

Cast Thy Bread Upon The Water!

'Twas only a crumb, last evening,
In the form of a kindly word,
That I spoke to a weary companion—
Only he and the dear Lord heard.

'Twas only a pleasant "Good morning,"
To a man whose life is drear,
But he understood its meaning,
And knew that I meant to cheer.

'Twas only a crumb at noonday,
In the coin I gave the child;
But I gave for the sake of Jesus,
And He understood and smiled.

'Twas only a crumb at evening,
When after a tiresome day
I gave up my seat in the street-car
To a woman old and gray.

'Twas only a crumb at nightfall,
When instead of a concert hall
I went to the house of mourning
To comfort and help them all.

They're only crumbs, but without them
There could not be any bread,
And the bread shall be returned to us,
For so the dear Lord hath said.

The Young Christian's Reading.

Much depends on the first stages of the Christian life. The wise pastor looks carefully after the mental food which those who are young in faith need for growing into spiritual maturity. The young believer, be he as wise as Solomon, knowing everything, from the "cedar in Lebanon to the hyssop that springeth out of the wall," is a blank in religious matters. He has everything to learn. He may have traveled all the paths of science but in the highest science of the soul he has taken only the first step. He may be conversant with the great thoughts of the thinkers of all ages, but in the thoughts connected with the heart he is a child, or, as Paul says, "a babe." He may be an adept in statecraft, and the things which belong to the prosperity of nations, but in the "things that accompany salvation" he is taking his first steps.

Happily the new believer is receptive. He knows that he knows but little, and is ready to learn. He is easy to guide, for he knows full well that he has just emerged from the darkness of a lifetime. He is observant, and is looking on all sides for lessons which will help him in the new life.

Of the greatest importance, there fore, are these first steps. The words of confirmed Christians, the experience of older examples, the deeds of those who have tested the guiding hand of Christ, are all forces which can help to form the new character. One good word of advice today will go farther and produce a profounder impression than an hour's conversation a twelve month hence. The coming career is to be something. The great question is, What is it to be? Is it to be a crooked and shaky experience, or a steady, straightforward, and aggressive Christian life? One of the greatest factors toward the formation of a strong religious character is a good class of books. We are in a reading age. Each profession has its literature. Every class of society can find books suited to its wants. Even the most vicious have to go but a few rods in order to find books and periodicals which can still further deprave. Many of the great crimes of society are the direct result of reading immoral pages.

But, happily, there is a reverse picture. Many of the noblest lives have taken their shape from reading pure books. The literature which the young Christian reads during the early stages of his career can give a direction to his whole later experience. The first of all books should be the Bible. It is a marvel of harmonies. Its composition covers many centuries, while its writers are from all classes, from shepherds up to kings. It comprises history, biography, poetry, prophecy, and matchless parables. The whole book is "apples of gold in pictures of silver." Its books should be studied in order, the personal history of its writers inquired into, the times in which they lived examined, and the immediate purpose of the separate writings comprehended. This may seem a large task; but it is not so large as might seem at first. A little study every day will wonderfully enlarge one's scope in a year, or even in six months. Then there are books which help us to a knowledge of the Bible, brief and compact commentaries, a good book of biblical introduction, a Bible history, and similar works. Care must be taken that the first books which we call "biblical helps" are not too large and heavy. What is small and gives the substance is most needed at first.

Then there are many books which flow directly from the Bible, the lives of good Christians, their labors in missionary fields, their services in times of great reform. The life of MARTIN LUTHER is eminently useful toward preparing a way for

the reading of D'AUBIGNE'S or FISHER'S *History of the Reformation*. The *Life of Thomas Arnold*, by Dean STANLEY, is very inspiring, and furnishes a good picture of the time when ARNOLD taught at Rugby, and trained for eminence many of England's great leaders. The careers of great missionaries, such as MARTYN, CAREY, JUDSON, PATISON, HANNINGTON, and many others can all be found in fascinating biographies, which reveal to us the labors of men who counted it the highest joy of their lives to part with home and friends, in order to give the Gospel to millions of heathen. No department of religious literature is richer in suggestion and inspiration, or has been cultivated with greater ability and skill in style, than biography.

