and find out for himself what was the matter. He took down one volume after another, and read about this and that class of symptoms until he came to the conclusion that he was afflicted with about all the diseases that flesh is heir to. It would have been a great deal better for that young man to have tried to forget all about his symptoms, and gone out into the open air foot or on horseback. When exercise and oxygen has sent the blood bounding through his veins, he would not need either diagnosis or medicine. Nature would have restored him to health. And what nature will do, if we give her a chance, in the case of bodily ailments in many cases, grace will do in all spiritual melodies. Let the Christian who is conscious of not being right with God waste no time in analyzing his defects and imperfections. Let him go out and work for God. Let him study with fresh interest the word of God—especially its promises; and he will soon experience that joy in the Lord which is the strength of the believer.

—C. E. B. in Journal.

The Answer Delayed.

There are certain experiences common to all saints. One of these is the temptation that comes because prayer for right things does not immediately "inherit the promise." There are seasons when the reason for delay seems to us very plain; there are other times when we are constrained to say: "O Lord, hast Thou forgotten to be gracious?" But in all prayer we are to remember that we are suppliants only through grace; that to approach God and ask Him is in any sense a great privilege. A just view of prayer, that act by which we fall in helplessness before God, will prove to us that we are not at liberty to make any demands upon Him. "Just as Thou wilt, O Lord," is the proper attitude of the suppliant bending low at his feet. Entire submission to His way is a mark of prevailing faith. And such a faith is not so much concerned whether God choose to delay or not.

Andrew Murray has said: "When once faith has taken its stand upon God's word, and the name of Jesus, and has yielded itself to the leading of the spirit to seek God's will and honor alone in its prayer, it need not be discouraged by delay. It knows from Scripture that the power of believing prayer is simply irresistible; real faith can never be disappointed. It knows that just as water, to exercise the irresistible power it can have, must be gathered up and accumulated until God sees that the measure is full and the answer comes. It knows that

just as soon as the plowman has to take his ten thousand steps and his thousand seeds, each one a part of the preparation for the final harvest, there is a need-be for oft-repeated, persevering prayer, all working out some desired blessing. "O Lord, do teach me how real the labor of prayer is. I know how here on earth when I have failed in an undertaking I can often succeed by renewed and more continuous effort by giving more time and thought. Show me how, by giving myself more entirely to prayer to live in prayer, I may obtain what I ask. And, above all, O my blessed Teacher, author and perfecter of faith, let my whole life be in Thy grace be one of faith in Thee, in whom my prayer gains acceptance, in whom I have the assurance of the answer, 'in whom the answer will be mine.'"

Elijah's Experience Re-Told.

In these days when men are trying to do away with the supernatural, and robbing the Bible of all that they cannot tone down, or reasonably explain, it may be well to remind them that, however much it goes against human reason, the story of Elijah being fed by the ravens can be re-told in our own day. The following incident may help to strengthen one's faith, and it may also convince unbelieving unbelievers of our gracious Father's care for his children shown in the smallest matters. In Elijah's days God used the ravens to supply his servant with food: here we have a dog being used for like purpose.

There was a very poor saint, but a very bright one, in one of our northern towns, who, one day, had nothing to eat; and lifting up his heart to the Lord, on leaving the courtyard where he lived, in simple faith, said, "Lord I am so hungry!" Meanwhile a greyhound appeared, bounding down the street, and, making for the old man, dropped at his feet a large piece of meat which it carried in its mouth. The dog looked up in the old man's face, as if to say, "It is for you," and made off as fast as it could go. To satisfy himself, the old man made inquiry at the butcher's shops in the neighborhood, to see if the dog had stolen the meat; but he could not find that it had. Thus God had repeated providence, as in the case of Elijah being fed by ravens, and guided the dog to supply his child's need.

How full of meaning is that precious passage, "My God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus!"

A glorious Provider—"God."
A glorious promise—"shall."
A good portion—"supply."
A gift that is perfect—"all."
A gain that is personal—"your."
A gladdened patient—"need."
A granary of plenty—"according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."
"Why should I ever careful be
When such a God is mine?
He watches o'er me night and day,
And tells me, 'Mine is thine.'"

