

Over and Over Again.

Over and over again,
No matter which way I turn,
I always find in the book of life
Some lesson I have to learn.
I must take my turn at the mill,
I must grind out the golden grain,
I must work at my task with a resolute will
Over and over again.

We cannot measure the need
Of even the tiniest flower,
Nor check the flow of the golden sands
That run through a single hour;
But the morning dew must fall,
And the sun and the summer rain
Must do their part, and perform it all
Over and over again.

Over and over again
The brook through the meadow flows,
And over and over again
The ponderous mill-wheel goes.
Once doing will not suffice
Though doing be not in vain;
And a blessing fall on us once or twice
May come if we try again.

The path that has once been trod
Is never so rough to the feet,
And the lesson we once have learned
Is never so hard to repeat.
Though sorrowful tears must fall,
And the heart to its depths be driven
With storm and tempest, we need them all
To render us meet for heaven.

—Josephine Pollard.

Why I Go To Church On Rainy Sundays.

BY FRANCES RIDLEY HAVERGAL.

I attend church on rainy Sundays
because—

1. God has blessed the Lord's Day
and hallowed it, making no excep-
tions for rainy Sundays.

5. I expect my minister to be
there. I should be surprised if he
were to stay at home for the weath-
er.

3. If his hands fall through weak-
ness, I shall have great reason to
blame myself, unless I sustain him
by my prayers and my presence.

4. By staying away I may lose
the prayers which bring God's bless-
ing, and the sermon that would have
done me great good.

5. My presence is more needful
on Sundays when there are few, than
on those days when the church is
crowded.

6. Whatever station I hold in the
church, my example must influence
others. If I stay away, why may
not they?

7. On any important business,
rainy weather does not keep me at
home; and church attendance is, in
God's sight, very important.

8. Among the crowds of pleasure-
seekers, I see that no weather keeps
the delicate female from the ball,
the party, or the concert.

9. Among other blessings, such
weather will show me on what founda-
tion my faith is built. It will
prove how much I love Christ. True
love rarely fails to meet an appoint-
ment.

10. Those who stay from church
because it is too warm, or too cold,
or too rainy, frequently absent
themselves on fair Sundays.

11. Though my excuses satisfy
myself, they still must undergo
God's scrutiny; and they must be
well grounded to bear that. (Luke
14-18.)

12. There is a special promise,
that where two or three meet to-
gether in God's name, he will be in
the midst of them.

13. An avoidable absence from
the church is an infallible evidence
of spiritual decay. Disciples first
follow Christ at a distance, and
then, like Peter, do not know him.

14. My faith is to be shown by
my self-denying Christian life, and
not by the rise and fall of the ther-
mometer.

15. Such yielding to surmountable
difficulties prepares for yielding to
those merely imaginary, until thou-
sands never enter a church, and yet
think they have good reason for
such neglect.

16. By a suitable arrangement
on Saturday, I shall be able to attend
church without exhaustion; other-
wise, my late work on Saturday
night must tend to unfit me for the
Sunday enjoyment of Christian priv-
ileges.

17. I know not how many more
Sundays God may give me; and it
would be a poor preparation for my
first Sunday in heaven to have
sighted my last Sunday on earth.

The Boy's Room.

Some way in settling the house
after the spring cleaning, the boy's
room is too frequently the one which
is kept bare of decoration, and
beauty. I think this is a mistake.
Boys appreciate fine distinctions,
and if the amenities of life are left
out in dealing with them, they may
grow to be fine, manly, sturdy fel-
lows, but gentle, manly boys—never.
But a boy who has a room which
has been specially prepared for him,
and whose tastes have been consulted
in the decoration and furnishings of
it, learns to take pride in it. He
feels that it is his sanctuary. Here
he gathers together the treasures
most dear to his boyish heart, and
in the accumulation his nature finds
free play. It is an interesting thing
to visit a boy's room, or perhaps I
should say boys' rooms; for differ-

ent members of the sex vary greatly
in their tastes and habits. If it is
ever your fortune to go through the
dormitories of a large boy's board-
ing-school, or yet those of a college, you
will readily understand this.