The history of one's denomination is a special department for the young Christian's study. He has his attachment to a confession and Church. He should learn its history, become familiar with its heroes, and absorb their spirit. If he is a member of the Protestant Episcopal, the Presbyterian, the Baptist, the congregational, the Methodist Episcopal, or any other Church, he should early possess himself of a history of his Church, and become acquainted with its genesis and development. Every Church has its heroes and its victories, as well as its failures in men and deeds. Every soldier ought to know what regiment he is fighting with, what battles it has won, what leaders it has had. The Old Guard of NAPOLEON BONAPARTE was bound together by the chain of victory on many a battlefield, and it is no wonder that under the inspiration of its marvelous history it should perform prodigies of valor many a time before it rushed to death at Waterloo.

The Christian has a high motive to read his denominational history. All the great religious bodies arose out of the supreme needs of the time. The Puritans of England saved the nation in a supreme crisis. They came to these shores and built up our own great New England commonwealths. The same may be said of all the evangelical Churches—their first leaders engaged in a great cause. They stood manfully for the defense of great principles. God gave them success and a prominent place in the great religious life of the world. Their deeds should be known. He who follows in these later days in the footsteps of such men should know what they did, and catch their spirit. He is none the less a devout Christian because he studies the life of his own denomination and becomes animated by the spirit which has made it pure and strong.—*Ch. Advocate*.

A Reflection.

I SAW a pretty bit of conjugal felicity recently. Possibly some other people may share my enjoyment of it, if I reproduce it as well as may be in black and white.

An old gentleman who had long retired from a business which had fairly "feathered the nest" for old age, came from his morning walk. He wife met him at the door—her custom for more than fifty years—and soon they were seated in their respective easy chairs.

"Where do you think I went this morning, mother?"

"As far as any youth of your time, I dare say," she said, proudly. "I went up to the old neighborhood, mother."

They looked straight into each other's eyes in sympathy, and for a little while were silently thinking.

"Yes," he resumed, "I walked up and down past the house where we lived so long, where Anne was married, and where so many things happened. Then I went into Pemberton's grocery to rest."

"That was a taste of old times, to be sure," said mother.

"Pemberton was there himself. Dear, dear, how old he looks! He introduced me to a fine-looking customer, and what do you think he said about us?"

"Oh, something about the days 'when we first acquainted,' I presume."

"He told the gentleman that he served us with goods for forty years, and never had a chance to send us a bill."

"That was a blessed truth."

"And I told the gentleman that ever since the first week we went to house-keeping I had given you the allowance of money, much or little, as I could afford; and you had kept our expenses inside, always."

"Yes, dear."

I told him about the Christmas when you surprised me with the bead purse you had knit for me—seems as if I could see you now, knitting every evening and trying to turn the beads outside, just as easy—and I did not guess that it was to hold fifty dollars in gold pieces which you had saved out of the year's house money."

"Well, you had not missed it from the table, or anywhere else."

"No, no; always enough to eat, and the house as tasty as the house-keeper."

"Well, husband, perhaps there were not as many temptations for a housewife to spend money in those old-fashioned times."

"Perhaps not, Jane. But new-fashioned times make long faces and long bills and short lives, I notice."

Now, this picture ought to be etched upon young lives—love and confidence which had walked hand in hand through fifty-five years of married life, with a "pay-as-you-go" principle, which walked while others rode, to the sure end of comfort in old age. They had met many riders coming back on foot, as far as the poor-house or some condition of homelessness and dependence upon the favors of friends.

This is a prime maxim of Bible lore: "Owe no man anything, but to love one another"; and it should be accepted as one of the keys to "good housekeeping."—*The Pacific*

Deadly Nature of Drink.

A few days ago a noted wild-beast trainer gave a performance with his pets in one of the leading London theatres. He took his lions, tigers, leopards and hyenas through their part of the entertainment, awing the audience by his wonderful nerve and his control over them. As a closing act to the performance he was to introduce an enormous boa constrictor, 35 feet long. He had bought it when it was only two or three days old, and for 25 years he had handled it daily, so that it was considered perfectly harmless and completely under his control. He had seen it grow from a tiny reptile, which he often carried in his bosom, into a fearful monster.

The curtain rose on an Indian woodland scene. The weird strains of an Oriental band steal through the trees. A rustling noise is heard, and a huge serpent is seen winding its way through the undergrowth. It stops. Its head erect. Its bright eyes sparkle. Its whole body seems animated. A man emerges from the heavy foliage, and their eyes meet. The serpent quails before the man, man is victor. The serpent is under control of a master. Under his guidance and direction it performs a series of frightful feats.