—Seward and Trovel.

Quarrels.

Big rivers and big quarrels arise from a flowing together of many little streams, each of which taken separately might be diverted into another channel, but altogether make a resistless flood. "Take care of the pennies, and the pounds will take care of themselves." Take care of the little grievances, and the big ones will not come. Parents have many opportunities of teaching their children, both by precept and example, how to differ from others peaceably, how to adjust clashing inclinations, how to wear the laurel of the victor without vain-glory, and to pass under the yoke without degradation.

Differences will arise between children as they will among grown folks. It is well that they do. Children need to learn how to quarrel without losing their tempers, without breaking friendship, without being embittered by defeat or over-elated by victory, without making unfair advantage, without feeling that might makes right, without ignoring the "inalienable rights" of their antagonists. They need to learn to stand for themselves, to think for themselves within limits, and correct their thoughts by reference to right standards of thought and action. Aggressive children need toning down, timid and retiring children need toning up. The parent has an opportunity in the quarrels his children may have to lay down principles of action and policy that will be of immense service when their social and civil quarrels shall be of moment.

A Chance for all to Work.

It does not require a giant to sow a seed, nor a steam-shovel or a trip-hammer to bury it in the ground. A little child can drop corn as well as Goliath, and it only needs to be covered lightly and gently patted down, and then the sunshine and rain do the rest.

Just as the good seed of God does not need giants, orators, or great men to sow it. A word may be spoken by a little child; a tract may be dropped by the wayside, or sent through the mail; a letter may be written, and papers may be distributed by the feeblest, and so in a multitude of ways, humble and insignificant and unknown persons may do work the importance of which none but the Lord can measure.

A few pennies for Scriptures or tracts is all the capital or stock in trade required to begin; and when these are carefully distributed, with prayer for a blessing, then a new supply can be obtained, and the work can still be extended. Here is something for every one to do, and when once done, only the Lord can tell how vast and how blessed the results may be. How many are there who stand ready to undertake such work as this? How many who are saying, "Lord what wilt thou have me to do?" and yet neglecting work which is clearly within their reach, within their means, and within their power, and which can do no hurt, and may do great good?—Safeguard.

How to Observe Sunday.

How can we best observe the Sabbath day? If possible prepare for it on Saturday by doing chores, cooking, taking a bath, getting clothes ready. Rise on Sunday morning with thanksgiving. Visit the sanctuary, and with God's people, worship your Heavenly Father in sincerity of heart. If weary with the week's work, in the afternoon take a refreshing nap. Get an extra supply of nourishment from the Word of God. Call with some ministry of kindness upon those sick or in need. Have a good religious paper or volume to read. Make it the brightest, best day of the week for the children, with privileges in the parlor, with clean clothes, and flowers, with picture Bible, with song, with Bible stories, and, most of all, companionship. Let it be the family day, with perhaps a quiet walk. Remember the Sabbath is for man—for manhood, for physical rest, for mental improvement, for spiritual development, for growth in God-likeness, in whose image we were created. Thus our earthly Sabbath will fit us for the heavenly.

The Rock of Ages.

"I remember," says Dr. Maclaren, "away up in a lonely valley, where beneath a tall black cliff, all weather-worn and seamed, there lies at the foot, resting on the green sward that creeps around its base, a huge rock that has fallen from the face of the cliff. A shepherd was passing beneath it, and suddenly, when the finger of God's will touched it and rent it from its ancient bed in the everlasting rock, it came down, leaping and bounding from pinnacle to pinnacle, and it fell, and the man that was beneath it is there now, ground to powder. Oh, my brethren! that is not my illustration—that is Christ's. Therefore I say unto you, since all that stand against him shall become as the chaff of the summer threshing floor and be swept utterly away, make him the foundation on which you build, and when the rain sweeps away every refuge of lies, you will be safe and serene, building upon the Rock of Ages."

Danger in Success.

