

him—he will have the satisfaction of seeing her become what she should be. It is only the overweening conceit of his sex, or something worse, that will hinder a man from consulting his wife on all occasions, and in regard to all things. To put it on no other ground, he will be the better of consulting her. Her keener insight into things, her instinctive perception of the right and the wrong, her knowledge of character obtained often by a glance, will make her advice valuable and worthy of reliance. Let him give her her true place, and she will never prove untrue to it or unfaithful to him. There is between the two parties thus united a wondrous co-partnership of fashioning; their lives touch at a thousand points. Even physically, man and wife gradually grow into the same mould; they get like each other often in lines and lineaments. In habits they grow in similitude, but chiefly in mental and spiritual attributes. The wife shapes herself in high and fair lines, and the husband shapes her also. There is a reciprocally fashioning process ever going on, for weal or for woe, often unacknowledged, almost imperceptible, but none the less certain.

A man in search of a wife needs a word to be spoken in his ear. Sometimes a good deal of romantic interest is attached to him. Often he is the subject of the merriment of society, and there is a tendency to expose the ridiculous side of his character as he pursues his search. But it is a grave quest, and brings weighty consequences in its train. Therefore, set not out upon it lightly, but seek the counsel of heaven, for it is only the favour of God that will guide you to it. And if the favour of God *does* guide you to it, you shall find a good thing. If God fulfils the wishes of your heart, He will, in the gift which he bestows, bless you every day. He will give you a fair jewel, the price of which is above rubies; one in whom your heart can safely trust; one whose love will not grow dim as years advance; one who will cling to you in prosperity and adversity; one who will rejoice in your joys, and sorrow with you in your sorrows. Such a wife will do you “good and not evil all the days of your life.” She may go first and you may be left behind, or you may go first and she may be left behind, but whether it be the one case or the other, you will have enjoyed a rich heritage of blessing. Your life has daily come in contact with a noble and saintly life, receiving ennoblement from the contact; and it may be, that in that far off country to which we are journeying, though, there, these earthly relationships shall have no counterparts, we being as the angels—not bound by any ties save those which bind us to God himself—you shall recognise and know her who was your dear companion, your helper, as you walked the ways of earth, and so will heaven be made more dear.

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A real Christian is a good subject to his king, a pillar to the state, an ornament to society, and a blessing to the world.

What a majesty is there in the Christian's death! what a glory in his hope! As rivers roll the smoothest the nearer they approach the ocean—as the rose smells the sweetest when dying—as the sun appears the most glorious when setting—so it is with the Christian.