

"O that fatal resolution!"

Is my reader imitating that lost student? Through this greed of gain or pleasure is he neglecting his soul and marching deliberately toward hell? Infatuated man? Are you not sowing a crop of groans, regrets, and terrors for the coming hour of death? Beware, O immortal man, beware! Do not deceive yourself with hope of reaping the rewards of both God and Mammon. "What is the hope of the hypocrite though he hath GAINED when God hath taken away his soul? Will God hear his cry when trouble cometh upon him?"

RESTRAINT FOR THE YOUNG.—The eldest son of President Edwards congratulating a friend on having a large family of sons, said to him with much earnestness:—"Remember, there is but one mode of family government. I have brought up and educated fourteen boys, two of whom I brought, or rather suffered, to grow up without the rod. One of these was my youngest brother, and the other Aaron Burr, my sister's only son"—both of whom had lost their parents in their childhood—"and from both my observation and experience, I tell you sir, maple sugar government will never answer. Beware how you let the first act of disobedience go unnoticed in your little boys, and unless evidence of repentance be manifest, unpunished." Of all the sermons I ever heard, long or short, this has been the most useful, so far as this world is concerned. It is a solemn lesson, to be prayerfully pondered by all parents and guardians. The Bible lays down four great rules involving the four great elements of the successful religious training of children—prayer, instruction, example and restraint. And it is useless to pray for or with your children, if you do not instruct them, and it will be in vain to instruct them, if your own example contradicts your teaching; and in vain will be the prayer, the instruction, the example, if, like Eli, when your children do wrong, you "restrain them not."

LIFE IS THE SEED-TIME.—To-day for to-morrow; this year for the next. And as we are reaping what others sowed, let us, as Christians and as wise men, sow not only for ourselves, but that generations yet unborn shall rise up and call us blessed. We trust seed is this day scattering, which shall be reaped hereafter in that happy day when every man shall find in another "a brother and a friend." If, then, with the wisdom that comes from above, we go forth scattering the precious seeds of true bliss and real good, how happy for ourselves, and for all that are dear to us in time and eternity. But let none despair because they cannot sow and reap in the same day. Remember

the patience of the husbandman, and imitate him in preparing for the golden harvest which will never end.

THE THREE-FOLD LOSS.—One Sabbath day a Maronite, from one of the villages of Northern Lebanon, came to Tripoli to pay some money to a Protestant brother named Yanni. When he reached the house, Yanni told him that he never did business of any kind on the Lord's day, for it was a sin. The Maronite answered, "What shall I do? I paid the priest six cents for permission to come, and so I have a two-fold loss. I have lost my time in walking ten miles, and my six cents too, poor man that I am!" Yanni replied to him: "Yes, my friend, and your loss will be *three-fold*, if you continue to break God's law in this manner." "How?" said the man. "You have already lost your time and six cents, and unless you repent, and obey God's law, you will lose your soul, and that is the greatest loss of all." The poor man went away wondering at such conduct, and telling everybody that these Protestants not only do not lie, but they will not do business on the Sabbath.

PIETY, which is a true devotion to God, consists in doing all his will, precisely at the time, in the situation, and under the circumstances in which he has placed us.—*Fenelon*.

In the face of the sun you may see God's beauty; in the fire you may feel his heat warming; in the water his gentleness to refresh you; it is the dew of heaven that makes your field give you bread.—*Taylor*.

If the works are so perfect, how glorious must be the Maker of them! If the beauty of that which he has created is inexpressibly great, infinitely greater must be that Being who surveys all creation at a single glance.—*Sturm*.

One ray of moral and religious truth is worth all the wisdom of the schools. One lesson from Christ will carry you higher than years of study under those who are too enlightened to follow this celestial guide.—*Channing*.

To be silent, to suffer, to pray, when we cannot act, is acceptable to God. A disappointment, a contradiction, a harsh word, received and endured as in his presence, is worth more than a long prayer.—*Fenelon*.

In the school of Christ the first lesson of all is self-denial and humility; yes, it is written above the door, as the rule of entry or admission. "Learn of me, for I am meek and lowly of heart." And out of all question, that is truly the humblest heart that has the most of Christ in it.—*Leighton*.