

herit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

They, (the saints departed in Paradise) without us, (the saints still on earth) cannot be made perfect. (See Heb. xi, 40) Therefore our Church teaches us to pray, "That we with all those that are departed in the true faith of God's Holy Name, may have our perfect consummation and bliss, both in body and soul, in God's eternal and everlasting glory."

The rest of the saints of God in Paradise therefore is *not* the rest of perfection, or of consummated happiness. No, they are still being trained, trained by our Lord and His Holy Spirit in a more perfect school than that of earth: and as they are being trained they are necessarily growing.

On this subject let me quote a few words of the late Dr. DeKoven, Warden of Racine College, Wisconsin. In a Volume of his Sermons, edited and published by the Rev. Dr. Morgan Dix, Rector of Trinity Church, New York, is one on "The dead in Christ," from which I quote a few words on the growth of Christ's saints in Paradise.

"In that blessed state of waiting, each soul, according to its measure and capacity, progresses on and on, ever drawing nearer and nearer unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ. They go from grace to grace. There is growth in intellect, growth in knowledge, growth in perception, growth in judgment: There is growth in patience, because it is a time of waiting: There is growth in faith, because the full vision of the eternal glory of the undivided Trinity is not yet vouchsafed: There is growth in hope, for the new heaven and the new earth are not yet revealed: There is growth also in love, in it the saints departed are being more and more rooted and grounded: In the training school of Paradise they are being led to comprehend far more fully than we can in the school of earth, the breadth, and length, and depth, and height of the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge."

Should we not be most thankful that there will be growth in the Intermediate Life? Most thankful when we think of our own most grievous failures, most sad imperfections, and manifold short-comings! Most thankful when we think of the slender beginnings of grace in not a few who are called into the world unseen!

But as there is to be growth in Paradise, and, as all admit, the