

ter lightly, but put ourselves into the Master's hands and obey His directions humbly.

The Apostles were sent out to win the world for God. Their holy lives were the greatest proofs that God was working with and through them. When men go out as missionaries to-day, they find that the greatest obstacle to the spread of Christianity is the fact that so many who call themselves Christians live anything but Christian-like lives. If all Christians were honest and truthful, loving and forgiving, pure in thought and kind in word and act, the Church of Christ would go out like an invincible army to conquer the world.

And it isn't only in heathen countries that a holy life is a missionary for Christ, and a worldly or selfish life blocks His way. "Let every one that nameth the Name of Christ depart from iniquity," says St. Paul. The sins of a professing Christian do far more harm to the cause of Christ than the sins of outsiders. "That man is a Christian, he goes to church regularly, and is a communicant—and he grinds his employees down, getting as much work as possible out of them for the smallest possible pay. He cares only for his own advantage, and doesn't care about other people. These Christians are selfish and hard, I wouldn't be like them for anything." Is it possible that anyone can say such things about you or about me?

If we call ourselves by the great Name of JESUS, let us be careful of our thoughts, words and actions; or we may bring disgrace on His cause, and may keep eager souls away from Him—souls that are hungrily searching after righteousness.

"Ye are our epistle . . . known and read of all men," wrote St. Paul to the Corinthian disciples. So our Lord says to us. Men and women who never read the epistles in the Bible are reading us very correctly. A great responsibility

rests on us, for when we fail, the world is apt to think that Christianity is a failure. Faithfulness is a great power for good, and faithfulness is within the reach of all. We are not all given the same tasks to do, but we are all expected to work faithfully. Daniel was a great ruler in Babylon, under Darius the king; and he was so faithful that his enemies could find no error or fault in him. They were forced to have a new law made, forbidding prayer to God, before they could proceed against him. It is a grand thing when even a man's enemies are forced to acknowledge his righteousness.

It was said of two of the Apostles that their enemies "took knowledge of them, that they had been with JESUS."

There is nothing so attractive as a life which is lived daily with Christ. The everyday work is faithfully done—not only when the earthly employer is looking. There is a glad look in the face which is more winning than beauty. There is genial kindness in the voice, for all men are dear as the brothers of Christ. There is a willingness to lift the burdens which are crushing down the heavy-laden, for it is a joy to be like Simon the Cyrenian, helping to carry the Cross of Christ.

We can see the beauty of holiness, but it is not so easy to live it. It is a matter of little things, for the most part, and each one seems so small—but altogether they are so tremendously important. The complaining tone in the voice, the hasty judgment of others, the desire to gain an advantage at the expense of someone else, the keeping up of a quarrel—which often means that Love is sacrificed at the command of Pride, for we are too proud to take the first step towards a reconciliation—these things must be conquered, if we want to help on our Master's cause, instead of driving people away from Him.

No matter where you are you can be

loving and faithful. Then you will be one of God's angels, a messenger sent by Him to draw other children of His closer to His side. Personality is a tremendous power for good or for evil. There is a story told of a good man who was asked what gift from God he most wanted. Would he like to be eloquent, so that he might win many converts? "No," he answered, "for I might become proud, fancying that my own efforts had accomplished the work." He did not wish to be rich or have great learning; for riches might be spent unwisely, doing harm where he meant to do good, and learning might destroy humility and injure his own soul. He preferred to go on his way as before; but a gift was bestowed on him unknown to himself. His shadow, as it fell behind him, healed the sick, cheered the sorrowful, roused the careless, and inspired others to live holier lives. He was called "the saint of the holy shadow," and little knew the good he was doing in his life of quiet, faithful, loving service.

There are many such saints. God smiles down on them as they pour out their lives for love's sake, not looking for reward.

"Child, mother, wife, brave hearts that take  
The rough and bitter cross, and help  
us bear  
Its heavy weight, when strength is like  
to break,—  
God bless you all, our Angels un-  
aware."

