

wise." Dr. Van Dyke thinks it "must make a vast difference in our discipline whether we regard their shortcomings and misdoings as the lingering remains of sin in a young Christian, or as the living seeds of all evil in one who is still in the gall of bitterness and the bonds of iniquity," and he adds: "The assumption that they are already within the covenant, accepted as holy, and that grace is struggling in them for mastery over sin, will give a divine tenderness to our rebukes, and often substitute encouragements and entreaties for stern condemnation and scoldings which provoke to sad anger. But if we assume that the faults we would correct are the evidences of their unregenerate state, the proofs of a proneness to all evil, . . . such religious training will discourage and burden their sensitive natures more effectually than the use of the rod."

With all that Dr. Van Dyke says in favor of bringing up children in the fear and love of God, so that they will never know themselves as otherwise than Christian, as against that other theory which regards them as the progeny of Satan, we are heartily in sympathy; so heartily that whenever opportunity presents we would—shall we say go further than Dr. Van Dyke, and have all the children so brought up as children of His love and tender care, who took the little ones in His arms, and who is ever saying "Suffer the little children to come unto Me," and thus whether they have been baptized, or their parents ever saw a church spire or not. Indeed we wish that what Dr. Van Dyke says on this point could be printed in a tract, and put into every Christian home in the land. It might lead some neglectful parents to mend their ways. And we think it would.

—*Presbyterian Witness.*

#### NOT VERY FAR.

Surely yon Heaven, (where angels see God's face,

Is not so distant as we deem  
From this low earth? 'Tis but a little space.

The narrow crossing of a slender stream;  
'Tis but a veil, which winds might blow  
aside;

Yes, these are all that us of earth divide  
From the bright dwelling of the glorified—  
The land of which I dream.

This life of ours, these lingering years of earth,

Are brighter, swifter than they seem;  
A little while, and the great second birth  
Of time shall come, the prophet's ancient  
theme,

Then He, the King, the Judge, at length  
shall come,

And for this desert, where we sally roam,  
Shall give the kingdom for our endless home—  
The land of which I dream.

A child-like faith in our Redeemer will always produce peace and joy in our souls.

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