

## STONEWALL JACKSON.

Thomas Jonathan Jackson, better known as Stonewall Jackson, so noted as a General of the Confederate forces in the late war, was a man of intense convictions, deep moral earnestness, and of exceeding rigor and promptness in action. He was also a faithful and devoted Christian, recognized as such wherever he was known, and of unbounded influence over the soldiers under his command. Some incidents illustrating his character and influence may be interesting to your readers.

When the Southern troops were in Hagerstown, Jackson and some of his staff were quartered in the house of a friend for the Winter. And one morning, when all were summoned to breakfast, Jackson was not in his room, and the servant reported that he had probably gone out, as he could not find him. He was at last found behind the broad door of the hall, quietly kneeling and engaged in prayer.

Such was the manifest sincerity and earnestness of his piety that he was almost idolized by his troops, every one of whom recognized and respected his Christian character. When the chaplain of the regiment was engaged in the usual religious services, many of the soldiers might be seen inattentive and careless. But, as was said by one of his officers, "when Jackson was about to pray, as he often did with his troops, they would leave everything, and gather to hear him." On one such occasion a group of the men were engaged in card-playing, when another, coming along cries out to them "Come, fellows, leave that stuff, and come along; old Jackson's going to pray!" And at once all would move as one man and stand reverently with uncovered head to hear him. "So still," says one, "that you might have heard the rustle of a butterfly's wing." And says another: "If a single man had said or done anything to interrupt or show contempt for the sacred service, it would have been as much as his life was worth."

At one time a small detachment of Jackson's troops, just as they were about resting for the night, were found to be in danger, before they knew it, of being surrounded by the Northern troops; and an officer was sent to rouse them up, and warn them to move at once to a new position before it might be too late. Addressing one of the first soldiers he met, who was drowsily going to sleep, the officer called to him "The Yankees are gathering

to surround us. Wake up, and stir yourself, or you and all will soon be their prisoners." The soldier, half-waking and in a dreamy, muttering tone, says "I—guess—there—aint—much—danger;—we—are—all—safe—enough." "Safe enough!" said the officer; "if you are not, every soul of you, off in an hour, you'll all be surrounded and taken prisoners!" "Well," said the other, in the same half-sleepy, dreamy tone, "let 'em surround us and be hanged! if they do, we are all safe, for old Jackson will just pray to the Lord, and He will give us wings, and we'll all fly out and be safe!"

At another time one of the Southern soldiers was cursing the Yankees, and saying to a comrade "I wish they were all in h—l!" "I don't," said the other, "for if they were, old Jackson would follow them, and take us all there!" Their respect for his piety, and their confidence in his courage and prowess were unbounded. He was wounded through mistake, by some of his own soldiers, who supposed they were firing on the Union troops, and died in 1863, at the early age of 39.—*Gettys. in N. Y. Evangelist.*

## BELIEVE.

Faith is a sensible act. Do you consider it a sensible thing to purchase a United States government bond? Yes; because it gives you lien on all the resources of the great republic. So the highest exercise of the reason is to trust what the Almighty God has said, and to rely on what he has promised. Infidelity plays the idiot when it rejects God, and pays the penalty. Faith is wise unto its own salvation. Faith is salvation; unbelief is suicide.

Faith is a stooping grace. That heart-broken, self-despising woman weeping on the feet of her Lord, is a beautiful picture of lowliness and submission. Self must go down first before we can be lifted up into Christ's favor and likeness. He that humbly himself shall be exalted. Pride and self-righteousness were biting the dust when Saul of Tarsus stammered out, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do." It is an accursed self-conceit which prevents thousands from becoming Christians. On the low grounds falls the fertilizing rain of heaven; the bleak mountain-tops are barren. God resisteth the proud and giveth his grace to the lowly. Faith links us to omnipotence.—*Dr. T. L. Cuyler.*