There is the room of the neat boy,
whose effects are arranged with pre-
cision; there is the one of the care-
less boy, whose room is a veritable
liberty hall. There is the room of
the young dandy, whose arrangement
of neckties around his looking glass
alone would proclaim his natural
bent. Then the occupant of this
one has fine artistic tastes; the
dweller in that one is very fond of
dogs; while across the hall is the
sanctum of the boy who is very
fond of games. There is no end to
the variety of the genus boy. And
it is a wise mother who studies her
boy's taste, and fixes his room accord-
ingly.

The idea that anything is good
enough for a boy, housekeepers
should eliminate from their minds.
Anything is not good enough for a
boy. To be trained into refined
habits, boys need refining influences.
And a mother can do so much to-
ward molding the bent of her young
son's mind by suitably furnishing
and decorating his room. A rack
for books with his pet volumes upon
it, a few good pictures and such
appliances for physical comfort and
cleanliness as the young human ani-
mals need to keep them licked into
shape, ought to be in the room of
every boy. Boys belonging to any
but wealthy families must clean
their own boots, brush their own
clothes, and look after their toilet
appliances themselves. Let all boys
be provided with the necessary
means for doing this. Let them
have their blacking boxes in a con-
venient receptacle. And give them
plenty of whisk brooms.

A set of shelves over the wash-
stand, on which are placed a small
bottle of ammonia, eau de cologne,
pumice stone, and a bowl of yellow
meal, will aid a boy in keeping his
hands in presentable condition. All
the little habits of cleanliness have
doubtless been acquired in the nur-
sery before a boy is old enough to
aspire to the dignity of a room. Yet
some of the neat ways will not be
kept up by many boys unless their
surroundings are favorable.

A boy usually takes much pride
in a nice room. He enjoys cleanli-
ness and order, and is not one whit
behind his sister in the appreciation
of artistic surroundings. Therefore,
by all means let him have them.—
Christian at Work.

Uncle Payne's Experience.

As I passed a small colored church
I halted a moment to speak with
the aged sexton, who was sitting in
a pensive mood upon the front steps.
His once stalwart form was much
bent by reason of the weight of age.
His locks were silvery, while his
real ebony face was lightened up
with an expression of the purest
kindness. I said:

"Uncle Payne, where were you
raised?"

"Ober de mountains, sah, down
in old Forquier."

"What is your age?"

"Ise nigh on to eighty, so de
white folks say."

"Well, you are getting quite aged,
Uncle Payne."

"Yes, sah, Ise gittin' ole, and has
spent de most of my life in sin an'
folly an' serbin de debil."

"Ah! that is bad, Uncle Payne;
but how long since you became a
Christian?"

"Sens jis' afore de wa, sah."

"Well, it has been a good while
since then, Uncle Payne; you should
have considerable experience by
this time."

"Yes sah, I ought to hab, but I's
jis' now learnt how to chaw crusses."

"How is that, Uncle Payne? I
do not quite understand what you
mean."

"Well, sah, you see I came to
Jesus, an' gib my heart to Him, and
for a long time I thought de Lord
must be feidin' me with pie an' cake,
an' all good things. I was not
pleased if he didn't, but now I's
satisfied any way. I can take a
crus' from his han' as well as any-
thing. I's got de witness in me."

I went away pondering over what
I had heard. I said, "Oh! there is
the secret—the witness in me."

How many are there who follow the
Master, not because of the miracles
which he did, but because they eat
of the loaves and fishes, and are
filled! How many seek the "pie
and cake" but spurn the idea of
crusts, though presented by the
Father's hand! We must take the
crust as the cake, if we would have
the witness in us.—*Anon.*

Girls and Women.

A New York paper recently offer-
ed a prize of £5 for the best brief
answer to the old, yet ever-new
question: "What Shall We Do with
Our Girls?" Madame Albani Gye
was judge, and awarded the prize to
the writer of a short essay, which
proved to be from Ella Wheeler
Wilcox. This is the essential part:
"The foundation of society rests on
its homes. The success of our home

rests on the wives. Therefore, first
of all, teach our girls how to be
successful wives. Begin in their in-
fancy to develop their characters.
Teach them that jealousy is an im-
morality and gossip a vice. Train
them to keep the smallest promise
as sacredly as an oath, and to speak
of people only as they would speak
of them. Teach them to look for
the best quality in everyone they
meet, and to notice other people's
faults only to avoid them. Train
them to do small things well and to
delight in helping others, and instill
constantly into their minds the ne-
cessity for sacrifice for others' pleas-
ure as a means of soul development.
Once given a firm foundation of
character like this, which the poor-
est as well as the richest parents
can give to their girls, and no mat-
ter what necessity arises they will
be able to rise above it."

