

the brute creation. Aaron Burr was man with whom society was charmed. No one could perform the honors of a gallant more politely or nicely than he. Yet he was at heart a man most unfit for the association of men desiring to mingle with those who would have a tendency to elevate them. To culture and develop the soul, or that spark of Christ's likeness in man, is the purpose of *all* churches and their branches. (I say all, because each church has its proper place, and the work cannot be confined to one sect.)

In the work of last year we are able, no doubt, to see many things that have been neglected, also many that should have been that were not. It will do no good to cause a disturbance about them or to become discouraged, because a day once passed is gone forever, and all the powers of earth cannot recall a thoughtless word or deed. But we can look into the matter and see wherein we have made our mistakes and see to it that they do not occur again. Our mistakes in the ladder by which we are able to climb over the things that cause us misfortune, and by which, if we are thoughtful, we are led into paths that ultimately end in a successful life.

Now, are we prepared for the work that the coming year will bring forth? Remember that, with the experience of years that are gone, we are expected to assume greater obligations in the coming year. But do not despair. The work of a Christian is sublime. Its source is from a power higher than that of man. There can be no higher, no nobler work, than the labor of love toward the evangelization of the world. This work should, and must be, an every day affair, if it would accomplish that for which it is established; and one of the best ways of working very effectively is by making every day a time in which something has been accomplished for good.

Individual effort is more lasting, and consequently, more effective than the work of an organized body. Therefore,

individual work in the coming year on the part of all is one very good way of working with effect. In the home where everything should be pleasant, pure and attractive, is a very good place to do efficient work for the Master. Sometime when you see a small domestic tempest brewing to burst forth in fiery darts of reproach and the rolling thunder of angry words, see what *you* may be able to do to blow the dark cloud away. It may be caused by the mother worried and fretted by the burdens of life until patience seems about to desert her; or, it may be caused by the father, whose business cares in his efforts at making "both ends meet," has caused him to be cross and forgetful of peace; or, it may be caused by a brother or sister who has been provoked at the general turn of affairs; or it may be caused by all concerned,—be that as it may at such a time, in such a place, an earnest, thorough Christian can and will show to the world, or that part of it at least surrounding him, that his religion is worth something, and thereby performing a work that is very effective, and that will result in a better, pleasanter, and more attractive home. At such a time it is within the power of every Christian to speak to the turbulent waters as the Saviour did on the sea, "Peace, be still," and instantly cause a great calm. Does he do it? Does he attempt to quell the storm, or is he, too, forgetful of peace and only adds to the fire of domestic insurrection that is destructive to the soul, and indirectly to the body, by making home unattractive and thus sending, almost, a brother or a sister it may be, out to tread the hard uneven road of sin, dissipation and death? God forbid! Let us put on the whole armor of righteousness and do battle mightily for the Lord of hosts. Let each one show the true likeness of the Master that is in him in the seemingly little things at home, and the reward of a just God will not be withheld. The world may not see, men may not