

And he held fast to the lever until the shock came. The train was lifted skyward by the awful force of the explosion, but the town was saved! Garcia went down in the wreck, but he put his life between that of his fellows and the death which surely would have come to them but for his brave deed.

When danger flies its red flag what do you do? Run like a coward or stand like a hero at your post?

It is not hard to decide what one ought to do in time of peril. Let him just ask himself this question:

"Does God call me to do this thing?"

If the answer be not clearly "Yes!" better flee for life and save the treasure God has given, the treasure so precious to Him. It is answering the clear call of the Master that makes a hero.—E. L. Vincent in *Epworth Herald*

### Country and City

By Rev. John Neil, D.D.

Young people in the country are, in many respects, to be congratulated. The pure air, the simple life, the wholesome physical exercise and regular hours are conducive to the development of a strong body. The long winter evenings, so largely free from social distractions, give ample opportunity for reading, and the absence of many of the temptations to which the city young people are subjected, makes it easy to practise the moral virtues.

In order that the young people in the country may make the most of themselves, three things are necessary:

First, to interest themselves thoroughly in their work. There was a time when the life on the farm was monotonous. That time is past. The scientific methods now adopted, the machinery that is employed in every department of farm work, give interest and variety to agricultural pursuits. No industry gives greater scope, not merely for physical but for mental activity, than the farm.

Secondly, to take advantage of the opportunities for mental development. A prominent paper has stated that the young people in the rural districts do very little reading. It is to be hoped that that charge is not well

founded. If it is, there is no excuse. There are now in nearly every community good circulating libraries, and under the leadership of the public school teacher and the minister, books which are wholesome and mentally stimulating can be chosen; and if these are read over and over again until they are thoroughly mastered, if reading clubs are formed and debating societies organized which, during the winter months, would meet weekly or fortnightly, there is no reason why the young people in the country should not be even better equipped mentally than the young people in the city.

Thirdly, to rally round the church, and make it a power in the community. We have a great many problems in our national life, and serious perils, and the church is the one organization which is to save the community and the nation. Nowhere is it possible for the church to be stronger than in the country.

But not all young people remain in the country. Many of them make the city their home. Their life is intense. They have many difficult problems to face. The temptations to which they are subjected are varied and seductive. How are they to triumph, and how are they to contribute to the development of what is best in city life? It will be found that the life which, as boys and girls, they have lived in the country, will determine very largely what they shall be in the city. Hard work and intelligent interest in their own particular field of activity are essential to success. It is an unquestioned fact that a large proportion of the leaders in commerce and in professional life in our cities are those who spent their boyhood days in the country. There is no reason why what has been true in the past may not be equally true in the future.

One thing that is absolutely essential in both country and city is, that the young people recognize their responsibility to God, that they place themselves in the hands of the One who has redeemed them, that they give time and energy and talent to the building up of the kingdom of Him who has come, not only to save the individual, but to establish on earth the laws of heaven.

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