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A Clean Life as a Christian Endeavorer.

BY N. FLEMING

A clean life is much to be desired and like anything truly valuable, costs not always in dollars and cents but in something that is of far more value, namely: self-sacrifice, persistent labor, undying faith in God and never-ceasing conflicts with Satan. The pathway of life is strewn with filth and litter, sin in every form. The devil has his traps set thickly along the way, snares that allure the thoughtless youth on, on, down the broad road to destruction, over which he may never return.

A clean life as a Christian Endeavorer means, in my opinion, the cleanest, purest, godliest life that it is possible for a human being to live while here on earth. Christian Endeavor, means endeavoring to be a Christian, which is the highest of all endeavors because the idea is the highest. The word endeavor itself means labor, time and strength. Christian Endeavor means all this and more; it means giving self to Christ and constant labor in His behalf and for His cause. A room may appear to be perfectly clean when the curtains are down and the sun hidden by heavy clouds but when the curtains are thrown up and the bright rays of the sun bring into bold relief every object in that room we are surprised to see filth, dust dirt and cobwebs that we had entirely overlooked before. It is just the same with a Christian Endeavorer. Standing in the light of the Almighty God, the dark corners of our souls are lit up and secret sins that may have been hiding there are brought to view and exposure. The more the world expects of us, the greater is our responsibility and the more arduous our labor. If we acknowledge Christ as our Saviour, we must also acknowledge His enemies as our enemies and live accordingly.

Temperance in all things is expected of every Christian Endeavorer; not only in things pertaining to intoxicating liquors, but in dress, habits, pleasure, work, in everything there must be temperance, godliness, prayerfulness and many evidences of cleanliness and purity. The world expects much of every Christian Endeavorer and it has a right to do so, for, whoever takes the Christian Endeavor pledge must do considerable if he keeps his obligations. No active member of any Christian Endeavor society can dress gaudily, flashily, over expensively attend dances, operas, cheap shows, keep late hours, waste his or her time foolishly, read dime novels attend the parks and places of amusement on the Sabbath, frequent the saloons and places of disgrace, betray a friend or deceive an enemy. These things are the characteristics of the worldly people and Christian Endeavor means the renouncing of the devil and cleaving to Christ and the Cross. "By their fruits ye shall know them."

Show me a Christian Endeavorer who attends dances, theaters, horse races, shows; who frequent saloons dresses flashily, keep late hours, reads trashy literature, wastes his or her time in foolish games and idle recreation and I will show you a Christian Endeavorer who is not keeping the pledge, who is not a Christian, only a cheap imitation and whose life is as filthy in the sight of God as the worst drunkard in the gutter; yes, I believe more filthy, because the drunkard makes no pretensions, does not pose before the world as a disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ and therefore does not use religion as a cloak behind which to hide his meanness. Intemperance is a terrible sin; the worst of all sins, no doubt, and is yearly dragging thousands of souls down to perdition yet I firmly believe that a person may never enter a saloon and yet be a terrible sinner in the sight of God and receive just as severe a punishment in the hereafter as the poor drunkard. Every soldier in the army of the Union during the late war was expected to be steady

fast and true to his country and his flag at all times and at all places; but more especially in time of danger, at the eve of a great battle, in the heat of the conflict when lead and steel were raining thick and fast about him and death seemed almost certain. Had he flinched here, had he deserted, he would have been court-martialed and shot, if captured. It is just so with every Christian Endeavorer. The fight is on; the battle is at hand, the opposing forces are mustering, there cannot mutter in the distance: on they come with a great sweep and glitter of armor; their banner of the great Dragon. Arise, Christian Endeavorers, arise and if your soul is right with God and your life clean and acceptable in His sight, he bids you follow Him, soldiers of the cross, with your banner fluttering in the breeze. You cannot, you must not idle a moment; come and with united ideas and plans and with God's help, we must go out and on and in the face of the enemy we must throw hot shot and shell and never break ranks or waver until the victory is ours. How can we do this? How? There is but one way. Live right every day and by our example help others to see and be convinced that to live a Christian is a glorious life to live and worthy of imitation. Unless we do this, unless we can live lives before the people that will lead them to seek the Saviour and join the ranks of the great army of Salvation, unless, I say, we can do this, the great organization of the Y. P. S. C. E. is a failure so far as the purpose for which it was organized is concerned.

