

CHURCH and HOME

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ANOTHER year with all its possibilities is begun, and that we may accomplish that which we desire it is necessary that we should have some fixed and definite aim. New Year's resolutions are proverbial, and too often are made but to be broken, but, after all, can anything be successfully undertaken without resolution? We must decide what will be our aim that we may direct all our energies in the way of its fulfilment. In every pursuit persistent effort is essential to success. In the formation of character it is no less necessary than in professional work or business venture. The experience of the past year has emphasised this truth. We have been successful while we have worked with earnestness and perseverance, and we have failed when we neglected to improve our opportunities, dismayed by opposition, or discouraged by the seemingly small returns. Let us not lose heart in well-doing. Let the past go with all its mistakes and failures, cherishing only its wisdom, and by the instruction of what lies behind we may make a better use of what lies before. By the progress of time we are reminded that the "fashion of the world passeth away," and thereby directed to give a larger place in our affections to that enduring substance that abideth

for ever. Unless we be fools we will not repeat the same errors nor commit the same mistakes. Let us then as individuals dedicate ourselves anew to the service of God—let us as members of His Church be more attentive to our devotions, more diligent in the performance of our duties with a livelier sense of our responsibilities, and of the relation we bear to Him in whom we "live, move and have our being."

CHURCH AND HOME extends a cordial greeting to all its readers, and expresses the hope that the year on which we are now entered may be bright with hope, radiant with promise, and glorious in execution. Its uncertainties need not disturb us if we have "Christ within us, the hope of glory." Let us do our duty faithfully and well to-day, that no cloud of to-morrow may darken our lot, nor dim our hopes for the future.

The Unseen Player.

The sudden and unexpected deaths which during the past year have so startled the political world forcibly remind us that in the great game of life there is always an unseen player. The world may be compared to a great chess board. The players are infinite in number. They are each striving for his own hand, seeking to