


to spiritual favors or difficulties — with equal reliance it depends through the power of prayer, for requests made for others, as well as for self, in things temporal as well as in the spiritual order. And though betimes it feels humanly disappointed, it is assured that it is never deceived, for the withholding of the petition, or its denial, is for the best.

Means to an End

 POOR, trembling soul, if you are sure at heart that it will be all right by and by ; that God who watches the sparrow's fall, regards you with tender solicitude and will give you power to endure, though he cannot free you from the sufferings which you dread, you are armed against rebellious thoughts, and the peace that passeth understanding will steal into your soul with its sigh of sympathy. Life is so short and eternity is so long that we can afford to take what comes serenely if it will insure the future. You are poor, and, alas, there is a whole crowd of ills which accompany poverty ! — dead dreams, unsung songs and plans which will never come to fruition ; but if God has decreed it, give such cheer as you can to every day's struggle, and get from your little life all the happiness it contains. It is as easy to go to heaven from a bed of straw as from a bed of down. The journey is a short one, and after you pass middle life the minarets of the celestial city are always in sight. Do the hard duty as best you may, assured that God's approval is not purchased by what you carry in your purse, but by what lies hidden in your heart.

How to Accept Praise

SOME of us have yet to learn to accept praise and honest appreciation with grace and generosity. How often we behold the most liberal giver prove a niggard receiver ! We freeze up with a cold wave of mock humility or forthwith explode with all manner of absurd protestations, rebukes or solemn declarations of opposition. Yet to each