It is hard to clean a dirty window pane with a filthy cloth; so every Christian Endeavorer must lead a clean life and not only avoid evil but the appearance of evil, if we would accomplish the purpose for which we are organized and help our weaker brothers to the foot of the cross. Our example is constantly before the eyes of the public, every hour and every day and the little things of life are what count for most, they are what the world watches most especially, that it may catch us napping. The amount of good or evil we are doing every day by our example we cannot know or even estimate and the Lord will not hold us guiltless if we cause a weaker brother to stumble by our poor example. Christ's life was a clean life and every Endeavorer who would lead a clean life must of necessity keep before him his example and model, the Saviour of the world, Christ Jesus. With Him for our example and for our Saviour, and God our Heavenly Father, leaning on him for health, strength and wisdom, we as Christian Endeavorers, separately and unitedly can lead clean lives and let our lives so shine that their rays though feeble, may light some fallen neighbor on to glory.

Let us then remember that it is the common every day life, our actions and manner of dealing with the public in business, in pleasure, in joy, in sorrow, in temptation, in tribulation, at home and away from home, every day and hour of our lives, the way we spend our time, money and strength; the way we treat our neighbors our enemies and ourselves; our sociability, the way we conduct ourselves in time of great temptation, these are the things that prove the character and life of every Christian Endeavorer, search for the secret sins and filthy places in our inward lives and place us in a position before the world to do either great good or great evil by our influence and example. Here is the summing up of the whole matter: take Christ for our model and example, trust Him, love Him, lean on Him, pray to Him earnestly for wisdom and strength and reflect out to the world the light He sheds on us and peace will be ours and our souls will be as clean and white as the driven snow. This is my conception of a clean life as a Christian Endeavorer.—Selected.

Help The Work.

We would be glad to have readers of this department send short practical articles on Committees' work, or give suggestions how to make the Young People's Department the greatest help and blessing to all the Societies.

Chairman Press Committee.

Acknowledgement.

Received the following,
Bear Island Y. P. S. C. A. \$ 3 00
St. John (Waterloo St.) " 20 00
Beaver Harbour Y. P. S. C. A. 1 00
Marysville " 30 00
Miss J. J. Robinson 5 00
Mrs. E. H. Cochrane 1 00
T. A. LINDSAY,
Woodstock, Treas.
May 6th '02

Lifters and Leavers.

In a Christian Endeavor Society there should be only one class of members,—the class which takes

hold of the work and helps it along. That is the ideal condition of a genuine C. E. organization.

The actual society, however, is not ideal; and we find therein a few, who are not active in any religious capacity. There are some who simply drift with the tide, manifest no interest, and do no work. They are passive obstructionists, because their dead weight must be carried by others, who would otherwise be free and untrammelled to do more effective work.

In the church and in the society the few bear the burdens and wage the warfare against sin; while the many stand aside and let them do it, and they seldom refrain from finding fault with the way it is done. They are a sort of fungus which hangs on the branches of the tree of life, sapping its vitality and retarding its growth. So it seems to have been ordained that the tares and the wheat grow together till the harvest time. But it is sad to contemplate the dire necessity that it should be so. Where there is so much work to do it seems shocking that so many willingly stand all the day idle.

How Praise Helps.

In the daily campaign for happiness, how few people realize what an important factor praise is. It really was the faith and flattery of Ruth Whitcomb that made her husband succeed. He had married her when they were both young, and he had never dreamed of leaving the old place until the sudden realization of his little wife's dainty look and gentle ways awakened his desire to protect her from the hardships of the farm.

I want to take you to the town to live, Ruthie, he said; but I don't know how I could take care of you there. These big, rough hands are modeled for the plough-handle I guess; but I have always wanted to study law. A foolish notion like enough and I suppose you'll laugh at me.

He looked at her with a man's sharp dread of being ridiculed. But she put her arms around his neck and answered:

Never think that I would do that! How could I, loving you as I do? Besides, I know you would make a great lawyer. Your head is just the right shape for it, and I want you to begin to study now.

So they moved to the town and set up a real home in two rooms, and John pored over the leather covered tomes and tried to get the John Dues and Richard Roes sorted out, and floundered in hypothetical cases and sank in the deep morasses of exhibits, articles and clauses—and goodness and Ruthie knew what else—until one day he said there was no use in trying; he could not see through it; and he was going to give it up and go home.

Then the soft arms were around his neck again and the little woman assured him that he would do no such thing, as he was born to be great, and she knew it. His bump of logic fairly expanded under her hand as she softly smoothed his head.

So it went on until examination day came, John failed and came back to Ruth, white haggard and desperate.

I am a fool, he said, and know no more of law than a jack-rabbit. I am going to take you and all my other hopes back to the farm.

But Ruth said: Not one of us will go. You are going to be a great man; I know, because all the great men the world has known failed at first. That's a splendid sign. And we are going to try again.

And so they did, and still again, and in the end came triumph, and ever and ever so much later a place among the lawmakers in the United States Senate for John.

