

Heavenly Father's love, His all forgiving kindness, for our faltering weakness. In this experience I think I am not alone, for I have heard expressions from others in youthful walks that harmonize with this, when they are fortunate enough to *know* one "Quaker woman," who is, as they say, the "*best woman in the world!*"

When I hear of one after another, the aged ones of the Society passing away, and seemingly none to take their places, a feeling of great loneliness creeps over me in wondering how I should feel if I could live to see the day when they should all depart, and the Society of Friends be no more.

Would I not be indeed like an orphan in a strange country, for who in the trivial, trifling, busy bustling world would know or understand? The soul has need sometimes at least of quiet, sweet repose. And now, young Friends, do you see, in what I have said, any reason or cause, why you should leave the Society of Friends, and join the other churches. If so let me hear from you.

JULIA M. DUTTON.

Waterloo, N. Y., Nov. 27th, 1891.

## FROM TOLSTOY'S "SPIRIT OF CHRIST'S TEACHING."

### CHAPTER XII.

#### *THE VICTORY OF THE SPIRIT OVER THE FLESH.*

THEREFORE FOR THE MAN WHO LIVES NOT A PERSONAL LIFE, BUT IN THE COMMON LIFE WHICH IS THROUGH THE WILL OF THE FATHER, THERE IS NO EVIL. THE DEATH OF THE BODY IS UNION WITH THE FATHER.

*(This be th' kingdom, the power, and the glory.)*

When Jesus had finished his discourse to his disciples he arose, and instead of escaping or defending himself, he went to meet Judas, who had brought soldiers to take him. Jesus

went up to him and asked him why he was there. Judas gave no reply, and a crowd of soldiers surrounded Jesus. Peter rushed to defend his teacher, and, drawing his sword, began to fight; but Jesus stopped him, saying that whoso takes the sword shall himself perish by the sword, and ordered him to give up his sword. Then Jesus said to those who came to take him, I formerly went amongst you alone without fear, and now I fear you not and give myself up unto you. You may do with me what you will. And then all the disciples forsook him and fled. Jesus remained alone. The officer ordered the soldiers to bind him and take him to Annas, who had been high priest, and lived in the same house with Caiaphas, the latter being the then high priest. It was he who thought of the pretext which decided the Jews to kill Jesus—either they must kill him or the whole nation must perish. Jesus, feeling himself in the hands of the Father, was ready for death, and did not resist when he was seized, nor did he fear when they led him away. Peter, who had just before promised Jesus that he would not abandon him, but would lay down his life for him, who had tried to defend him, now when he saw that Jesus was led away to punishment, was afraid that he might suffer with him, and to the questions of the servants, whether he were not one of Jesus' followers, denied it, and went away, and only afterwards, when he heard the cock crow, did he understand all that Jesus had said to him. He understood that there are two temptations of the flesh, that of fear and that of using violence; he understood then that Jesus had struggled against these temptations when he prayed in the garden, and invited his disciples to pray. Now he had himself fallen into both these temptations of the flesh against which Jesus had warned him; he had tried to resist evil by violence, and to defend truth by fighting and evil doing; he had been unable to withstand the fear of bodily