

Look Toward the Light.

The sailor on the midnight sea, if he would guide himself across the trackless deep, must not look upon the dark, troubled waves, but at the clear, blue heavens. If the sky is overcast and the stars are veiled by the clouds, he must turn to his compass; and its needle, ever true to the pole, will point to the star, though it be hidden from his vision. So we are tossed on many a billow. If we would see heaven's guiding light, we must not look on the waves of temptation that dash and break around; but above to God, should darkness and clouds gather in the sky. Let us turn to the Bible, and it will point to Him who shines beyond the clouds in unchanging glory.

A Great Man.

That man is great, and he alone
Who serves a greatness not his own.
For neither praise nor pelf;
Content to know and be unknown,
Whole in himself.

Strong is that man, he only strong,
To whose well-ordered will belong,
For service and delight,
All powers that in face of wrong
Establish right.

And free is he, and only he,
Who, from his tyrant passions free,
By fortune undismayed,
Has power upon himself to be
By himself obeyed.

If such a man there be, where'er
Beneath the sun and moon he fare,
He cannot fare amiss;
Great Nature hath him in her care,
Her cause is his.

—Owen Meredith.

Why "III." Instead of "IV."

If you did not stop to think you would expect that the figure four on the face of a watch or a clock would be represented by IV. instead of III. While the explanation of this, as given by watchmakers, is nothing but a tradition, it is not the less interesting on that account.

You may or may not know that the first clock that in any way resembled those now in use was made by Henry Vick in 1370. He made it for Charles V. of France, who has been called "The Wise." Now, Charles was wise in a good many ways. He was wise enough to recover from England most of the land which Edward III. had conquered, and he did a good many other things which benefited France; but his early education had been somewhat neglected, and he probably would have had trouble in passing a civil service examination in these enlightened ages. Still, he had a reputation for wisdom, and thought it was necessary in order to keep it up, that he should also be supposed to possess book-learning. The latter was a subject he was extremely touchy about.

So the story runs in this fashion, although I will not vouch for the language, but put it in that of the present day:

"Yes, the clock works well," said Charles; "but," being anxious to find some fault with a thing he did not understand, "you have got the figures on the dial wrong."

"Wherein, your majesty?" asked Vick.

"That four should be four ones," said the king.

"You are wrong, your majesty," said Vick.

"I am never wrong," thundered the king. "Take it away and correct the mistake." And corrected it was; and from that day to this four o'clock on a watch or clock dial has been III. instead of IV. The tradition has been faithfully followed.

Look on the Bright Side.

Cheer people up by your piety. Do not talk as if the world were going from bad to worse, as if God and goodness were no headway against sin, and as if one's chief religious duty was to complain and croak. People know better, and you only repel them and misrepresent the bright and blessed gospel of Christ. Study of the influences of Christianity. Find out the facts. You will

learn that it has actually transformed this world. There is sin enough, and too much, left. There is woe enough to break a sensitive heart, if it had nothing else to look at. But God lives and rules; and surely even if slowly He is bringing about the success of His purposes and the fulfilment of His promises. Look on the bright side. You will be the better yourself, and you will do more good as a servant of Christ.

Think Not of To-morrow.

It is a blessed attainment to live for each day, and for each day only. We have grace promised to bear present evils, but none to bear anticipated ones.

If thou foredate the day of woe,
Then thou alone must bear the blow.

"I think not of to-morrow,
Its trial or its task.
But still, with child-like spirit,
For present mercies ask."
With each returning morning,
I cast old things away;
Life's journey lies before me,
My prayer is for to-day."

The Christian's Duty.

The duty of Christians is to be like-minded with Christ. Does Christ long for the conversion of souls? You who are true Christians will do the same. Does Christ show His deep feeling on this subject by the active efforts He makes? You who are Christians will in this be followers of Christ. You will not only earnestly pray, "Thy Kingdom come," but you likewise will do all you can to set up His kingdom in the earth. You will strive that your children, your servants, your dependents, your neighbors, and your fellow parishioners may be brought with repentance and faith to the foot of the Redeemer's cross. You will also be anxious that the Redeemer's last command that His gospel should be preached in every nation may be fully obeyed. You will, therefore, by your prayers and contributions, help those devoted servants of Christ who at home and in foreign lands are enduring the heat and burden of the ministerial day in proclaiming repentance towards God and faith towards the Lord Jesus Christ.

A little Swedish girl, walking with her father on a starry night, was so attracted by the brilliancy of the sky, all lit up with twinkling stars from one end to the other, that she seemed to be quite lost in her thinking. Her father asked her what she was thinking of so intently. Her answer was: "I was just thinking if the wrong side of heaven is so glorious, what must the right side be!"

