

were the first of the northern tribes converted to Christianity, and who adopted it from the Christians of Constantinople.

In the Collects the following expressions need explanation. The word "*concord*" in the second collect for peace means harmony or union. "*Standeth*" means consisteth or dependeth. In the prayer for the Queen's majesty, "*endue*" means endow, enrich, invest, or dress. "*Wealth*" means weal or happiness. The Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, in the prayer for the president, has substituted for "*wealth*" the word prosperity. In the prayer for the clergy and people, the term "*curate*" has not its modern meaning of an assistant minister to a rector or an incumbent, but means one having the cure or care of souls. The distinction between "*advocate*" and "*mediator*" is that an advocate is one who espouses our cause and pleads to God for us. It is the same as paraclete, comforter, or helper. A mediator is one who goes between to unite those separated for any cause.

In the evening service, the expression "*God, my Saviour*," in the *Magnificat*, completely refutes the Romish doctrine of the worship of the Virgin Mary, for it is a confession on her part of her need of a Saviour from sin, and is in keeping with the truth that there is but one sinless One, even Jesus Christ the Son of God, and that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. The Revised Version has "*looked upon the low estate*" for "*regarded the lowliness*," and "*princes from their thrones*" for "*the mighty from their seat*"; while the Accepted Version has "*those of low degree*" for "*the humble and meek*." The word "*holpen*" is an old English form for helped. In the *Cantate Domino*, the term "*shavens*" means sound. It is an old wind instrument somewhat similar to the clarinet. The Accepted and Revised Versions both translate it "*sound of cornet*."

The Litany has also several obscure terms. "*Deadly sin*" means deliberate and presumptuous sin; it may be that the expression came from the words of St. Paul, "*The wages of sin is death*." The words "*sudden death*" are closely connected with "*battle and murder*." The leading thought is that of prayer against a violent death. There are those who contend that this is not a proper petition, for Christians should be prepared at all times. While there is truth here, it is not the whole truth, for we might well pray for a quiet death, surrounded by our loved ones, and the prayer might also be said in

mercy to the living. "*Sedition*" is an offence against the state; "*privy conspiracy*" is a secret combination for an evil purpose; "*false doctrine*" refers to opinions at variance with Scripture truths; "*heresy*," to views opposed to a religious faith; "*schism*," to division or the spirit of separation in a church. "*Incarnation*" means Christ's act in taking a human body; "*passion*" refers to the sufferings of Christ; "*affiance*" is from *fides*, faith, and means trust or reliance; "*dread*" means to fear with reverence. The American Prayer Book has the words "*to love and fear thee*." The "*kindly fruits of the earth*" are the natural fruits of the earth, i.e., the fruits after their kind which the earth should naturally produce; "*negligences*" are sins of omission, the duties we have neglected to do; "*ignorances*" are sins committed through ignorance or duties neglected for the same reason.

One of our first duties, if we are really to appreciate the beauties of our Prayer Book, is to understand it. I trust that the few notes written above may serve the purpose of leading the readers of PARISH AND HOME to a closer study of the book which, next to God's Word, is the volume we love and cherish.

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#### A STORY OF OLD TIMES.

A YOUNG Englishwoman was sent to France to be educated in a Huguenot school in Paris. A few evenings before the fatal massacre of St. Bartholomew's Day, she and some of her young companions were taking a walk in a quiet part of the town where there were sentinels placed. One of the soldiers, as the young ladies passed him, besought them to have the charity to bring him a little water, adding that he was very ill, and that it would be as much as his life was worth to leave his post and fetch it himself.

The ladies walked on, much offended at the man for presuming to speak to them at all; but the young Englishwoman, whose compassion was moved, leaving her party, procured some water and brought it to the soldier. He begged her to tell him her name and place of abode, and this she did.

Some of her companions blamed and others ridiculed her attention to a common soldier, but they soon had reason to lament that they had not been equally compassionate, for the soldier contrived on the night of the massacre to save the Englishwoman, while the others in the house were killed.—*Alliance News*.

#### "Granny Francis."

"GOT any news? Any of you seen the new fellow that's coming into our class?"

"The speaker was a long youth of sixteen, who stood leaning against the fence that enclosed the grounds of the Ridgeway Academy. Around in various attitudes of ease, if not grace, were four or five other boys resplendent in the uniform of the Ridgeway Unquenchables, as the Academy Athletic Association was called.

"No, have you, Matt?" eagerly inquired an Unquenchable.

"Nary hair of him," answered Matt. "But he comes from the Harland Institute."

There was a chorus of exclamations.

The Harland Institute was a school in another part of the State, well known by reputation, having carried off the palm in athletics for several years, a fact which caused its students to be regarded with mingled envy and admiration by the Ridgeway boys. "Hurrah! we'll put him on the nine and make him lug off the honors for us next field day!" said Al Ferris, flourishing his bat.

"Better not crow till you're out of the wood, old man," put in a new voice.

Everybody turned to look at the speaker.

People always turned to look at Jack Darrington, and, in point of fact, he was well worth looking at, being as fine a specimen of young New England as one often sees—tall, well-knit, and handsome, with that commanding air that accompanies a fine combination of mental and physical strength. He was the best athlete as well as the best scholar in school, and of course an oracle among the boys.

"Why, have you seen him, Jack?" demanded a chorus of voices.

"No," answered Jack, turning to go in as the bell began to ring; "but he may be a muf, if he did come from old Harland. You'd better have a look at him before you set him upon a pedestal."

There was a general assent to this; nevertheless the boys watched eagerly for the newcomer, as they took their seats. But, alas, for too confident reckonings!

The door opened at length, and a slight, pale youth, having a general air of meek good-nature, walked up to the only vacant place and began arranging his books with hands as white and slender as a girl's.

The hopes of the Unquenchables fell with a crash. Al Ferris muttered "Dude!" under his breath, Matt Mayhew gave vent to an audible whistle, and Jack Darrington was about to remark "Muf!" when he