

The Message of the New Year.

I asked the New Year for some motto sweet,
Some rule of life with which to guide my
asked;
I asked, and paused; he answered soft
and low:

"God's will to know."

"Will knowledge then suffice, New Year?"
I cried,

And, ere the question into silence died,
The answer came: "Nay, but remember,
too,

God's will to do."

Once more I asked: "Is there more to
tell?"

And once again the answer sweetly fell:
"Yes! this one thing, all other things
above,

God's will to love."

—Selected.

New Year's Resolutions.

Make them. It is better to rise and
fall than to lie prone for ever. If one
falls, he learns how weak he is. Happy
is the man who, having learned his weak-
ness, casts himself on God and walks in
Him.

The great conquest is the conquest of
self. It is the most difficult. It is the
most portentous. One has said: "Who
conquereth all within may dare the world
beside." There is an El Cane, a Trans-
vaal, a Marathon, in every heart. We
conquer the world, but we are beaten in
our own resolutions. Make these resolu-
tions. Be not craven and abandon hope
or effort, because of one or many falls.

Make the resolutions, but make them in
the strength of thy God. It is possible
to be a supreme hero, for the Book tells
us that he that conquereth his own life
is greater than he that taketh a city.
We may be weak, but God's strength is
perfected in weakness. Make the resolu-
tions; and make them in the strength of
God; and this year conquer.

One Working Day.

The coming year will have three hun-
dred and sixty-five days in its calendar,
but really it will have only one working-
day, and that is called "To-day." That
is all you will be accountable for; none
but a fool lives in to-morrow. Serve
your master by the day. Each four and
twenty hours brings its own duties to be
done, its own temptations to be con-
quered, its own loads to be carried, and
its own progress to be made heavenward.
There never was a Christian yet strong
enough to carry to-day's duties with to-
morrow's worries piled on the top of
them. Take short views, and never try
to climb walls until you get to them, or
to cross a bridge until you reach it. Be-
gin every day with Jesus Christ, and
then, keeping step with Him, march on
to duty over the roughest road that lies
head-wind you may encounter. "My
times are in thy hands," and they could
not be in better hands. Our times are
in our all-wise and all-loving Father's
hands, both for control and for conceal-
ment. He takes care of us, and yet we
cannot tell just what to-morrow or the
next day will bring forth. For one, I
am glad of it. So let us sing:

"Keep thou my feet; I do not ask to see
The distant scene; one step enough for
me."
—The Golden Rule.

In the old year's treasury the brightest
jewels are mistakes—corrected.—Christian
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