A gentleman was once riding in Scotland by a bleaching-ground, where a poor woman was at work watering her webs of linen cloth. He asked her where she went to church, what she had heard on the preceding day, and how much she remembered. She could not even tell the text of the last sermon. "And what good can the preaching do you," said he, "if you forget it all?" "Ah, sir," replied the poor woman, "if you will look at this web on the grass, you will see, as fast as ever I put the water on it, the sun dries it all up, and yet, sir, I see it gets whiter and whiter!"

Richard Baxter said a faithful preacher would make the people quarrel either with him or with their sins. It is to be feared that some of us do neither. Christ's ministry was a sifting ministry. On the day of His greatest popularity He preached His severest discourse, uttering truths so stern that "from that time many of His disciples went back, and walked no more with Him."

One of the school examiners who likes to ask "catch" questions put this one not long ago: "What views would King Alfred take of universal suffrage, of the conscription, and of printed books, if he were living now?" The ingenious pupil wrote in reply: "If King Alfred were still alive he would be too old to take any interest in anything."

Hints to Housekeepers

GUMBO. Cut up a tender, well grown chicken; fry with two sliced onions and a quarter of a pound of fat bacon, cut up. When brown, put in a saucepan, cover with water, add a dozen and a half pods of sliced okra, half a gallon of tomatoes, a pod of red pepper and a little salt. Stew very slowly for two hours.

FRIED CHICKEN AND TOMATOES.—Cut up two young chickens and fry in boiling lard; when done, take up, put in slices of ripe tomatoes and fry; season with salt and pepper and serve with the chicken.

THE TRADE OUTLOOK.—The trade outlook seems bright, but to those burdened with bad blood, stomach or liver troubles, etc., the outlook is blue. This may be avoided and bounding health restored by the use of Burdock Blood Bitters, the most effective, rapid and satisfactory medicine for all derangements of the stomach, liver, bowels, and blood.

CHICKEN DRESSED AS TERRAPIN.—Stew a tender, young chicken, cut in pieces and put in a saucepan with a quart of soup stock. Stir in two large tablespoonfuls of butter and one beaten egg. Serve with salt, pepper and thyme; add a small glass of wine, two chopped hard-boiled eggs, and stir one minute. Serve with wild grape jelly.

OLD VIRGINIA CHICKEN PIE.—Make rich pastry; line a deep tin pan with it and fill with stewed spring chicken, sliced bacon, a teacupful of bread crumbs, a pint of cream, a tablespoonful of butter, the yolks of three hard-boiled eggs; season with salt and pepper, cover with a top crust and bake slowly for two hours.

CURE FOR CHAPPED HANDS.—Dear sirs, I think it is a privilege to recommend Hagar's Yellow Oil as a sure cure for chapped hands, swellings, sore throat, etc. I recommend it to all.

Mrs. GEO. WARD, Josephine, Ont.

CORN PUDDING.—Grate the corn from a dozen ears; season with salt, pepper and a little sugar; add the yolks of four eggs, two ounces of butter and a pint of new milk; mix well, pour in a deep pudding-dish and bake in a slow oven; when done, beat the whites and spread over the top. Set in the oven to brown.

SUCCOTASH.—Shell a pint of Lima beans, put in a saucepan and cook twenty minutes; add double the quantity of corn, pour off the water and pour over a pint of new milk; add a tablespoonful of butter, with salt and pepper. Simmer slowly until very low; serve hot.

TURN THE RASCALS OUT.—We refer to such rascals as dyspepsia, bad blood, biliousness, constipation, sick headache, etc., infesting the human system. Turn them out and keep them out by using Burdock Blood Bitters, the natural foe to disease, which invigorates, tones and strengthens the entire system.

BAKED APPLE DUMPLINGS.—Make rich crust; peel and core good, tart apples; roll out the crust, cut out, place an apple on each round, fill the cavity with butter and sugar, press the dough together, put in a pan so they will not touch; spread over with butter and sugar. Pour a cupful of water in the bottom of the pan and set in the stove to bake.

"Wait on the Lord."

"Wait on the Lord." Trust in Him. "Commit thy way unto Him." All this requires great strength of grace; but if God be our God, that love which engaged Him to bind Himself to us in precious promises, will furnish us likewise, with grace needful for us. He will give us the grace to wait upon Him, the strength to trust in Him and commit our way to Him. And oh! He will give us that rest, that unspeakable peace, which follows this perfect faith and trust. Grace and peace go together.