A Young Man's Three Choices.

There are three vitally important
choices to be made by young men
—about which a few plain hints
may be pertinent and useful. The
first one is his occupation. "He
who does not bring up his son for a
trade, brings up a boy for the devil"
—is an ancient Jewish proverb. In
America too many of our native-
born youth eschew a mechanical
trade as vulgar, and go scouring
about for some easier "situation." If
Benjamin Franklin, the printer,
and Roger Sherman, the shoemaker,
were alive now, they would tell
their young countrymen what a
foolish mistake many of them are
making. So would Vice-President
Wilson and Governor Banks, who
said that he "graduated from an
institution which had a factory-bell
on the roof and a water-wheel at
the bottom."

In selecting your occupation, en-
deavor first to find out what the
Creator made you for. Consult
your natural bent and talent. If
you have a talent for trade, then
you may venture into a counting-
room or store. If you have a na-
tive skill in chemistry, and are
made for a doctor, then study medi-
cine. If your mathematical capa-
city fit you for it, you may be an
engineer. No one ever fails in life
who understands his forte, and few
ever succeeded in life who do not
understand it. Seek for a useful,
productive calling; and steer clear
of a career of "speculation" as you
would of a gambling den or a glass
of gin. Don't be ashamed to begin
at the bottom and work up. Re-
member that every occupation is
honorable in which you can serve
God and your fellow men, and keep
a clean conscience.—*Rev. T. L.
Cruyer.*

Make Children Happy.

We too often proceed in the wrong
way with our children. We preach
and scold and punish to make them
good, but do very little which truly
makes them happy. Children are
so easily pleased but we too often
make the mistake of giving that
which is to them so little pleasure.
More of mother's love, time and
attention, and fewer tucks on the
tiny garments, would make many a
child happier.

Someone has said that we prick
our fingers and blind our eyes over
fancy work on which our male
friends rest their heads and dream
of something we are not; so for our
children we stitch till our mind
loses its brightness and our temper
its sweetness, while they outgrow
the clothing and us at the same
time.

Again, some mothers put all their
energies into "housekeeping." So
neat are they that there is no rest in
any corner, while the wee folks say
with a sigh, "Mamma is too busy to
talk to us."

If I were desirous of making
children happy, I should first have
a "children's hour." It might, per-
haps, be at the time Longfellow
speaks of in his exquisite little
poem:

"Betwixt the dark and the daylight,
When the night is beginning to lower,
Comes a pause in the day's occupation
That is known as the children's hour."

That time should be, as far as pos-
sible, sacred from intrusion. They
should have a romp, a game, a story
—whatever they wish. I would
save my best thoughts and best
spirits for that time.—*Sunshine.*

THE HIGHEST QUALITY OF Christian
life is found in 1 Cor. 13. That life
is a gift but we do not get all of it
at birth. He who is content with
less than the best is in danger of
losing what he has. Spiritual in-
fancy is often seen in Christians of
many years. The full life depends
upon the food we eat, (1 Pet. 2: 1),
the place we live in, (Psa. 91: 1),
the object for which we strive, (Phil.
3: 13, 14.) Our Father has so gra-
ciously provided for all our needs
that none need lose their crown, or
fail of an hundredfold. The only
question for us to answer is how
much shall we take. He has given
us all, 1 Cor. 3: 21, 22. Suppose
we change our dwelling place and
live in the ninety-first Psalm for a
while.

Conversation.

Benjamin Franklin, in his auto-
biography, lays down a canon of
good-breeding in conversation which
is worth keeping in mind. He says
that he formed the habit of express-
ing himself "in terms of modest
diffidence," never using the words
"certainly, undoubtedly, or any
other that gave on air of positive-
ness to an opinion," on subjects
that may possibly be disputed; say-
ing, rather, "It appears to me, or, I
should think it so, or so, if I am not
mistaken." This habit, he said,
was of great advantage to him in
persuading people to adopt his views,
and also helped him to gather
much valuable knowledge which
otherwise would have been with-
held. For, as a rule, people do not
care to impart information to one
who is firmly entrenched in his own
opinions. Young people are very
apt to have a positive, dogmatic
way of expressing themselves, and
should be trained to a moderate, as
well as graceful, use of language.
The use of slang has a tendency
toward the error which Franklin
tried to avoid.

