

"Man, proud man,  
Drest in a little brief authority,  
Plays such fantastic tricks before high heaven,  
As make the angels weep."

It was with true prophetic prescience that our Lord drew the picture of the servant, who, during his master's absence, began to beat his fellow-servants and to eat and drink with the drunken. It may be questioned if we possess to-day a sufficiently keen sense of our individual accountability to Christ.

Another thing that Jesus expects of His servants during His absence, is that they should live and work as if He were present. This is a severe test of their loyalty. Few men will work as well when they are left to themselves, as when their master is looking on. And yet this is what our Lord requires. Christians must learn, like Milton, to live "as ever in their great Taskmaster's eye." What some have done, Christ expects of all. In his, *Cure of Souls*, Ian Maclaren tells how he had come to use *Andrea del Sarto's* head of, *The Risen Christ* as a "sacrament, in which the mind of the Lord was declared to his heart and conscience with secret approvals and saving judgments." With or without the aid of the picture, we should all use the promised presence of the Master in a similar way. Readers of, *A Window in Thrums*, will remember Joey's text, and what Jess had to say about it: "But juist when I come to, 'Thou God seest me,' I let the book lie in my lap, for aince a body's sure o' that, they're sure o' all." Perhaps! At any rate it would seem that once a Christian has learned to live and work as if the Master were present, he is in a fair way of gaining the approval of his absent Lord.

A third thing expected of him, however, is that he should look and wait in hope and confidence for his Master's return. Nowadays, Christians take the continued absence of their Lord very much as a matter of course. They seem almost to have forgotten that He will come again. But this is not right. What they ought to do is to join with the early church in the prayer,—"Come, Lord Jesus; come quickly." The great sacrament of our religion teaches us to look forward to the triumph, as well as backward to the sufferings

of Christ. "As often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till He come."

"Till He come"—O let the words  
Linger on the trembling chords;  
Let the little while between  
In their golden light be seen;  
Let us think how heaven and home  
Lie beyond that "Till He come."

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### The Boys' Class

By Rev. G. A. Woodside, M.A.

"Yes; if you will give me a class of girls," is the answer to many a Superintendent's appeal for teachers. But in the boys' class we meet such special conditions as ought to fill with enthusiasm any servant of God. Boys influence boys. And who can adequately speak of the value of moulding the boy mind? In large measure this must be done through the boys themselves. In a few years, as men, they will create an environment and solve problems which will vitally effect the destiny of our country. Here, then, is an opportunity, if you want to implant principles of a most fertile and far-reaching character. If, as a teacher, you would like to be drawn out to your very best ask, for this class.

To teach successfully a class of mischievous boys the teacher must be on the alert the entire week. Who is not envious of such a distinction? If at all inclined to carelessness or lassitude, you would do well not to attempt the boys. No hurried glance of fifteen minutes over the lesson will do. Boys demand teachers intense, concentrated, so resourceful in the lesson, that they cut with keenness, and flash with all the brilliance of the diamond. In your own interests as a teacher, take the boys.

The boys! There is something fascinating in the term. "But they are so mischievous and unruly!" In saying this, a teacher seldom but condemns himself. They are mischievous, because your teaching does not outshine their power to interest one another. Their mischief will quickly and certainly die, when you arouse interest to eclipse their pranks. Their unruly ways become a dis-