At a signal from the man it slowly approaches him, and begins to coil its heavy folds around him. Higher and higher do they rise until man and serpent seem blended into one. Its hideous head is reared aloft above the mass. The man gives a little scream, and the audience unite in a thunderous burst of applause, but it freezes upon their lips. The trainer's scream was a wail of death agony. Those cold slimy folds had embraced him for the last time. They had crushed the life out of him, and the horror-stricken audience heard bone after bone crack, as those powerful folds tighten upon him. Man's plaything had become his master. His slave for 25 years had now enslaved him.

In this horrible incident is portrayed the whole story of intemperance. The man who has taken the first glass of intoxicating liquor has the boa of intemperance in his bosom. If he throttles the monster now, it is easily done. But if he permits it to live, feeds, nourishes it, he may control it for even 25 years, but it is continually growing. And some day its soul-destroying fold will encircle his soul, and bear it to those regions of woe "where the worm dieth not and the fire is not quenched." The unchangeable decree of Almighty God is "No drunkard shall inherit the kingdom of God."—*The Sunday School Times*.

Hall's Hair Restorer renders the hair lustrous and silken, gives it an even color, and enables women to put it up in a great variety of styles.

Keep Young.

Many persons grow old because they have settled to the theory that they are old. Alva Rosse says in *Kata Field's Washington*:

People of forty and fifty should not shelve themselves and claim the immunities of age. They are in the mid-day of life; the time for the exercise of knowledge, power, grace and beauty, for the uplifting of humanity. These gifts may be enhanced by dress and manner. The influence of the attractive, self-respecting wife, mother, sister or friend is more potent for good than that of the one with neglected person and unlovely mind.

Discontent invites age. Indulging the unrest of the dissatisfied is destructive to looks and temper. In his "Story of a Coventry Town," Mr. E. W. Howe says "Be contented if it kills you." The advice is not so bad as it looks. Contentment and stagnation are not necessarily synonymous. One may be free from worry while striving for higher planes of work. Women should have courage for repose. It is infinitely better than the morbid conscientiousness that goads to endless toil. Effective work requires effective rest.

Judicious mental work may help to lift one out of the ruts of premature old age. Read and think.

what you read. Don't use your mind as if it were a sieve and you were trying to see how much you could pour through it. There is belief extant that knowledge, if gained at all, must be acquired in youth. Fallacious theory! Behold Galileo at three score and ten pursuing his studies with unflagging zeal, Cato beginning Greek when advanced in years, Ogilvy commencing classical studies when past fifty! Gladstone is as much the student to-day as when the bloom of youth mantled his cheek.

Be kind to the feelings and fancies of youth. If they prove perennial, so much the better. Don't forbid yourself glad, recreative thought and action. Don't be ashamed to make yourself as pretty as you can. A sensible woman may feel a thrill of pleasure innocent as a maiden's when receiving a glance of respectful admiration from a manly man. Smile without affectation, be pleasant without being silly—in short, be young as long as you can.

Saved By Prayer.

Hudson Taylor is a man of great faith in God as well as a great missionary. An exchange relates a characteristic anecdote of his first trip to China in a sailing vessel:

When Hudson Taylor first went out to China it was in a sailing vessel. Very close to the shores of a cannibal island, the ship was becalmed, and it was slowly drifting shoreward, unable to tack about, and the savages were eagerly anticipating a feast. The captain came to Mr. Taylor and besought him to pray for help of God.

"I will," said Taylor, "provided you set your sails to catch the breeze."

The captain declined to make himself a laughing stock by unfurling sails in a dead calm.

Taylor said, "I will not undertake to pray for the vessel unless you will prepare the sails."

And it was done.

While engaged in prayer there was a knock at the door of his stateroom. "Who is there?"

The captain's voice responded, "Are you still praying for wind?"

"Yes."

"Well," said the captain, "you'd better stop praying, for we have more wind than we can well manage."

And sure enough, when but a hundred yards from shore, a strong wind had struck the sails of the boat, so that the cannibals were cheated out of their human prey.

"Like As A Father."

A king is sitting with his council, deliberating on high affairs of state involving the destiny of nations, when suddenly he hears the sorrowful cry of his little child, who had fallen down or been frightened by a wasp. He rises and runs to his relief, assuages his sorrows, and relieves his fears. Is there anything unkingly here? Is it not most natural? Does it not even elevate the monarch in your esteem? Why, then, do we think it dishonorable to the King of kings, our heavenly Father, to consider the small matters of His children. It is infinitely condescending, but is it not also superlatively natural that, being a Father, He should act as such.

Well, He has given us the promise; "Like as a father pitieth them that fear Him." And, despite the cavilings of unbelievers, it is true that He numbers the very hairs of our head, and while not a sparrow falleth to the ground without Him, yet in His sight His children are "of more value than many sparrows."—*Selected*.

