

Of the nameless babe the angels sing :

"There is nobler work given those puny hands,
Than falls to the lot of the angel bands ;
For that babe is the link,
To draw her (the mother's) soul back from destruction's brink."

The angelic message about the child restored, but deformed and crippled, is :

"Oh, pity him! love him; but dare not to say,
It were better to shorten his life by a day:
For, like flowers that spring but on sunless knolls,
Some graces bloom only in tortured souls,
And a hundred hearts all for the sake of that one,
Are learning the beauty of duties done—
Are learning unselfishness, thoughtfulness, care,
By the side of that which they may not share.

And the sufferer—Heaven deserteth such not—
God's arm is around him; envy his lot."

The dying doctor is convinced that, in saving the lives of his patients, he has simply been working out God's plans, and before his soul goes away with the angel bands to the better land, cries out :

"Oh, blessed all lives, since for each God hath use,
Despite of sin, sorrow, and wrong and abuse!
I thank Thee, I thank Thee, O God, that those three
Whose lives I deplored, are yet living by me."

Besides the lessons of patience, tenderness, sympathy and thoughtfulness, which we are learning at the bedsides of our little sufferers, there is another reason that influences us more powerfully than any other to pity and care for them—and that is—Jesus Christ loved little children, pitied them, and when living on the earth, often healed them of their sicknesses and infirmities. Christians will love them too, for is not Christianity, Christ?

Picture the Tender Shepherd, as, on one of His journeys to Jerusalem, He is surrounded by crowds of grown people, who waited to hear the wonderful words that fell from the lips of Him "who spake as never man spake," gathering the mothers with their babes around Him, and then, taking from each one her precious child and circling it in His loving arms, saying so tenderly, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God."

Again, as He sits in the house of a friend, and the disciples are wrangling about who shall be the greatest and have the first place, He calls unto Him a little child, and when He had set him in the midst, doubtless steadying the little creature's tottering steps with His kind hand, He preaches one of His short, pithy sermons, closing with these remarkable words, "Their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven." Or, behold Him healing the daughter of the Syrophenician woman, raising from the dead the little maid, and casting the evil spirit out of the afflicted boy, and, with His example before us, we cannot but feel that, in being kind to sick and suffering children, we are walking in the blessed Master's footsteps.

Having given some reasons *why* we work, we shall now speak of the work itself, which is manifold, and must be looked at from many points. For the sake of convenience, we shall group our remarks under the following seven heads :

- I. Religious.
- II. Medical.
- III. Financial.
- IV. Domestic.
- V. Educative.
- VI. Prospective.
- VII. Miscellaneous.

RELIGIOUS.

The spiritual element pervades all our household life. Our Friday morning

children.

REPORT.

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