

The King's Highway.

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness.

And an Highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The Way of Holiness—Isa. 35-8.

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BUT BE OF GOOD CHEER; I HAVE OVERCOME THE WORLD.

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These things have I spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world—
—John 16-33.

Luther, writing to Phillip Melancthon, quotes this verse, and adds these remarkable words: "Such a saying as this is worthy to be carried from Rome to Jerusalem upon one's knees."

Dr. Adam Clarke in his comments on this verse says: "I give you this warning as another proof that I know all things: and to the end that ye may look to me alone for peace and happiness."

The peace of God is ever to be understood as including all possible blessedness—light, strength, comfort, support, a sense of the divine favour, unction of the Holy Spirit, purification of the heart, and all these to be enjoyed in Christ. (In the world ye have) the tribulation is at hand, ye are just about to plunge into it.

But be of good cheer. Do not despond on account of what I have said. The world

shall not be able to overcome you, how severely soever it may try you.

I have overcome the world. I am just now going, by my death, to put it and its god to the rout. My apparent weakness shall be my victory. My ignominy shall be my glory; and the victory which the world, the devil, and my adversaries in general shall appear to gain over me, shall be their own lasting defeat, and my eternal triumph.

This text when spoken by our Lord and Saviour, was very timely, a crisis was on, and it is now exceedingly timely in this great crisis.

The discourse that is indicated by the oft repeated words, "These Things" includes the three chapters, fourteen, fifteen and sixteen, followed by his great prayer in the seventeenth chapter.

The word "might" is very suggestive to us. See the same word in John 3-16. "Might not perish." The 1st faith in the only begotten Son of God, the only source of salvation from perdition. 2nd, the place of security "in me." Despite the inevitable tribulation that is ever at hand in the world.

This is a real point of triumphant Christian experience, where even tribulations are harnessed up to work together for good to them who love God, for the declarations:

"And we know that all things work together for good to them who love God."

"Knowing tribulation worketh Patience."

"Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation."

"Who comforteth us in all our tribulation."

"I am exceeding joyful in all our tribulation."

"Shall tribulation separate us from the love of Christ?"

"These are they that came up out of great tribulation."

"For our light afflictions, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory."

"While we look not at the things which are seen, but the things which are not seen: for the things that are seen are temporal, and the things which are not seen are eternal."

Be of Good Cheer—There were several occasions where these words were used in very trying times with wonderful effect, viz.:

"Son, be of good cheer, thy sins be forgiven thee"—Matt. 9-12.

"Be of good cheer, it is I, be not afraid"—Matt. 14-27.

"The Lord stood by him, and said, Be of good cheer, Paul."—Acts 23-11.

"And now I exhort you to be of good cheer."—Acts 27-22.

"Wherefore, Sirs, be of good cheer, for I believe God, that it shall be even as he told me."—Acts 27-25.

"Then were they all of good cheer."

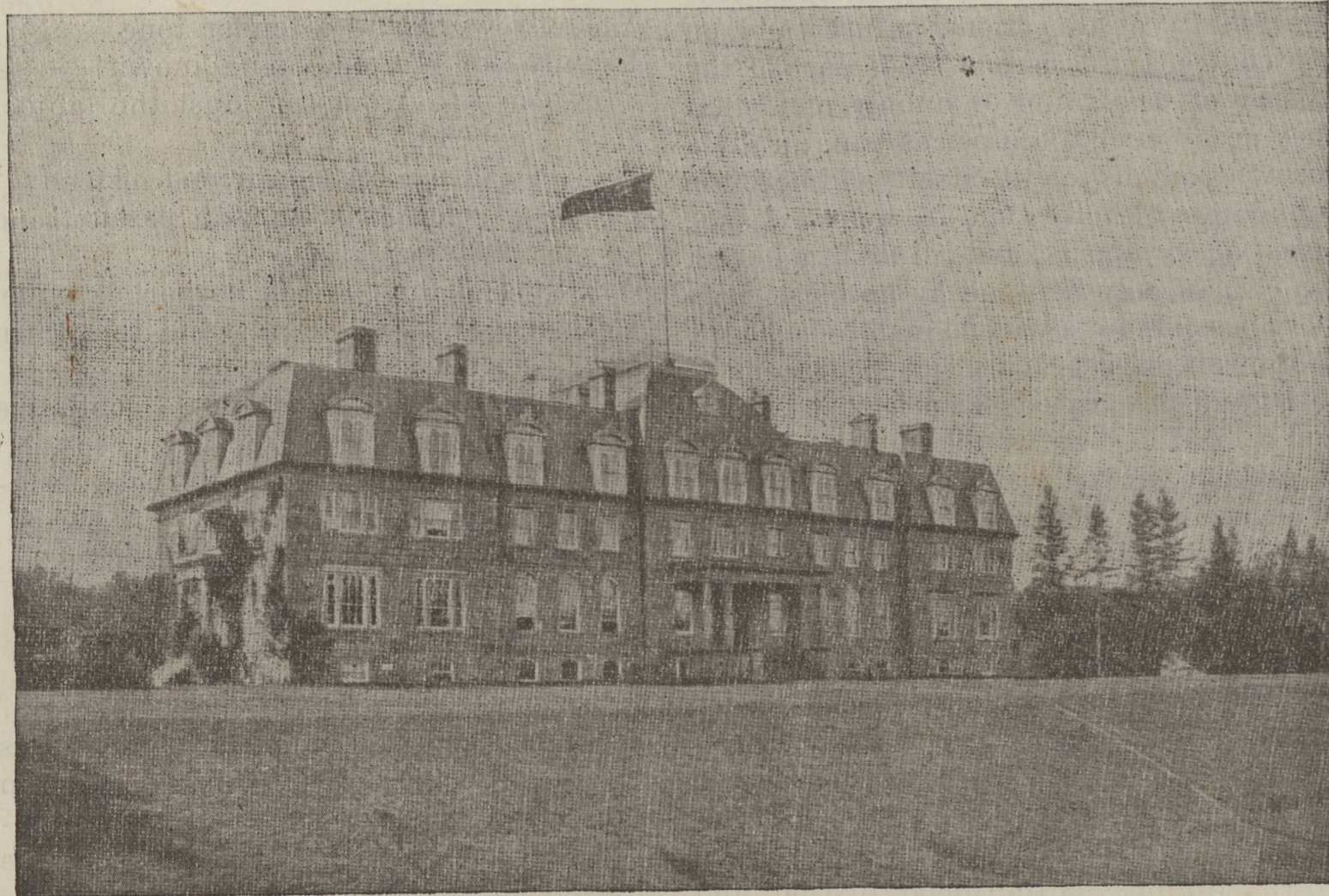
Any person can be cheerful when everything is going well.

But the great apostle said:

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also—Rom. 5-1-3.



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