The consciousness of having done right affords comfort and satisfaction, even though it excites persecution and opposition. The consciousness of having done wrong causes pain and uneasiness, even though it brings praise and applause.

Unequaled.—Mr. Thos. Burnt, Tyendinaga, Ont., writes:—"I have to thank you for Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil for bleeding piles. I was troubled with them for nearly fifteen years, and tried almost everything I could hear or think of. Some of them would give me temporary relief, but none would effect a cure. I have now been free from the distressing complaint for nearly eighteen months. I hope you continue to recommend it."

FOR CHOLERA MORBUS, Cholera Infantum, Cramps, Colic, Diarrhoea, Dysentery, and Summer Complaint Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry is a prompt, safe and sure cure that has been a popular favorite for over 40 years.

Northrop & Lyman's Vegetable Discovery has worked wonders for dyspepsia, and we don't think there is a case of Dyspepsia to be found that it will not cure if the directions are followed. Mr. C. E. Williams, Druggist, Wingham, says: "The Vegetable Discovery is selling well, and I know of one bad case of Dyspepsia that it has completely cured."



Why not try

WYETH'S MALT EXTRACT

Doctors highly recommend it to those

Who are run down;
Who have lost appetite;
Who have difficulty after eating;
Who suffer from nervous exhaustion;
And to Nursing Mothers,
as it increases quantity and improves quality of milk.
PRICE, 40 CENTS PER BOTTLE.

M. McLEOD. SPRING

Auctioneer & Commission Merchant,

Ample and Convenient Storage,

83 Prince Wm. St., St. John.

Consignments of Merchandise, Furniture, Stocks, Bonds and all kinds of Produce solicited.
Prompt attention to sales and quick returns assured.

1000 PACKAGES TEAS.

FINE VALUES

CHEESE, CODFISH, HAMS AND BACON.
SAL. SODA, BISCUIT SODA

A.F. Randolph & Sons

GOODS.

Spring Overcoatings in Woads and Venetians.

Fashionable Spring Suits.

Fancy Trowserings and Fancy Vestings at

WM. JENNINGS,
MERCHANT TAILOR,

Corner Queen St. and Wilmore Alley.

MARCH 21, 1894.

You Make no Mistake

If you purchase your DRY GOODS at

JOHN J. WEDDALL'S

All goods as represented or the Money refunded
Study YOUR OWN interests by buying from

John J. Weddall.

BARGAINS.

Great Bargains in Grey Cotton

Table Linens, Quilts, Carpets, C

Cloths, Curtains and Dress Goods

Fred. B. Edgecombe.

Carpets. Furniture.

10,000 Yds. of Carpets Now on Hand.

5,500 yards New Stock just received and more to follow. Come and see our low prices. A fine stock for the spring trade. Fine Parlor Suites, Chamber and Modern Parlor Suites, Sofa Lounges, Easy Chairs, Platform Rockers, Mattresses, etc. New Furniture of all kinds. Several Car Lots expected. Chamber Suites, Extension Tables, Sideboards, Bent Wood Furniture, Chairs of all kinds, Children's Carriages, Bedsteads, Cribs, Cradles, Hall-Stands, Pictures, Mirrors and Window Poles. 400 Window Shades. Latest Designs just opened. Prices Low.

Fine Stock of Crockery and Glassware, Lamps, Silverware and Table Cutlery. All our Goods at very close prices, come and see.

JAS. G. McNALLY,

DRY GOODS

House Furnishings, Etc.

TENNANT, DAVIES & CO

Our stock is now complete in New Spring and Summer Goods. Latest styles in Ladies Jackets and Capes. Dress Materials of all kinds. Our stock of Carpets, Linoleums, Oil Cloths, Rug Mats, etc., is unusually large this season and prices lower than ever before.

Lace Curtains, Lambrequins, Portiers, Window Poles, Roller Shade Blinds, etc. in every variety.

TENNANT, DAVIES, & CO

Directly Opposite Normal School.



The Great Church LIGHT.

FRANK'S Patent Reflectors give the Most Powerful, the Softest, the Cheapest and the Most Light known for Churches, Stores, Show Windows, Parlors, Banks, Offices, Picture Galleries, Theatres, Depots, etc. New and elegant designs. Send size of room. Get circular and estimate. A liberal discount to churches.—"The Standard."

L. F. FRANK, 551 Pearl Street, N. Y.