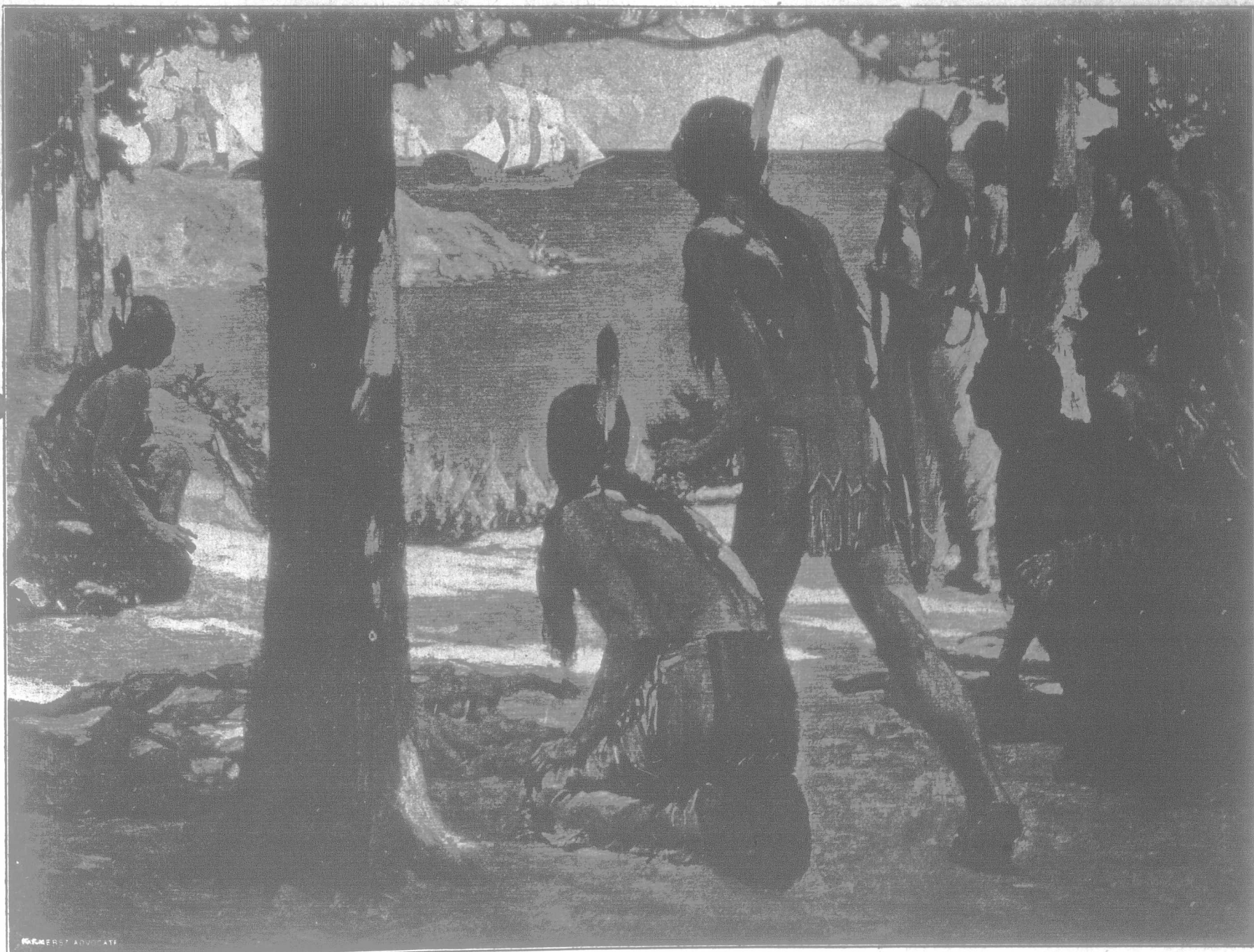
Even in His perfecting our Lord was not self-seeking. He sanctified Himself for the sake of those whom the Father had given to be near Him in this world. "For their sakes!" The words have magic power. A father works hard, and the daily drudgery is sweetened and glorified by the fact that he is working for the dear ones God has given to him.

A mother's work is never finished, she can always find some hole to mend, or some cooking or cleaning to be done. How is that never-ending round of common tasks made beautiful? How is it that she is not a work-hardened slave, but a "mother"? It is because she is not toiling for her own comfort, but "for their sakes"—for the comfort of her dear ones.

"For their sakes!"—Our Father is always planning and working for His children. For our sakes He allows us sometimes to endure darkness and sorrow—He wants us to grow strong. For our sakes He allows us to pass through severest discipline. Someone told me the other day that "No. 1 hard wheat" could not be grown but in a climate where the mercury dropped in the winter a long way below zero. Perhaps God's best grain can only mature properly under trial. For their sakes the Father does not take His children out of school every time they complain or cry over the hard lessons.

"For their sakes!"—let us follow our Master in this ideal of His life. Let us be glad, for sunshiny people bring gladness into the lives of others. Let us serve, as we find opportunity—serve royally, divinely, as our Lord stooped to wash weary and dusty feet. We all want to do great things to benefit the human race, but our orders are to lend a hand to someone near—a "neighbor." For their sakes we must keep very close to Christ, then He can reach them through us. For their sakes we must never hold anyone coldly at arm's length, for we have no right to approach "our" Father alone. We must clasp a brother's hand and pray, "Give us our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses."

For their sakes we should keep healthy if we can, in body and soul; and at least we can—for their sakes—be silent about our ailments. It does no one



The Coming of the White Man.

From a painting by G. A. Reid, P. R. C. A. Exhibited at Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, 1912, also at the Royal Canadian Academy Exhibition, Ottawa.