

by Me. These shall be thine Yet not perfectly now. A little while and thou shalt dwell in the light of cloudless Truth forever. "I am the Truth."

*Disciple:* "Oh, let not the Lord be 'angry, and I will speak yet but this once.'" My heart is so dead within me that, even if the way were plain and the truth clear to me, I should yet lack the zeal and courage to walk in the way, and believe in the truth. O my Master, how shall I be roused to life? I am "dead in trespasses and sins." I have no strength, no courage, no life.

*Master:* "I am the Life." Yea, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." Art thou dead? "Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the Voice of the Son of Man; and they that hear shall live." It is not they that are in the grave alone—the dead in body—who shall hear My voice and live. That hour is not yet. But dead souls may even now awake and rise from the dead. Dost thou not hear My Voice? Wilt thou not come to Me that thou mayest have Life? O come to Me, my poor, weak, helpless child. Come to Me in Prayer. Come to Me in the faith and devotion of thy heart. Dost thou ask for life? "Whoso eateth My Flesh and drinketh My Blood hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day." "Because I live, ye shall live also." Then again I bid thee come to Me. Thou wouldst learn the way: thou wouldst know the truth: thou wouldst possess the life. Behold, O My son, "I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life."—*Church Bells.*

#### THE DEVIL'S FOUR SERVANTS.

THE devil has a great many servants, and they are all busy and active ones. They ride in the railway trains; they sail on the steamboats; they swarm along the highways of the country and the thoroughfares of the city; they do business in the busy marts; they are everywhere and in all places. Some are so vile-looking that one instinctively turns from them in disgust; but some are so sociable and agreeable that they almost deceive at times the clearest sighted. Among the latter class are to be found the devil's four chief servants. Here are their names:

"There's-no-danger,"  
"Only-this-once,"  
"Everybody-does-it,"  
"By-and-by."

When tempted a little out of the right path, and "There's-no-danger" urges you on, say: "Get thee behind me, Satan."

When tempted to give Sunday up to your own pleasure, or to do a little labor in the workshop or office, and "Only-this-once" or "Everybody-does-it" whispers at your elbow, do not listen for a moment to the dangerous counsel.

All four are cheats. They mean to deceive and cheat you out of heaven. "Behold," says God, "now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation." Chase "By-and-by," with his tempting suggestions of "No hurry! Don't put yourself out!" Send him back to his master, the devil, and choose a better master for yourself—no less a one than the great God, who made you, who loves you, and who desires to have you with Him when the toils and troubles of this world are past. In choosing God for your Master, you will have made the wisest choice you can ever make; for He will help you to avoid all of Satan's servants.—*Selected.*

#### THE THREE PILGRIMS.

"WHAT good thing has life giv'n each,  
Now at our journey's end?  
To me, the goal of fame to reach,  
And one to call me friend."

"To me, the knowledge of the past  
Has giv'n of precious store,  
And I have come to know, at last,  
The great who are no more."

"But I have heard, when bowed my head  
By bitter pain and loss,  
The words of comfort He has said,  
Who died upon the cross."

—*Herbert Muller Hopkins.*

"THE truth about modern polite society is that it exerts no moral force whatever, and, indeed, seems to have no conscience, and it acknowledges no serious obligations to the world. It exists solely for pleasure and display. It exerts no good influence, it inspires no one to lofty aims. It is not wholesome. Here in New York, where we are still very young, and where polite society is still as distinctively moral as it is dull—in spite of the sporadic outbursts of a few scions of ancient families whose cubbishness is not excelled by the gilded youth of Britain, but who are greatly restrained by their environment—the respect for good conduct, the gentleness and simplicity that distinguished the smaller and plainer 'society' of half a century ago, have vanished,

and left nothing to boast of in their places. New York society as a body—if a thing so vaguely defined and so hard exactly to classify can be termed a body—does not deliberately encourage that which ought not to be, but complacently tolerates anything, in the public and private life around it, that does not disagreeably affect its own precious comfort."—*New York Times.*

#### "HOLD FAST THE CONFIDENCE AND THE REJOICING OF THE HOPE FIRM UNTO THE END."—Hebrews 3: 6.

"I know that the thorny path I tread  
Is ruled with a golden line;  
And I know that the darker life's tangled thread  
The brighter the rich design.

"For I see, though veiled from my mortal sight,  
God's plan is all complete;  
Though the darkness at present be not light,  
And the bitter be not sweet."

—*Selected.*

#### THE PROOF OF THE RESURREC- TION COMPLETE.

I HAVE been used for many years to study the history of other times, and to examine and to weigh the evidences of those who have written about them; and I know of no one fact in the history of mankind which is proved by better and fuller evidence of every sort, to the mind of a fair enquirer, than that Christ died, and rose again from the dead.—*Dr. Arnold.* (1) The Apostles had the most absolute faith in the fact; so that they based their hopes and their preaching upon it, and were ready to announce it everywhere. (2) This faith came in direct opposition to their previous beliefs and worldly interests. (3) They had every opportunity for thoroughly satisfying themselves on the point. (4) By their declaration of the fact they induced thousands of the very enemies of Christ to believe in it, and that close to the time and near the very spot on which it occurred.—*From Thomas' "Genius of the Gospel."*

ON being asked recently what he regarded as the brightest hope for the future, Mr. Gladstone replied: "I should say a maintenance of faith in the Invisible. This is the great hope of the future, the mainstay of civilization. And by that I mean a living faith in a personal God. I do not hold with a 'stream of tendency.' After sixty years of public life I hold more strongly than ever this conviction, deepened and strengthened by long experience of the reality and the nearness and personality of God."—*St. Andrew's Cross.*