

of religion. When I remember that God required of His ancient people a tenth of their possessions as His *due*, besides all that they had to give in *free will offerings*, and that Christ required of some to give up *all* they possessed if they would be perfect, I am convinced that *one tenth* of what they possess is the *very least* that God can regard as an acceptable offering from those who profess to be disciples of Christ. And yet how few give even half—might I not say rather, even a quarter of that. Let every soul consider this Lent whether he might not raise his standard of offerings, and whether he ought not to do so.

I ask the clergy to make a point of further impressing upon the people in special Sermons during this holy Season these three essential religious duties. In conclusion, I will give a few very simple general rules that may help to the more profitable observance of this Season:

1. Be sincere and thorough in all you resolve to do. A less strict rule kept thoroughly and conscientiously is far better than a more strict one often broken.
2. Have a definite aim—the conquest of some special sin, the acquisition of some particular virtue.
3. Be thorough, but not morbid, in self-examination.
4. Make a definite rule concerning prayer, concerning fasting concerning alms-giving, concerning meditation on God's Word. Begin at once.
5. Offer your rule to God, and ask Him earnestly for grace and power to keep it.
6. Fasting and acts of self-denial are often found irritating to the temper, vexatious, wearying; be careful, then to guard against all moroseness and sullenness.
7. Enter upon the work in cheerfulness and hope, "When ye fast, be not of sad countenance," "You *must* be bright and happy for Christ's sake, for the sake of others, for your own sake, that you may persevere to the end."
8. Look to that end continually—more complete union with Jesus your hope of glory, your exceeding and great reward, your all in all. He for "the hope that was set before Him endured the Cross despising the shame." You, too, if you bear your cross with patience after Him shall be a sharer of His joy.

That He Who bore His Cross for you may enable you all ever more perfectly to bear your daily cross of self-denial for His sake, and by His Holy Spirit may make you all more fully able to perform His will, and may transform you more entirely into His likeness in all holiness and righteousness, is the earnest prayer of

Your Bishop and Servant in the Lord,
ADELBERT,
Bishop of Qu'Appelle.

You may be a most religious person—busy all day long about God's matters; you may give time and money and thought to Him, and yet

you may never converse with Him. And the danger is, that if you do not converse alone with Him each day you will certainly get thoroughly wrong altogether.

LITERARY NOTE.

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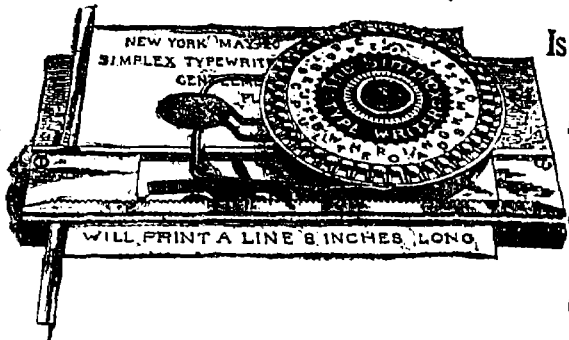
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