No part of human life is free from temptation. There are exposed places which every one feels must be guarded. What is most a surprise to us is the appearance of danger in unexpected places. Failure has its temptations; success opens chasms unknown to its opposite. No great virtue is required to improve the lessons of adversity, but only virtue and wisdom can secure and retain the full advantage of victory. Many a man who has run with steadiness the rougher course, has lost his balance the moment he has entered the high road of prosperity. David was a model of self-control, prudence and courage, through the long centuries with Saul; the climax of victory opened seams and exposed weak places in his character. The man who was too conscientious to take the life of Saul when prowling upon his track, in high day of prosperity ventured to commit adultery and murder. In the capture of Jericho, Joshua held every soldier in the line of duty; but the moment the city was taken new dangers entered and by the sin of a single soldier the conquering host was turned back.

Come.

This is the most familiar word in the Bible! It seems to be a favourite word. The word "Come" occurs six hundred and forty-two times in the Bible. It is "Come to the Supper," "Come to the Waters," "The Spirit and the Bride say, Come," "Through all darkness, through all trials, through

all sorrows, through all calamities, through all temptations, it rings out! Come! Come!! Come!!! The Sabbath-bell calls all the people round to prayer; the poorest man, trudging along the turnpike-road knows that the bell calls him just as much as it calls the rich farmer, riding behind his prancing, capering horse. And so the Gospel-bell calls to palaces and to huts; to robes and to rags. Whoever will let him come.—Wesleyan Tract.

Just Three Things.—"I once met a thoughtful scholar," said Bishop Whipple, "who told me he had read every book he could which assailed the religion of Jesus Christ, and he said he should have become an infidel but for three things: 'First, I am a man. I am going somewhere. To-night I am a day nearer the grave than I was last night. I have read all such books can tell me. They shed not one solitary ray of hope or light upon the darkness. They shall not take away the guide and leave me stone-blind. Secondly, I had a mother. I saw her go down into the dark valley, where I am going; and she leaned on an unseen arm as calmly as a child goes to sleep on its mother's breast. I knew that was not a dream. Thirdly, I have three motherless daughters. They have no protection but myself. I would rather kill them than leave them in this sinful world, if you blot out from it all the teachings of the Gospel.'"

THE MACEDONIAN GIVES.—The churches of Macedonia had ten excellent points in giving:—

1. First they gave themselves to the Lord.
2. Then to those who needed help "by the will of God."
3. They gave of their own accord.
4. Out of their deep poverty.
5. In trial of affliction.
6. With abundance of joy.
7. According to their power.
8. Yea, and beyond their ability.
9. With an abounding liberality.
10. Earnestly entreating the opportunity as a favor ("grace") to themselves.—Selected.

Random Readings.

Better be small and shine, than be great and cast a shadow.

God always has an angel of help for those who are willing to do their duty.—Dr. Cuyler.

"Thy will be done!" means not a saloon in America. And the church must wipe them out.

Faith evermore overlooks the difficulties of the way, and bends her eyes only to the end.

"If a proud man makes me keep my distance, the comfort is, that he keeps his at the same time"—Swift.

A pastor's work is to develop the spiritual life of the people, and to broaden out their sympathies to the very ends of the earth.

God is the first great principle. He is the under-power, the abiding base and background of our human life.—Phillips Brooks.

The sum and substance of all the preparation needed for eternity is to believe what the Bible tells us, and do what the Bible bids us.—Chalmers.

Death is a thief that robs you of your raiment. The resurrection is a royal prince that gives you the costliest garments and covers you with honor.

Do to-day's duty, fight today's temptation; do not weaken and distract yourself by looking forward to things you cannot see, and could not understand if you saw them.

If we believe in Christ let us prove our faith by a becoming life. When, also, we declare our faith, let us add to our devotion so that all who see us may know that we have been in earnest.

The helm of the universe is held by the hands that were pierced for us. The Lord of nature and the mover of all things is that Saviour on whom we may pillow our aching heads.—A. McLaren.

Whatever parent gives his children good instruction, and sets them at the same time a bad example, may be considered as bringing them trod in one hand and poison in the other.—Balgrey.

Life is much reduced in simplicity when we resolve to live one day at a time, and to make that day blessed to others. The cares and the vexations and the troubles of life are allayed or banished under the spell of this central purpose.—Christian Register.

