Sabbath Evening

How calmly sinks the paring sun! Yet twilight lingers still: And beautiful as dream of Heaven It slumbers on the hill; Earth sleeps, with all her glorious things. Beneath the Holy Spirit's wings, And, rendering back the hnes above, Seems resting in a trance of love.

Tound yonder rocks the forest trees In shadowy groups reclie, Like saints at evening bowed in prayer Around their holy shrine And through their leaves the nightwinds blow

So calm and still, their music low Seems the mysterious voi e of prayer, Soft ech 'd on the evening air.

And yonder western throng of clouds, Retiring from the sky, So calmly move so softly glow, They seem to Fancy's eye Bright creatures of a better sphere. Come down at noon to worship here, And, from their sacrifice of love, Returning to their home above.

The blue isles of the golden sea, The night-arch floating high, The flowers that gaze upon the heavens, The bright streams leaping by, Are living with religion-deep, On earth and sea its glories sleep, And mingle with the starlight rays,

Like the soft light of parted days.

The spirit of the holy eve Comes through the silent air To Feeling's hidden spring, and wakes A gush of music there ! And the far depths of ether beam, So passing fair, we almost dream That we can rise and wander through Their open paths of trackless lue.

Each soul is fill'd with glorious dreams, Each pulse is beating wild; And thought is soaring to the shrine Of glory undefiled !

And holy aspirations start, Like blessed angels, from the heart, And bind—for earth's dark ties are riven-Our spirits to the gates of Heaven. -George D. Prentice.

"I Cannot Come Down."

BY LEANDER S. KEYSER.

Howard Pencecost's cars! He was a pleasant evening together. It is to church in a neighboring city, and was service at a small chapel in a village to been presented on the boards of this successful soul-winner. He described the man of twenty. which he had been sent on the previous city. You know we never go to puerile the Sabbath morning so long ago when ployer. Having been unexpectedly | will be exceptionally fine." detained on Saturday, he had been 'What is the name of the play and chapel and heard his sermon on the friends and his God. compelled to remain in the village over | who are the principal actors ?" asked | Christian's high calling. the Sabbath.

At home he was a regular attendant moment, the chapel, whose steeple was just almost overpowering, in fact, for "Thank God!" whispered the dying from his hotel window.

of a sermon in a small town like this," | fied it, even since he had become a

From this soliloquy it may be inferred | ally anxious to hear. that Howard was not a spiritually spicitual fervor even while he was down." certain religious duties.

With the feeling that the hour spent in the little chapel would be as good as | Why not ? lost, and that he would probably be being sung. However, his opinion of eye. the preacher had to be revised. The clergyman was a middle-aged man, and] his pinched features told plainly that some fatal malady was preying at his vices, in which I am deeply interested, and querrulous fault-finding, but A physician was thus discoursing a vitals; but Howard had never before and I can't afford to allow my mind to neither are they abandoned because few days ago to one of his patients; seen so spiritual a face, nor had he be diverted from the work in hand. the fashionable preacher refers to "I dare not prescribe for myself or ever listened to a sermon so full of It would be wrong to go elsewhere to- them in the vague and meaningless my family. When a man comes in, as spiritual power. There were times night. when it seemed to the young listener that a live coal from the altar must not becoming as squeamish as that, are spoken of just as they are. The dis- as to what he needs to have done for indeed have been laid upon the speaker's lips. He chose for his text the a play as the one to be given to-night of commerce, the trickery of profes- that impartial way, or my wife or my ringing words of Nehemiah in reply to | would be demoralizing?" Tobias and Sanballat, who tried to great work, so that I cannot come down.'

great work of the Christian in building | their religious fervor." up a spiritual manhood and in rescuing his fellows from sin; of the dignity of members who go to theatres," argued less periods of the courtly pulpiteer. his calling, in which God himself and | Wilson his angels were deeply concerned; and then, with an enthusiasm that bore spiritually-minded ones, I fear. Ask Evil One does not withdraw his forces that rules the atoms no less than the his auditors never to "come down"

allusions to more than one example of | church this evening.' unswerving devotion in the history of the church.

