

belief have threatened to engulf her ; the quicksands of a dead morality have well-nigh stranded her ; the false lights of Romanism have tried to dash her upon the rocks, a ruin and a wreck. But, thank God, this vessel still sails on ! Jesus has slept " in the hinder part of the vessel, and rebuked the winds," and the Church rides on to-day, and soon we hope to enter into the harbor

" Where all the ship's company meet,
Who sailed with the Saviour beneath ;
With shouting each other they greet,
And triumph o'er danger and death."

Surely, when we remember how God has preserved and prospered His people, we cannot do less than " thank God." This thanksgiving should come from the heart. My brother, if you would be happy, cultivate a spirit of thanksgiving. It is said of Plato, that he, looking through the dim spectacles of nature, gave God thanks for *three* things : That he was a *man* and not a beast,—a *Grecian* and not a barbarian,—and a *philosopher* as well. But see what are your reasons for thankfulness to God. That God has created you after His image,—that you have been " born again,"—that God has opened your eyes, while the multitude still are blind,—broken off your fetters, while many are in bondage,—set you at liberty, while others are led captive by the devil, at his will.

Don't murmur—don't repine ; it will soon become a habit, robbing you of daily enjoyment—a pall hanging with its dark cloud of despair against your sunniest sky.

" Some murmur when the sky is clear,
And wholly brought to view,
If one small speck of dark appear
In their great heaven of blue ;
And some with thankful love are filled,
If but one streak of light—
One ray of God's good mercy—gild
The darkness of their night."

COURAGE.—Courage for the future. We need courage as workers for God and His cause, not physical, but *moral*. The courage of Paul was a moral courage, making him superior to the fear of reproach, opposition, or contempt. Past experience should encourage. Trials once borne strengthen us to bear similar ones, it may be, but not the *same* ones. Courage is needed to resist temptation, to cling to the right, to refuse to do the wrong.

The King of France, on one occasion, gave the Prince De Conde his choice of three things. First, to go to mass ; second, to die ; or third, to be imprisoned for life. The answer was, " With regard to the first, I am fully determined never to go to mass ; as to the other two, I am so perfectly indifferent, that I leave the choice to your Majesty." We have need of more such courage in the church to-day.

Courage ! Christ is the same. You may have been in perplexities ; friends in whom you trusted, may have forsaken you ; but can you call to mind one period or moment in your life's history, when Jesus forsook you, or the Master left you alone in the struggle ?