

Words of the Wise.

A PROFOUND thinker always suspects that he is superficial.

STRONG language utterly fails to bolster a weak argument.

WE are paid for our suspicions by finding what we suspect.

THE oil for the limbs of the wrestler is faith; the oil for his wounds is hope.

IT does not follow that you are humble because you are always talking against pride.

AN evil speaker differs from an evil doer only in the want of opportunity.—Quintilian.

THE highest perfection of human reason is to know that there is an infinity of truth beyond its reach.

FAITH makes the heart firm, love makes it soft, hope expands it. Faith hangs on the word of promise, love on that God who gives, hope on the promised inheritance.

FALSEHOOD, like poison, will generally be detected when administered alone; but when it is blended with wholesome ingredients, it may be swallowed unperceived.

WHEN men have no love to God, and desire but just to save their souls and weigh gains and scruples, and give God no more than they must needs, they shall multiply cases of conscience to a number which no book will contain, and to difficulty which no learning can answer.—Jeremy Taylor.

NOTHING is intolerable that is necessary. Now God hath bound thy trouble upon thee by His special providence, and with a design to try thee, and with a purpose to reward and to crown thee. These cords thou canst not break, and therefore lie thou down gently, and suffer the hand of God to do what He pleases.—Jeremy Taylor.

THEY say that I am growing old, because my hair is silvered, and there are crows' feet on my forehead, and my step is not so firm and elastic as before. But they are mistaken. That is not me. The knees are weak, but the knees are not me. The brow is wrinkled, but the brow is not me. This is the house I live in. But I am young—younger than I ever was before.—Guthrie.

LET not any man deceive himself with the thought that, because the general spirit of his life is right, his minor shortcomings shall bear no bitter fruit. No man sins, and does not suffer for it. Toward our infirmity God has infinite tenderness, but He never lets us do wrong and escape the evil consequence. This is His kindness toward us—that by His chastisements He forever seeks to turn us back into the way that leads us to blessedness.

THE heart will tell its own tale; under some circumstances the heart will have its own way; it is useless to tell the heart that no good can come of this or that—the heart finds good in unexpected places, and draws money from flowers that have not been suspected of bearing honey by any naturalist or herbalist. There is a time when sorrow becomes sweetness; such is the mystery and grandeur of the graciousness of life, that loss turns itself into a sort of gain.—Joseph Parker.

AN Afghan once spent an hour in the company of Dr. William Marsh, of England. When he heard that that godly man was dead, he said: "His religion shall now be my religion; his God shall be my God; for I must go where I shall see his face again."

When a disciple manifests the unimpeachable character and the loving disposition of the Master, his nature becomes a loadstone that inevitably will attract others towards itself, and towards the one who made him what he is. It is the high privilege of every Sunday-school teacher to live in such close communion with the Saviour that his most wayward scholars upon his death shall cry, "His God shall be my God; for I must go where I shall see his face again."

Tell me what the Bible is to a man, and I will generally tell you what he is. This is the pulse to try, this is the barometer to look at, if we would know the state of the heart. I have no notion of the Spirit dwelling in a man, and not giving clear evidence of His presence. And I believe it to be a signal evidence of the Spirit's presence, when the word is really precious to a man's soul. When there is no appetite for the truths of Scripture, the soul cannot be in a state of health. There is some serious disease. Reader, what is the Bible to you? Is it your guide, your counsellor, your friend? Is it your rule of faith and practice? Is it your measure of right and wrong? Is it your standard of error? What is it to you? It ought to be so. What is it for this purpose? If it is not, do you really love your Bible?—Bishop Ryle.

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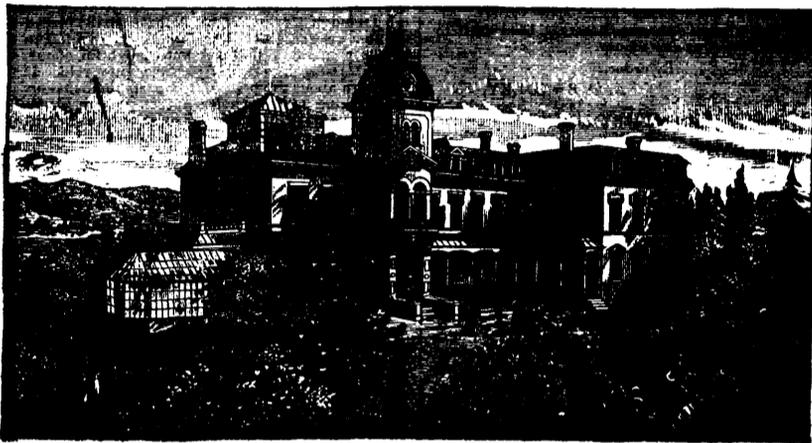
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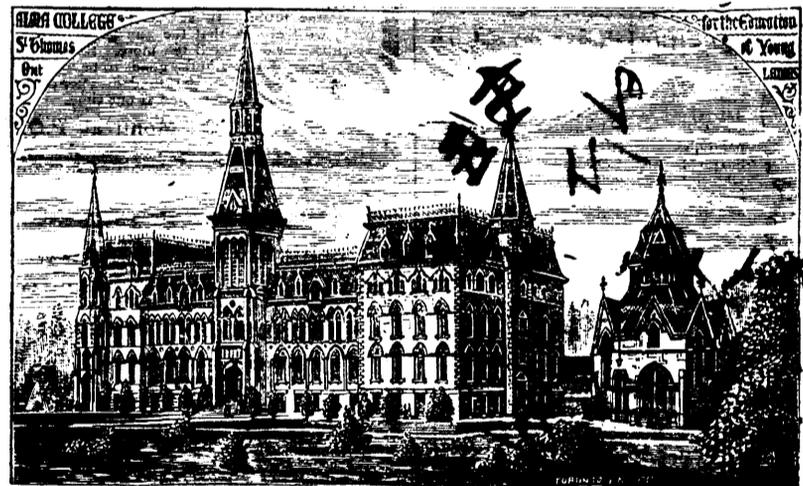
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