"Who Can Best Be Spared?"

Young men, the first question
your employers ask themselves
when it is thought necessary to
economize in the matter of salaries,
is, "Who can best be spared?" It is
the barnacles, the shirks, the make-
shifts, somebody's good-for-nothing.
Young men, please remember that
these are not the ones who are cal-
led for when responsible positions
are to be filled. Would you like to
gauge your own future for a posi-
tion of prominence? Would you
like to know the probabilities of
your getting such a position? In-
quire within! What are you doing
to make yourself valuable in the
position you now occupy? If you
are doing with your might what
your hands find to do, the chances
are ten to one that you soon become
so valuable in that position that
you cannot be spared from it; and
then, singular to relate, will be the
very time when you are sought out
for promotion for a better place.—
Medical Record.

THE BETTER you are the more
you are inclined to believe other
people to be good and kind. This
is one of the ways in which "char-
ity covereth the multitude of sins."
On the other hand, the worse you
are the more you are inclined to
believe, without evidence, other
people to be dishonest and vicious;
and on this principle is based the
declaration that "with what judg-
ment ye judge ye shall be judged."
What people hear you, in off-hand
way, pronouncing other people
false, wicked, and untrustworthy,
they instinctively conclude that
you are yourself that kind of a man.
But when, by their conduct, men
have compelled you to believe
they are bad you are justified in
believing that they are so. "By
their fruits ye shall know them."
Telescope.

LOST OPPORTUNITIES.—Every day
brings to each one of us opportu-
nities which we may neglect or never
notice. We have an opportunity
of speaking in behalf of truth and
justice, and we are silent. We de-
cline to take our stand against
public opinion. We are afraid of
being opposed or ridiculed, or of
being out of the fashion; and so we
do nothing when we ought to act,
and the opportunity goes by. We
are like the man who hid his pound
in a napkin and buried it in the
earth, and said: "Lord I am
afraid!" Let us do what we can,
and we shall not be followed into
the other world by our lost oppor-
tunities.

Take heed, therefore, how ye hear,
Luke viii. 18.

As you learn, teach; as you get,
give; as you receive, distribute.—
Spurgeon.

God gives men wisdom as he gives
them gold. His treasure house is
not the mint but the mine.—*Anon.*

Minard's Liniment is the best.

How well we remember grand-
mother's attic, so fragrant with medi-
cal roots and herbs! Poor old soul,
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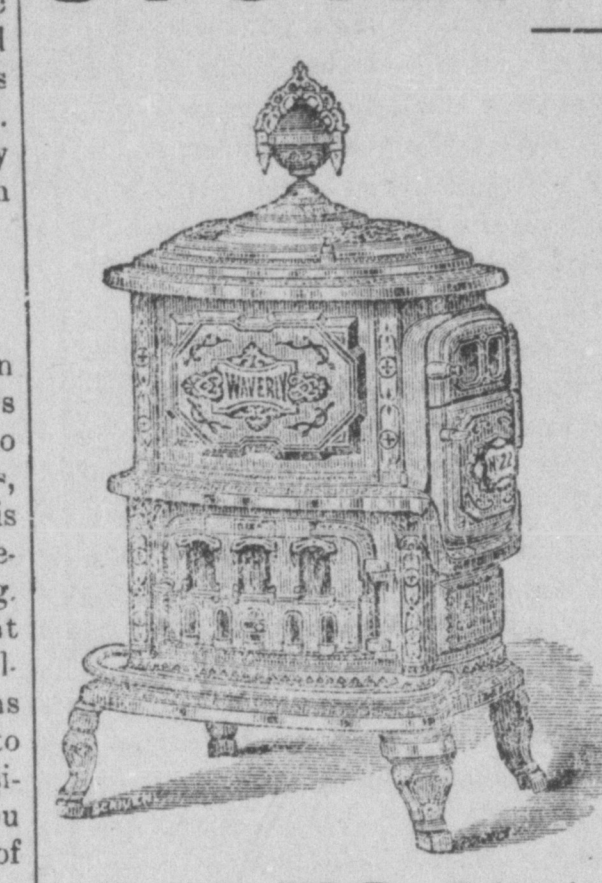
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