

a happy New Year, will write golden paragraphs upon the white, new leaf.

Metaphor aside, the new leaf of the New Year will bring only the harvest we have sown. Small grains of deed may spring up and bear a hundredfold. If we plant dreams and promises, our portion will be dust and disappointment.—'Harper's Bazar.'

Old-Year Memories.

(Susan E. Gammons, in the 'Christian Endeavor World.')

Let us forget the things that vexed and tried us,

The worrying things that caused our souls to fret;

The hopes that, cherished long, were still denied us

Let us forget.

Let us forget the little slights that pained us,

The greater wrongs that rankle sometimes yet;

The pride with which some lofty one disdained us

Let us forget.

Let us forget our brother's fault and failing,

The yielding to temptation that beset, That he perchance, though grief be un-availing,

Cannot forget.

But blessings manifold, past all deserving, Kind words and helpful deeds, a countless throng,

The fault o'ercome, the rectitude unswerving,

Let us remember long.

The sacrifice of love, the generous giving When friends were few, the hand-clasp warm and strong,

The fragrance of each life of holy living

Let us remember long.

Whatever things were good and true and gracious,

Whatever of right has triumphed over wrong,

What love of God or man has rendered precious,

Let us remember long.

So, pondering well the lessons it has taught us,

We tenderly may bid the year 'Good-bye,'

Holding in memory the good it brought us, Letting the evil die.

The Morning Watch

A WORD TO STUDENTS.

(The Rev. Andrew Murray.)

By the observance of the morning watch is commonly meant the spending of at least the first half-hour of every day alone with God, in personal devotional Bible study and prayer.

There are Christians who say that they do not have time to devote a full half-hour to such a spiritual exercise. It is a striking fact that the busiest Christians constitute the class who plead this excuse the least, and most generally observe the morning watch. Any Christian who will honestly and persistently follow this plan for a month or two will become convinced

that it is the best possible use of his own time, that it does not interfere with his regular work and that it promotes the wisest economy of time.

In India, in China, in Japan, hundreds of students have agreed to keep the morning watch.

'The practical question for each of us is, Why should not I keep the morning watch? Next to receiving Christ as Saviour and claiming the baptism of the Holy Ghost, we know of no act attended with larger good to ourselves and to others than the formation of an undiscourageable resolution to keep the morning watch.'

These quotations are from an address by John R. Mott. At first sight the closing statement appears too strong. But think a moment, what such a revelation implies.

It means an insight into the folly of attempting to live a heavenly life without rising up into close communion with God in heaven, and receiving from himself the fresh bestowal of spiritual blessings.

It means the faith that time enough be given to God to lay his hands on us, and renew the inflowings of his Spirit, our soul may be so closely united to him that no trials or duties can separate us from him.

It means a purpose to live wholly and only for God, and by the sacrifice of time and ease to prove that we are willing to pay any price to secure the first of all blessings—the presence of God for all the day.

Let us now look again at that sentence 'Next to receiving Christ as our Saviour and claiming the baptism of the Holy Spirit, we know of no act attended with larger good to ourselves or to others than the formation of an undiscourageable resolution to keep the morning watch.' If our acceptance of Christ as Lord and Master was whole-hearted, if our prayer for and claiming of the Holy Spirit to guide and control was sincere, surely there can be no thought of not giving God each day sufficient time, our very best time, for receiving and increasing in us what is indispensable to a life for Christ's glory and in his service.

You tell me there are many Christians who are content with ten minutes or a quarter of an hour. There are, but you will certainly not as a rule find them very strong Christians. And the Students' Movement is pleading with God, above everything, that he would meet to train a race of devoted, whole-hearted young men and women. Christ asked great sacrifices of his disciples; he has perhaps asked little of you as yet. But now he allows, he invites, he longs for you to make some. Sacrifices make strong men. Sacrifices help wonderfully to wrench us away from earth and self-pleasing, and lift us heavenward. Do not try to pare down the time limit of the morning watch to less than the half-hour. There can be no question about the possibility of finding the time. Ten minutes from sleep, ten from company or amusement, ten from lessons. How easy where the heart is light, hungering to know God and his will perfectly!

Students! you know not whether in your future life your time may be more limited, your circumstances more unfavorable, your Christian earnestness feebler. Now is the accepted time. To-day, as the Holy

Ghost saith. Listen to the invitation of your brethren in all lands, and fear not to form an undiscourageable resolution to spend at least half an hour each morning 'with God alone.'

Postal Crusade.

We acknowledge, with many thanks, \$1 for 'Northern Messenger' from Mr. Peter Garvie, of Kilsyth; \$5 for 'Messengers' to be sent a class of girls in India, from six girls in a Sunday-school class of St. Gile's Presbyterian Church, Montreal. The papers have been ordered and the commission used for work in Canada. Among others, a little French girl will be surprised and glad to receive her 'Messenger' every week, and the six girls in India will receive theirs for a Christmas greeting.

With great gratitude the generous gift of \$60 is acknowledged. This is from 'Lovers of Missions in Valleyfield,' for Mr. Laflamme, to be used for the salary of a native preacher. Mr. Laflamme will receive this money just at the time the salary will be due. It came exactly in time to catch the mail for India, and all being well, will give the devoted missionary who was praying for this help a refreshing time at Christmas.

Wishing you all the best and brightest for Christmas and New Year's,

Faithfully,
M. EDWARDS-COLE,
112 Irvine Ave.,
Westmount, Qué.

ONE OF OUR FRIENDS.

Stella, Dec. 12, 1903.

Dear Sir,—Please find enclosed postal note for the amount of \$11.75, being the subscription price for forty-seven copies of the 'Northern Messenger' for another year. Our Sunday-school like the 'Northern Messenger,' and have undertaken to supply every family in the congregation with a copy. Many thanks for the good little paper, for I think it gives many a pleasant hour to its readers. I wish many more would take it. Hope this will reach you in good time, and that you will still continue to print your good little paper for many years to come. Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year,
Yours truly,
WILLIAM FLEMING, JR.

When William Lloyd Garrison became a Christian he wanted his Christianity to reach into all details of his life. His hand-writing, for instance, was very poor, and he set out to better it, making every letter with care, so that before long his penmanship became remarkable for its distinctness and beauty. A new start like this even in small things would make us better Christians.

Economy is a virtue, but it may be carried to excess. The great object with money is not to save it, but to use it—use it as under the eye of the great Master. A Christian woman, for example, employs a poorer sister to do certain work for her, and pays her what under the circumstances that work is worth. That amount does not figure in the reports of missionary boards, but it may be just as acceptable to the Lord, for it has ministered to the need 'of one of these his brethren.' It has been given in the only way in which a self-respecting person can receive it. It has been used in ministering to the necessities of the saints.—'Christian Weekly.'