As Howard walked to his hotel after least, he was engaged in a "great work." | your spiritual nature." aye, a greater work than Nehemiah; a sigh, "how often I have come down!" I'll see later what I shall do."

It seemed that his whole life, since things that were beneath the dignity of his calling as a follower of Christ! when at night he kneeled by his bedside, he said :

come down again !"

lived, he learned that his pastor, Dr. of which Howard was a member. The down!" How often the text kept him young man determined to do all he from sir could to win souls during the meetings. That was the first "great work" he had ever seriously undertaken for his Master. He went quietly to work, ed; and then came the resolution to services, and in these efforts proved an efficient helper to Dr. Marshall who, seeing his earnestness, called him his 'young aid-de-camp."

whose esteem he valued very highly. | was breaking. He was on the point of inviting him | "A letter for you, dear," she said

"Where?" queried Howard, uneasily. How the words kept ringing in course, where we have so often spent | who was now the pastor of a flourishing |

Howard, forgetting himself for a 'I want to thank you, my dear

his conscience, and made his way to The temptation was very great, ministry of the gospel." and spectacular performances and, kingdom.' "I shall not be likely to hear much it must be confessed, had often gratihe muttered to himself as he drew near | church member. The play to which |

firmly, after a pause.

"What! Can't go to such a play

"What do you mean?" "Well, I shall explain. At present his rebukes to themselves. our church is engaged in special ser-

you? You really don't think that such | honesty of the market-place, the frauds | him. But I can't look myself over in

lure him from rebuilding the shattered | Howard replied. 'There might be | be spoken about in the forcible terms | of forty-two physicians within my perwalls of Jerusalem: "I am doing a nothing immoral said or done, but it that Anglo Saxon speech supplies. The sonal knowledge who in that time have would divert my thoughts into another great temptation to occupants of the died from doses prescribed and adminchannel, and perhaps cause me to lose pulpit, even to those of strong moral istered to themselves by themselves. As Howard listened to the earnest interest in spiritual matters. That is nature, is to prophesy smooth things, Suppose one-half of them to have been words of the clergyman his pulses beat one fatal trouble with all theatrical to speak gently, so that conscious intentional suicides, and that is a large fast, and a mist gathered before his performances; they make men and offenders may not suffer too much un- supposition, there remain twenty-one eyes. The preacher spoke of the women worldly-minded, and destroy easiness. No great moral reform was deaths resulting from taking the wrong

everything before it, he pleaded with any pastor and he will tell you that when quietly requested to do so. starry worlds around us, and subjects

THE PARTY AND REAL PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF

"Oh! I can't. I must-I'd rather go to the play.'

meagre, fruitless, unspiritual life [sinners are being won to Christ! Don't

fession of Christ, had been a coming surprised to see Wilson enter the standard. How often he had done that I, too, ought to be doing a great work, so that I could not come down.'

on Nehamiah's words were preaching His resolve was put to the test becoming a watchword in his career, sooner than he expected. The next a epiritual talisman, as it were, to the mystery of the Gospel . . passed Howard became more and more speak. - Can. Presbyterian. Marshall, had decided to begin a earnestly engaged in his "great work." series of special meetings in the church | "I cannot come down, I cannot come

which had been temporarily interrupt- words of warning.

Ten years passed! Mr. Wortman, their upward journey? the pastor of the village chapel, had been compelled at last to give up work know :on account of failing health, and lay

quested, in a feeble voice.

She opened the envelope and read. "Where? Why, to the theatre, of The letter was from Howard Pentecost,

brother," the letter ran, "for L feel

The Power of Rebuke.