There is something very pathetic in the delusion of him who pleads his present surroundings as an excuse for not being a Christian. "If circumstances were different, I could serve the Lord, but not now." It is extremely improbable that any "more convenient season" than the present will ever come to such a soul.



INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY

1889. SUMMER ARRANGEMENT. 1889.

ON and after MONDAY, 10th June 1889, the Trains of this Railway will run daily (Sunday excepted), as follows:—

TRAINS WILL LEAVE ST. JOHN.

Day Express for Halifax and Cambridge	7.00
Accommodation for Point du Chene	11.10
Fast express for Halifax	14.30
Express for Sussex	18.35
Fast express for Quebec & Montreal	18.55

A parlor car runs each way daily on express trains leaving Halifax at 8.30 and St. John at 7 o'clock. Passengers from St. John for Quebec and Montreal leave St. John at 16.35 and take sleeping car at Moncton.

TRAINS WILL ARRIVE AT ST. JOHN:

Express from Sussex	8.30
Fast express from Montreal and Quebec	10.50
Fast Express from Halifax	14.50
Day express from Halifax and Cambridge	20.10
Express from Halifax, Pictou and Mulgrave	23.30

The trains of the Intercolonial Railway to and from Montreal are lighted by electricity and heated by steam from the locomotive.

All trains are run by Eastern Standard Time.

D. POTTINGER, Chief Superintendent, Railway Office, Moncton, N. B. 8th June, 1889.

New Brunswick Railway Co.

ALL RAIL LINE

ARRANGEMENT OF TRAINS

In Effect April 29th, 1889.

LEAVE FREDERICTON.

(Eastern Standard Time).

6.00 A. M.—Express for St. John, and intermediate points, Vancorbo, Bangor, Portland, Boston, and points West; St. Stephen, St. Andrews, Houlton, Woodstock, Presque Isle, Grand Falls, Edmundston, and points North.
11.30 A. M.—For Fredericton Junction, St. John, and points East.
3.25 P. M.—For Fredericton Junction, St. John, etc.

RETURNING TO FREDERICTON.

From St. John 6.10, 8.35 A. M.; 4.45 P. M.; Fredericton Junction 7.40 A. M.; 1.05, 6.25 P. M.; McAdam Junction, 11.35 A. M.; 2.15 P. M.; Vancorbo, 11.15 A. M.; 12.10 P. M.; St. Stephen, 9.20, 11.40 A. M.; St. Andrews, 6.30 A. M.; arrive in Fredericton 8.55 A. M.; 2.15 and 7.20 P. M.

LEAVE GIBSON.

8.00 A. M.—Mixed for Woodstock and points north.
--

ARRIVE AT GIBSON.

5.55 P. M.—Mixed from Woodstock, and points north.
--

A. J. HEATH, F. W. CRAM, Gen. Pass. & Ticket Agent. Gen. Man.



BRISTOL'S PILLS

THE INFALLIBLE REMEDY

For all Affections of the

LIVER & KIDNEYS

SUGAR-CURED

HAMS BLOOD ORANGES

—AND—

BANANAS.

W. H. Vanwart.

May 1.

STEEL WIRE NAILS.

I HAVE added to my stock of nails a complete line of Steel Wire Nails. I particularly call the attention of the carpenters and builders to the fact that Wire Nails run 50 per cent. more to the pound than the corresponding size of cut nails, and do not destroy the fibre of the wood as cut nails do. Will not break in driving, being stiff and tough. Will not split the wood, but will finish work better and stronger. They are cheaper than cut nails, being more to the pound. Use of brad nails unnecessary.

For sale wholesale and retail, at

NELL'S Hardware Store.

WANTED

A SMALL BOY to learn the Hardware business. Inquire at NEILL'S Hardware Store.

Ask

Sarsaparilla when you



"Ayer's Sarsaparilla" is the best blood purifier I have ever used. It has cured me of many ailments, and I can recommend it to all who are afflicted with any of the diseases it treats. I am Dr. J. C. Ayer, Lowell, Mass.

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