

THE

Expositor of Holiness

Vol. VIII.

OCTOBER, 1889.

No. 4.

COURAGE.

BY CELIA THAXTER.

Because I hold it sinful to despond,
And will not let the bitterness of life
Blind me with burning tears, but look beyond
Its tumult and its strife ;

Because I lift my head above the mist,
Where the sun shines and the broad breezes
blow,
By every ray and every raindrop kissed
That God's love doth bestow ;

Think you I find no bitterness at all ?
No burden to be borne, like Christian's
pack ?

Think you there are no ready tears to fall
Because I keep them back ?

Why should I hug life's ills with cold re-
serve,
To curse myself and all who love me ?
Nay !

A thousand times more good than I deserve
God gives me every day.

And in each one of these rebellious tears
Kept bravely back He makes a rainbow
shine ;

Grateful I take His slightest gift, no fears
Nor any doubts are mine.

Dark skies must clear, and when the clouds
are past
One golden day redeems a weary year ;
Patient I listen, sure that sweet at last
Will sound His voice of cheer.

Thus vex me not with chiding. Let me be,
I must be glad and grateful to the end ;
I grudge you not your cold and darkness—
me
The powers of light befriend.

METHODS.

"If thou do these things show thyself unto the world."—JOHN vii. 1.

Those who are worldly in their instincts and tendencies are ever ready with their advice to boom spiritual things after the ways of the world.

So soon as they are aware that there is really something in any spiritual movement, they would apply to it the usual methods for securing publicity, and capturing the attention of the world's busy ear.

It is impossible for them to realize that a spiritual movement must be guided and controlled by a spiritual head. Hence, it follows also, that so soon as they who are used of God to commence a spiritual work adopt the ways of the unspiritual in its management, immediately the work ceases to be spiritual, so far as they are concerned.

Christ was no exception to this rule. He did always the will of the Father ; and hence, in working miracles, in going to Jerusalem, or remaining still in Galilee, it was as the Father, not He or His friends, decided, and, as was to be expected, the guidance of the Father was ever different from what man would suggest.

And this will ever characterize the work of God. None but the spiritual will understand it or approve of the methods adopted in carrying it on.

The history of the work committed to the Canada Holiness Association thus far in its history has been a conspicuous object lesson to teach this truth. From the very first, efforts have been made to take it out of the hands of the Holy Ghost, and apply to it the whip and