

the good part, and be like Martha of old, who was engaged about many things, but had neglected the good parts. So much for baptism. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father over all, in all, and through us all, and through the hungering and thirsting soul. Mind it and have thy peace established.

WM. TYSON.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH.

It is a well known proverb that courtesy costs nothing, but calculation might come to value love for its profit. Gentleness and kindness are garments which round out the human figure to a perfect symmetry. The heart so attuned to love both for God and man can sound no discords, can vibrate only when some gentle breeze plays across the strings. Let us absorb the sweetness of life, let us drink in the music as it passes on the wind, and far more important still, let us remember that God loves us. Bearing in mind this fact, our weary feet will be less likely to stumble on the bars and our dependence upon the great Father will be strengthened.

The strongest spiritual growth is attained by being faithful in the smaller duties of life, giving in such just gradations that pure youth passes into useful manhood, and active manhood matures into the sweet and tender wisdom of age. Men and women standing in their places, doing their work, unflinchingly trusting in God, grow deeper, soar higher, and spread more widely as the years pass on.

There is nothing more striking in the living Gospel of the Messiah than the stress which it lays on the small things of life. It calls more for quality than quantity, and in the tenderest manner rebukes man for the value he sets upon *how much* instead of *how well*. Oh, that we might begin now, at *once* to do what we can for man, for truth, and for right. Do right for the sake of right, leave the past and the

future, and take hold of the present which is always the day of salvation. Our past shall be forgiven us, if we begin now to do right, for that is repentance. Our future salvation we may safely leave with the loving father, while we are doing what we can. This trust which throws off all anxiety about past sins and future salvation, this indeed is the faith which saves the soul and surrounds us with that summer atmosphere of love and hope.

"Soul of our souls and safeguard of the world,
Sustain, thou only can'st, the sick of heart,
Restore their languid spirits and recall
Their lost affections unto thee and thine."

ELLA W. CLARK.

BOTANY AND HORTICULTURE

PAPER READ BY MARY A. NICHOLS
BEFORE THE STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, 1ST MO., 19.

"All are but parts of a stupendous whole,
Whose body Nature is and God the soul."

The reform spirit of the age seeks to mold these natural parts to a degree of perfection such that each may be not only a ready recipient but a free conductor of the inspiring, life-giving influence of this infinite soul. One unsound block in the great mosaic of the body may break the continuity of the soul's influence as a glass insulator breaks the electric current. Much more certainly will a mixture of imperfect material throughout the structure tend to weaken and dispel the force.

It is a fact which ought not to be overlooked that in every department of life and work we help in the construction of this "stupendous whole." Nature includes, of course, human nature—men. It also includes the many lesser and greater subjects which we have been pleased to term the "natural sciences." Thus even in an enterprise so material as the development of the horticultural industry we must strengthen or weaken the general structure.

I believe one of the worst alloys