

## GATHER THE FRAGMENTS.

Be an economist of time. Time is money, and more than that. It is the stuff that eternity is made of. Be, therefore, misers of minutes. We talk of "off hours" and "spare moments," but we have none to spare. True, we need recreation, relief from the daily pressure of care. We cannot safely abridge sleep; the tension of modern life, the rush and rivalry of business make rest a necessity, not a luxury. Overwork is a sin against the body. We owe it to ourselves and to others to keep our body in its best physical condition. We are gathering up the fragments in so doing. Proper relaxation is a part of true economy; but the point to be remembered is the value and significance of all our hours as related to the aim of life. This being understood, we shall be frugal of our scanty and lessening store. Fragments of time saved will rapidly accumulate wealth, material and spiritual. Many valuable books have been prepared in moments of comparative leisure. In the gold perforated floor, through which passes the dust or fillings of gold, the aggregate value of which is \$30,000 every year. This is but a hint of the gathered wealth of many men who have learned how to husband minutes. Kind words and deeds that take but a moment of time may be like fruitful seeds, the harvestings of which may be superlatively rich in this life and the life to come. O, the joy of memory that comes from utilizing fragments of time! Worth more than the sweepings of the gold-room, they enrich alike the life of him who saves and that of him he serves. An extra visit to the closet, the improvement of some fugitive impression of some passing acquaintance, may start streams of beneficent influence that will not only momentarily refresh and restore the wearied soul, but leave a permanent effect on character. What we need is a strong purpose followed out by systematic and persistent effort day by day.—*Home Science*.

Said David Garrick to the Bishop of London, "If you were conversing with a party of friends in your study, sir, on a subject that interested you, there would be no whine or tone in your voice, you would talk in an animated way. Now, sir, pulpit eloquence is animated conversation."—*Home Science*.

## TELEPHONING TO GOD.

A little girl who had never heard of a telephone was filled with wonder when she first saw one being used. She understood there was a conversation being carried on, but with whom, and where the person was, were both mysteries to her. Seeing her deep interest, the matter was explained.

Some time afterwards she was visiting her grandpapa, and family worship was a new thing to her. She asked many questions about it. Her grandpapa told her of God, who made all things, and who gives us all the blessings we enjoy.

"But, grandpapa, I never saw him. Where is he?"

She was told that he was everywhere, and could see and hear us, though we saw him not. For some time she sat lost in thought. Then suddenly her eyes sparkled, and she exclaimed:

"I see; I know now. When we pray we telephone to God!"

When we pray, dear readers, do we always realize, as we do when we speak through the telephone, that our words will be heard and answered, "if we ask aright?" As a tender parent stoops down to listen to the request of the little one, so our Heavenly Father "inclines his ear" to hearken to us. He is the "hearer and answerer of prayer." Whatever gives us anxiety or trouble, even though it may be too small to tell our fellow-creatures, we may pour into his ear; with the assurance that if he does not see fit to remove it, he will give us strength to bear it. Let us in our prayers "become as little children"—*Illus. Chris. Weekly*.

The old-fashioned way of giving candy and toys, and other presents, to children in the Sunday-school, as a part of the Christmas observances, is rapidly coming to be numbered among the rejected methods of carrying on a christian work. The experience of these latter days, in widely different fields, has shown that children of every class find more pleasure in responding to a call to give to Christ, and to Christ's loved ones, at their Christmas anniversary, than they ever found in receiving the choicest gifts that were distributed to them from the Sunday-school on such an occasion. Those who have not seen the two methods tested in the same school can hardly imagine the great advantage, in every aspect, of the new method over the old one.—*S. S. Times*.