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"UNTO THE DESIRED HAVEN."

What matter how the winds may blow,
Or blow they east, or blow they west;
What reck I how the tides may flow—
God is above, He knoweth best,
No summer calm, no winter gale,
Impedes or drives me from my way;
I steadfast towards the Haven sail
That lies, perhaps, not far away.

I mind the weary days of old,
When motionless I seem to lie;
The night when fierce the billows rolled,
And changed my course, I knew not why;
I feared the calm, I feared the gale,
Foreboding danger and delay,
Forgetting it was thus to sail,
To reach what seemed so far away.

I measure not the loss and fret
Which through these years of doubt I
bore;
I kept the memory fresh and yet
Would hold God's patient mercy more.
What wrecks have passed me in the gale,
What ships sunk in the summer day!
While I, with furled or spreading sail,
Stood for the Haven far away.

What matter how the winds may blow,
Since fair or foul alike is best;
God holds them in His hand, I know,
And I may leave to Him the rest;
Assured that neither calm nor gale
Can bring me danger or delay,
As I toward the Haven sail
That lies, I know, not far away.

--A Randolph in Sailor's Magazine

"God promises to cleanse us, and then exhorts us to cleanse ourselves because we have such promises."

WHAT IS CLEANSING OR HEART-PURITY?

In connection with the discussion of carnality, etc., it is in order to investigate thoroughly this subject. But it will be found, on close inspection, that it can be quickly and easily disposed of, for the state of being cleansed, or of having a pure heart, is simply another name or names for a righteous life. A man of clean hands and of a pure heart is simply a man whose hands are not used in wrong-doing, and whose life in thought, word and deed harmonizes with the commands of God; in other words. is one in whose conduct the righteousness of the law is continually fulfilled.

These hands are clean, cries the politician, when he would have his audience believe that he neither gave nor accepted a bribe. There is no mysticism connected with the word clean and its synonyms outside of theology. But the moment we enter the realms of dogmatic theology we seem to be on enchanted ground, especially when the cleansing department is reached. For it will be found that walking in the commandments of God blameless can scarely be considered as synonymous with the idea of being cleansed from inborn or inbred sin, as taught by many theological writers, when discoursing concerning holiness.

Take an object lesson to illustrate this. Here is a man converted to God. About his conversion there is no doubt. He has sincerely repented of his sins; has come to God in penitence and faith, and has accepted Jesus as the Captain of his salvation. There is no reserve in his complete surrender to Him