

Words of the Wise.

'Tis not for us to trifle. Life is brief, And sin is here. Our Age is but the falling of a leaf, A dropping tear.

We have no time to sport away the hours, All must be earnest in a world like ours. Not many lives, but only one have we— One, only one.

How sacred should that one life ever be— That narrow span? Day after day filled up with blessed toil; Hour after hour, still bringing in new spoil.

STAGNANT piety, like stagnant water, cannot be in a healthy state. EVERY absurdity has a champion to defend it, for error is always talkative.—Goldsmith.

THERE is one art of which every man should be master, the art of reflection.—Coleridge.

THE best way in the world to seem to be anything is really to be what we would seem to be.—Tillotson.

TROUBLE and perplexity drive me to prayer, and prayer drives away perplexity and trouble.—Melancthon

CHRIST'S sheep have two marks—one on the ear and one on the foot: "They hear My voice, and they follow Me."

TRUST to Him our weakness, and we shall wake up After His likeness, and be satisfied.—William Herbert.

FRIENDSHIP closes its eyes rather than see the moon eclipsed; while malice denies that it is ever at the full.—Augustus Hare.

RELIGION finds the love of happiness and the principle of duty separated in us; and its mission—its masterpiece—is to reunite them.—Vinet.

RELIGIOUS principles inculcated in a child's heart are like gold-nails which time drives in fast, and no philosophical claw can completely draw out.

THERE are two classes of men in the clerical profession—there are men who sustain the pulpit, and men whom the pulpit sustains.—Dr. Austin Phelps.

THE first morality of every action is in the motive of him who performs it. If that be good, there is so much good in its performance, even though it is spoiled by many blemishes.

CHRISTIAN living and Christian character without Christ are impossibilities; with Christ they have been made a reality, before which the world has ever offered the homage of its adoration and respect.

HOMES are like harps, of which one is finely carved, and bright with gilding, but ill-tuned, and jarring the air with its discords, while another is old and plain and worn, but from its chords float strains that are a feast of music.

THERE is a sacredness in tears. They are not the mark of weakness, but of power. They speak more eloquently than ten thousand tongues. They are the messengers of overwhelming grief, of deep contrition, and of unspeakable love.

IN St. Peter are figured both the strong and the weak: the strong, in that he walked upon the water; the weak, in that he doubted. Dost thou love God? Thou walkest on the sea. Dost thou love the world? It swallows thee up.—St. Augustine.

THERE is dew in one flower and not in another, because one opens its cup and takes it in, while the other closes itself and the drop runs off. So God rains goodness and mercy as wide as the dew; and if we lack them, it is because we will not open our hearts to receive them.

To write a newspaper article when every idea in the brain has taken flight, to make one's old Sunday suit over as good as new, these things make cowards of us all; and yet the obstacles we have to overcome in every-day life are generally, so larger nor more important than these.

A GERMAN minister, in speaking of the security of God's people and the precious promises of the Bible, said: "How often the words 'Fear not' occur in the sacred volume! I have counted up into the seventies, and I thought that was enough. I need not look for any more."

WHAT Dr. Cuyler says about feelings is as true as it is apt and beautiful: "For a few brief days the orchards are white with blossoms. They soon turn to fruit, or else float away useless and idle upon the idle breeze. So will it be with present feelings. They must be deepened into decision or be entirely dissipated by delay."

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