

and the cry is, come up higher. O, young men, mind your calling. Young women, mind your calling. Who hath called you? I am not calling you. The minister of your church hath not called you. But the God of all power, he hath called you to come to the Christ within you, and not without, to the Christ that never could die. He calls you to the life power of God, the unknown power; and we are to come and permit that holy and divine influence to spread over us, from the crown of the head to the soles of the feet, as oil poured on the beard, even Aaron's beard. This makes your religion an eternal power that can never fail.

FAITH.

Some people attempt to draw a line of distinction between faith and believing; but our Saviour said: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on Me hath everlasting life." Now, if he that believeth be saved, and if faith is the condition of our salvation, why we must admit that faith and believing are synonymous. If we search in the English language for the definition of these two words we will find that the active verb "believe," signifies "to credit," "trust," or "think true;" and the substantive "faith" signifies about the same, for it implies "belief," "confidence," etc.; therefore if we have faith we are believers. Now the question arises, is faith the gift of God, or the act of the creature? I conceive that it is both. It has been the burden of the prayers of the righteous ever since the world was made, for the Lord to give an increase of faith, and our Saviour declared: "He that believeth not shall be damned." From this it appears evident that a lack of faith, or unbelief, is a sin; if so, it must be the act of the creature.

Faith I conceive to be a saving grace wrought in the soul by the spirit of God. It is the means through which grace is communicated to the

heart. What is necessary to constitute this faith? I answer: First a revelation is necessary. Before we can exercise our mind or judge in a case it is necessary that the circumstances be revealed to us. He has not only given us His revealed will, but He has also given us a capacity to understand all that is necessary to make us wise unto salvation, useful in our day, and happy in life and death. And in His infinite mercy He inclines us to believe His truth. But faith is not yet complete; thus far God has done His part, we must do ours. "Faith without works is dead"; therefore that faith may be complete we are to be co-workers with God. He has given us everything to make us useful and secure our own happiness, and if we neglect to improve that grace we remain useless and miserable. He has given us the organs of sight—but if we choose to walk in darkness He will permit us, by an act of our mind, to close our eyes and keep them closed. Therefore faith is the gift of God and the act of the creature. He has given us the materials, and we use them according to the ability and power He has given us, and the work is complete.

LOTTIE TALCOTT.

Bloomfield, 12th mo., 2nd, 1889.

THE HOME-LIFE.

There's something we need in the home-life

Aside from its striving and toil,
 Aside from its labors, though loving,
 Aside from the delving and toil.

There's something we need in the home-life

Aside from the getting of gain;
 A something to brighten each duty,
 And balance the struggle and pain.

How often, regretfully often,

Do kindred hearts struggle along,
 Each striving to do their best, daily,
 And trying to sing life's glad song.

Yet secretly, in their hearts, sighing

And hiding a smouldering pain,
 Because all their living and loving,
 Seems proving their heart-wishes vain.