Doesn't it seem strange? said he to Ruth when the great day came and he was chosen.

Not a bit, answered Ruthie. I always knew it was coming. I told by the shape of your head.

But it was not that, answered the senator. It all came about through the faith you kept for me in your heart.—Cleveland Weekly Leader.

Stand Your Ground.

Young Christians, the Christian life is a battle with sin. You are new recruits in Christ's army. One thing you must learn to do is to stand your ground.

1. You must stand your ground when laughed at. A fool can laugh. A weak person is sometimes laughed down. To some people ridicule is the worst form of attack. Men who have braved death on the battle-field have trembled at a sneer.

2. You must stand your ground when under evil reports. Those who do right will be spoken against. Jesus says: Blessed are ye, when

men shall revile you, and persecute you, and say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake. Rejoice and be exceeding glad; for great is your reward in heaven; for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you. The sun, moon, and stars shine when cloud-covered. Be like them—shine on when under reproach.

3. You must stand your ground in the day of trouble. Trouble is the common heritage of our race. Personal religion does not exempt us from trouble in this life.

The path of sorrow, and that path alone,
Leads to the land where sorrow is unknown.

No traveler ever reached that blest abode
Who found not thorns and briars on the road.

Sanctified sorrow exalts the soul, and it will enhance your eternal reward. Stand firm. Glorify God in the fires. Build your closer next to the furnace. God says, I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried; they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say it is my people; and they shall say, The Lord is my God.

4. You must stand your ground in the hour of duty. No good can be accomplished without effort. No man ever became really great without pains. While

The idle fall an easy prey
To mischief and to sin;
Those who fill with work their day
The prize of life shall win.

Therefore, work with both hands earnestly. Do not be afraid of enthusiasm. There is more lack of heart than brain. The world is not starving for need of education half so much as for warm, earnest interest of soul for soul. We agree with the Indian who when talked to about having too much zeal, said, I think it is better for the pot to boil over than not to boil at all. Be sure to muster on the right side. In churches there are two classes—the positive and the passive; or the progressive and the do-nothings. One aggressive, positive worker is worth fifty easy-talking, do-nothing members. If there is anything positive in you, show it. Put on the whole armor of God and stand your ground.—Unidentified.

A King's Daughter.

I knew, years ago, a Swede woman, a stranger in a strange land, its language and its ways alike foreign to her. She never wore to the house of God other than a calico gown, but she felt none the worse for that; nor was she the worse. There in God's house, her God's house, she sat with light unaccountable on her face. She caught only intermittently from the preacher a word she could understand, and then she looked a delight such as might shine in a woman's face when her husband came from the battlefields, battle-scarred, but her living husband yet. And when she caught sight of the Scripture truth upon the preacher's lips she would shout Glory! and she looked glory, too. Intellectually I knew she wore calico, but actually she always seemed to me to be clad in Tyrian purple, with a necklace of gems and wrought gold. You could not mistake her—she was the King's daughter in disguise. Some day, when a little more light than ordinary burns in her heart and on her face, she will be transfigured and her garments become glistening white, as no fuller on earth could lighten them, and she will fall in line with the sons of God who have palms and wear crowns, and cry, Holy, holy, holy!—William A. Quayle.

If a child eats ravenously, grinds the teeth at night and picks its nose, you may almost be certain it has worms and should administer without delay Dr. Low's Pleasant Worm Syrup, this remedy contains its own cathartic.

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The Saviour of mankind meant to have his followers to be burden-bearers and not burden-makers; and yet the majority of his so-called disciples are of the latter kind. It is easier to lean than it is to lift, and most people choose the easy way. It is more manly and Christ-like to get under and lift our part; and the great need of this end of the century period is a virile, aggressive, self-respecting Christian manhood, which dares take up the cross daily and follow Christ. Let us discard the effeminacy that leans and cultivate the masculinity that is able to lift and willing to bear the load which the Master bids us to carry in his name and for his sake.

To make Christ's life ours by obedient love, that is the only way to ensure that our lives shall not be useless in the world.

Our distinctions between great men and common men are mostly arbitrary and accidental. We are all so little and all so great in God's sight!

Uncommon Colds.

"It is just a common cold," people say, "there's no danger in that." Admitting their statement, then there are uncommon colds, colds which are dangerous, for many a fatal sickness begins with a cold. If we could tell the common cold from the uncommon we could feel quite safe. But we can't. The uncommon variety is rarely recognized until it has fastened its hold on the lungs, and there are symptoms of consumption.

Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cures coughs, bronchitis, "weak" lungs and other diseases of the organs of respiration. It increases the supply of pure, rich blood and builds up the emaciated body.

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