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The Sweetest Lives.

The sweetest lives are those to duty wed,
Whose deeds, both great and small,
Are close-knit strands of an unbroken
thread.

Where love ennobles all.
The world may sound no trumpet, ring
no bells;
The Book of Life the shining record tells.

Christianity Making Itself Felt.—The editor of a daily paper in Tokyo, Japan, offered prizes for the best original poems. Six hundred poems were submitted, every one of them expressing Christian sentiment, and the eight that secured the prizes were written by professing Christians.

Want English Books.—In the *Bookman* is an article by a native Japanese on the eager interest felt in Japan for English and American books. Among the popular American books are mentioned Washington Irving's "Sketch-book," Longfellow's poems, Andrew Carnegie's "Empire of Business," and Lorrimer's "Letters of a Self-Made Merchant to his Son."

A Health Farm.—Excellent results are reported to have been obtained on the health farm of ninety-four acres established six months ago by the Denver Young Men's Christian Association to provide a home where young men may earn, or partly earn, their living expenses while strengthening weak lungs. The young men are housed in tents and encouraged to spend as large a part of their time as possible out-of-doors.

Common Sense.—Bishop Fowler, in addressing a class of young preachers in one of the Conferences recently, said: "I hope you each have a good wife. If you have not, get one; and do not marry her because she is pious. Marry her because she has good common sense. If I had two women to choose from, one having good common sense, and the other having only religion, I would take the woman with common sense."

Successful Preaching.—Rev. J. H. Jowett, of Birmingham, England, gives as the elements of success attending Dr. Torrey's preaching, a calm confidence in the ministry of prayer, assurance of constant fellowship with God, preaching of definite doctrines, and the steady purpose to save souls. The

doctrines most frequently proclaimed by Dr. Torrey are given as follows: the necessity of the atonement, the efficacy of redeeming grace, the personality of the Holy Spirit, the terrible perils of sin, the sure degeneracy and ruin apart from Christ, and the certainty of judgment.

The Model Young Man.—President Roosevelt thus characterizes the young man that he would like to see grow up in his country: "I want to see the young fellow able to do a man's work in the world and of a type which will not permit imposition to be practised upon him. I want to see him too strong of spirit to submit to wrong, and on the other ashamed to do wrong to others. I want to see each man able to hold his own in the rough work of actual life outside, and also, when he is at home, a good man, unselfish in dealing with wife or mother, or children."

Not by Chemical Force.—Lord Kelvin gives this interesting reminiscence of a leading scientist of a former generation: "Forty years ago I asked Liebig, walking somewhere in the country, if he believed that the grass and flowers which we saw around us grew by mere chemical forces. He answered, 'No; no more than I could believe that a book of botany describing them could grow by mere chemical forces.'"

Face Difficulties.—The way should not be made too easy for young people. While they are still young they should have opportunity to learn that the power to force one's natural inclinations into channels which they do not of themselves seek is the only sure way not merely to usefulness but to happiness as well. By common consent, by the verdict of the best philosophy, both human and divine, it is a miserable man who is not the master of himself.

Commendable.—The despatches state that when the Japanese Emperor passed through the streets of Tokyo the other day to open the Diet, he was received in absolute silence, "the highest mark of respect." In regard to this, the *Nashville Christian Advocate* remarks: "We do not know who is responsible for that characterization, whether it is the press correspondent or the Japanese, but the notion has much to commend it. The yelling and hurrahing in which 'civilized' peoples indulge to show their satisfaction at seeing a great personage is, to say the least, distinctly ungracified."

A Big Task.—Commenting on the statements of a minister who would solve the liquor problem by making the saloon pay in taxes all they cost the community, and no more, the *Defender* remarks: "That minister has a job on his hands. His first business is to find some divine mathematician who can compute the value of a human life in dollars and cents. The only way in which the saloon can pay its way is by getting out of the way forever."

Good Advice.—A good woman died not long ago in Philadelphia, after passing her one hundred and second milestone. Her great age was attained in connection with her adherence to a simple set of rules, which were: "Be honest, and don't worry. Marry early, and save money. Love breeds happiness. Keep at work and don't drink. A rich girl can be happy with a poor husband if she really loves him. Eat plenty, sleep long and don't bother. When you feel like crying—laugh!"

A New Order with Degrees.—Booker Washington is nothing if not original and sensible. One curse of the negro is the multiplicity of unprofitable secret societies. The "Black Belt Improvement Society" strikes at the evil in a positive way. Its members are given degrees according to their worth, as follows: First degree—desire for better things; second—3 chickens and a pig; third—a cow; fourth—an acre of land; fifth—an acre and a horse; sixth—40 acres and a mule; seventh—80 acres and 2 mules. This, verily, is the right kind of freemasonry.

By Way of Remembrance.—A very pretty rally card was sent out a few months ago by the president of the First Congregational Society of Riverside, Cal. It contains the active members' pledge and fourteen self-examination texts, all embossed in the daintiest of letters on two large cards, which are tied together with white ribbons. Each member of the society received one. The work was all done by the president, Miss Leota Gruwell. Some of the self-examination questions are: "Am I a faithful witness for Christ?—Matt. 10:32, 33; Isa. 43:10. Do I read my Bible daily?—Ps. 1:2; Josh. 1:8. Am I needed in the church? 1 Cor. 12. How do I pray?—1 Thes. 5:17; Matt. 6:6." Such a reminder might profitably be sent out by any look-out committee when the society grows careless.—C. E. World.