Whenever a preacher of more than which he that runs may read. the church. "Probably nothing but he was now urged to go was one of the average force of character and of wellrant. Some ignorant exhorter will be best. Nothing really immoral would defined individuality comes out boldly like every other jewel of great price, very likely to work himself into a be represented, he argued mentally, in defence of some neglected truth, or never thrusts herself into view. frenzy to-day. If I were only at home and the actors were among the most in denunciation of a great evil, he is Neither her clothes, her voice, nor her this morning to hear one of Dr. celebrated for histrionic talent. One sure to be made the subject of adverse manner challenge public notice. Marshall's polished and pithy sermons!" of them Howard had long been especi- criticism. True he is also certain to Fourth-That the girl with whom receive the approbation of those who young men romp and flirt is not the Yes, he believed he would go. It sympathize with him in the opinions one whom they choose when they wish minded young man, and there is no was so rare an opportunity he could he expresses, and of others who differ to marry. denying that the inference is correct. not afford to miss it. He was just on | from him, but who respect manly in- | Fifth-That as God has prepared He had, somehow, got into the habit the point of opening his lips to give dependence and devotion to duty. All woman and sent her into the world to of going to church as he went to a his consent when the pale face of the the same the minister who is not un- be a wife and mother, she should look lecture-merely to hear an eloquent humble clergyman to whom he had mindful of the fact that he is by virtue forward to those conditions of life, not discourse, one that would make the ear listened only last Sunday morning in of his sacred calling a censor of morals with silly and vulgar jests but with tingle rather than edify the soul. the village church seemed to rise must make his account with severe, reverent, earnest effort to fit herself True, he had been converted, but had, before him and say: "I am doing a adverse and often unreasonable criti- for them. as so often happens, soon lost his great work, so that I cannot come cism. While not insensible to the good or bad opinion of his critics, and find for herself a work and position as punctilious in the performance of "No, Wilson, I can't go," he said while prepared to give to all they noble as that of any other woman. pertinently say a candid hearing, he is not deterred from doing his duty. He girls to reach surer standing-ground must not modify or silence his condem- on the heights of life. "I am doing a great work, so that I nation of wrong simply because his bored by the service, he entered the cannot come down," quoted Howard, words are deemed a little too strong by church just as the opening anthem was looking intently into his interlocutor's some fastidious critic, and because they exasperate evil doers who have con- know what is best for us, and that if science enough remaining to apply matters with us were a little or a great Evils are not corrected by scolding they would be right.

language of pulpit conventionality. you do, a stranger to me, I can look "Pooh!" scoffed Wilson. "You're Popular, present-day sins must be him over and judge quite accurately sional life, social vices and crimes and children. I have been in practice in "Perhaps not that precisely," other only too manifest evils need to this city fifteen years, and I have a list ever effected by the gentle whispering, dose. I dare not prescribe for myself.' "There are a great many church- the rounded, mellifluous yet meaning-For great and good work men of robust | mindful not only of the large affairs of "I know it; but they are not the moral fibre are urgently needed. The life, but of the small as well; in a God they are not the people who lead souls Modern evils require men whose words everything to his will. We plan, he

out forceful expression.

Six Things.

The chief guide at Lauterbrunner in Switzerland gives to each Alpine climb. At length he decided to go back to er before he sets forth on his perilous college, and finish the course of studies journey an alpen-stock and a half-dozen

urging his acquaintances to attend the prepare himself for the gospel ministry. friends a few practical hints to use on

Six things which a boy ought to

First-that a quiet voice, courtesy One evening, a few days later, dying inch by inch in his humble home, and kind acts are as essential to the Howard met a congenial young friend attended by a loving wife whose heart part in the world of a gentleman as of a gentlewoman.

Second—That roughness, blustering, to Dr. Marshall's meetings when his one morning, as the door closed on the and even foolhardiness are not manliness. The most firm and courageous body and ruddy complexion, the other "Howard, I want you to go with me | "Will you read it Mary?" he re- men have usually been the most gentle. in ill health, blotches, pimples, boils Third-That muscular strength is

not health. slowly returning from the morning be one of the best plays that has ever rapidly becoming known as a most to the boy of fourteen will be easy to

day, on a business errand by his em- or immoral performances, but this one he had dropped incidentally-or rather boy is not money, but a love of work, various poisons and restores the vitaliz providentally-into Mr. Wortman's simple tastes, and a heart loyal to his

Six things which a girl ought to in a recent letter.

First-That drawling tones languishat church, and so, when Sunday morn His companion told him. "Of that to you, more than to any one else, ling eyes, or an affected manner will ing came, he obeyed the suggestion of course, you see, it's no cheap show." is due the fact that I am to day in the never deceive any one into the belief gave me medicine but did not cure me, that she has a gentle nature.

Second-That while the best unguvisible above the intervening buildings Howard had a passion for dramatic man. 'I've been of some use in his ents, depilatories, and cosmetics may fail in affecting her beauty, every giving me also a splendid appe ite. secret thought and hidden emotion will | Since then I would use no other medileave an indelible mark upon her face

Third-That the true gentlewoman,

Sixth-That the "old maid" may These hints may help both boys and

What is Best for Us.

A great many of us fancy that we deal different from what they are, then

Most who read this article believe in an over-ruling Providence, that is

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to that which was frivolous or debas- to Christ. Come, Wilson, you'd better are half battles to deal with them. | counterplans. "Man proposes, God ing. The lesson was enforced by change your mind and go with me to Moral conflict cannot be waged with- disposes." Our plans come to naught, our hopes are blasted, our fortunes are Those who entertain the idea that wrecked, our loved ones are snatched strong denunciations of evil are incom- away, and we seem the prey and sport "You'd rather?" said Howard. patible with the meekness and gentle- of adversity; fires burn us out, floods the service pondering the thoughts to | "Rather go to the play than to church | ness of ministerial character would do | wash away our possessions, drought which he had just listened, his own where the gospel is proclaimed and well to recall the manner in which the consumes us, storms desolate us, failprophets spoke to the men of their ures in the commercial world "ruin haunted him. True, he was a profess- you see, Wilson, what a deteriorating generation. Neither did the apostles us," and disaster follows us faster and ed follower of Christ; nominally, at effect theatre-going has already had on use honeyed words when occasion called faster; or, what is even harder to bear for reproof. He who spake as never | petty misfortunes pursue us, like leaks "Well, I never thought of it in that man spake denounced the evil-doers of empty our cisterns, and our lives are "and yet -and yet," he reflected with light before. Good evening Howard, His day in a manner which no man wasted in trifling cares. How then? may venture to do. He knew, as none If our calamities are the result of sin. They parted, and when the evening other could know, what is in man, and of omission of duty, of want of reasonthe day he had made a public pro- service began Howard was not a little His estimates of men and their deeds able forethought, of anything for were the result of absolute unerring | which we can be held accountable, why, down, a lowering of the spiritual church. Afterward he said: "I felt knowledge. The preacher of righte- then, we are only reaping what we ousness in these days needs grace and have sown. But if they drop upon us courage to enable him to declare the from the clouds; if they come as Job's Little did the earnest clergyman in | whole counsel of God. Congregations | troubles came on him ; why, then we All the afternoon he ruminated and the village chapel think that his sermon may well put in practice on behalf of must believe that our heavenly Father their pastors the request that Paul ad- knows what we need and gives it to the country. They will make a well person themselves over again and again in dressed to the Christians at Ephesus : | us, that we may be tried in the cruci- | feel better. "By the grace of God I shall never the life of the young stranger whom he Praying . . . for me that utter- ble and refined in the fire; that we may noticed that morning in his audience, ance may be given unto me, that I may learn to say with Habakkuk: "Alopen my mouth boldly, to make known | though the fig-tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the day, on reaching the city in which he ward off temptation. As the weeks that I may speak boldly as I ought to labor of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls; yet will I rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the

> The Great Physician looks us over, and he sees just what we need. Our own prescription for ourselves we can-May we not give to our boy and girl not trust, but his are infallible. - Chris. Advocate.

God of my salvation."

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Random Readings.

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Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him. - Ps. xxxvii. 5.

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then he got worse that ever. Then I told my did not have any idea they would do any good, but in less than two months from the time we began giving them to him he was entirely

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