## FRANKNESS.

## by lizzie m. whilydesey.

"There, does my dress hang right?" asked an odd-looking girl of her stylish companion, at the dressmaker's one day. chorused reply, and yet as:she "slopped" down the stairs, one corner dipping and draggling behind her, the girls exchanged glances ind laughed.
"Now, that thing'll always be out of genr," said they "and the worst of it is she's so perfectly unconscious of it."
The dressmaker, who had not been consulted, shrugged her shoulders.
"Why didn't you tell the girl, them?" she asked pointedly. "I wouldn't thank anybody to lie to me first and laugh afterwards."
Rather a rough way of putting it, perhaps, but isn't it a just epitome of our ordinary social intercourso?
How much more truly friends had the girls proved themselves, had they told her of the sagging skirt, and helped straighten
it.
I know a lady who, for ono long summer, wore unlined grenadine sleeves, foolishly imagining that the glimpse of white plumip arms was pretty. At last, motives of comfort and economy induced her to line the sleeves, and then one friend after another congratulated her on the change.
"I told Nell,' confided one voluble acquaintance, " that, as intimate as she was, she ought to tell you that dress didn't look well."

- The lady recounted her story with tears in her: eyes.
"Do you know,' she concluded, "I've never trusted Nell as much since. As we wern such friends, why couldn't she have wern such friends, why couldn't she have
told m : before I changed the sleeves of my told m : befor
There is a greater dearth of genuine lov. ing frankness than of any other Christian grace Deception is the style, truth dubbed " blunt,' and "' not good form."
$\because$ I think Grace is making a mistake to throw herself away on that worthless fellow, said a girl speaking of a mutual friend.
- I know it, replied another" "but Grace evidently thinks he is all that could be desired. I didn $t$ tell her so, but she will certainly rue the day if she does get tied for lifa to him.
"No, she didn't tell her," so Grace went on and married the dissipated fellow with whom, had she enly known, she would hardly Whom, hat she enly known, sh
have gone across the street.
How many heartaches, Jow many lifeHow many heartaches, how many lite-
lasting sorrows might be averted by a few lasting sorrows might be averted by
timely words of Christian frankness.
timely words of Christian frankness.
. The goneral excuse is that such advico and counsel is resented, as arising from curiosity ar an intense interest in other people"s affairs. But in all cases, motives can be discerned behind words, and when a friend is moved by genuine love for another, and in sincere desire to help him, tho fact will be ummistakably expressed in tone and manner.
Many valuable things I learned from my goorl father, now on the "other sicle," but none " stays by" as that object lesson, illustaited by our life of saying nothing about others
 checked, by knowing that sooner or later my checked, by knowing that sooner or later my
victim would get tine benefit of it from my victim would get tile
father's candid life.
father's candid life.
We can all recall some true and loving friend, who has, in a quiet hour of kindly talk, told us facts concerning some pet mannerism of ours which proved of more real service than all the "taffy" over doled out to us.
A bright, taking young lady marred her agreeableness by a certain saucy pertness, which, cultivated by the admiration of her frionds(?) doveloped into most disagreenble ways.
hat on would be so nice if it: wasn't for "at one thing, remarked a school-gir' But no one told her, and so young lady. lowed to grow up into an assuming an pleasing, sarcastic woman, dreaded by acploasing, sarcastices and grieved over by friends
Yet, being a ciul of sense, she would have Yet, bengr $n$ girl of sense, sho would have friend called her ill-timed vivacity by its acfriend called her in-timed name of heartless ridicule.
tual
tual name of heartless ridicule
Be frank, givls. If Mattie's


## Clluist fox stte!




#### Abstract

1. Whom have I, Lord, in heaven but. Thee? None but Thee! None but Thee it  3. Tho: with the poor be cast my lot: Christ for me! Christ for me! 4. Tho I am now on hos a tile ground, Christ for me! Christ for me! 4. And when amy now on hos a tile ground, Christ for me its, close, Christ for me! Christ for me! 



r: And re-con-ciled my soul to God:Christ for me! Chist for me! 2. Mine is a and an and Christ for, me! Christ tur me ! 3. And death o'erfuck and herd pre..vail, Chust'for me! Christ for mel 4. Strong in Hisstrengthl scorm their rage: Christ tor me? Chriat tur mel 5. Still will "i sing. thro' dea'h's culd shatle, Christ lus mei Christ for auel
concenl a hidden sting, don't go and comwhin to Gortie, but have the thing out between you two. At the risk of repenting nyself, I emphasize candor.
Dun't whisper to Sadie that Flossie's hair looks old-fashioned. Go to Plorence and in the swect, graceful way you know so well how to assume on occasion to daw your gentiemen friends, fix up that abun dant brown hair in tho pretey new sty
that becomes her shapely face so well.

## "O wad some power the giftio gic us

That power is friendly frankness, and it might so easily be ours to give and to get. If criticism is worth giving about our friends it is worth giving to them.-Christian at Work.

## "THIS MINTSTRY."

"I do hope that one of my boys will bo called to the ministry," said Mrs. Ashland. "Only one?" was her friend's reply. "I ask that all my children may enly ne cept the ministry God offiers to them.' "The ministry Gud offers? I do not understand."
"I mean just this ; 'Evon as the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister,' so to each one of us is given a ministry (ministering) in this world whin tas wo can ware ne Our winitry us wiym mothers mul house Our mimishofs a harder survice than that of our good pastors." "I good pastors."
I am sure it is ! But theso daily dutios soem quite transfigured in such a light,"
suid Mrs. Ashland, thoughtfully. "If my
daily cares constitnte my ministry, I have no right to complain of or shirk them." Her friend, who knew her circunstance better than Mrs. Aslland supposed, know ing that she was indeed sorely tried and tested, priyed that her words might be guided with discretion as she replied :-
"I won't say you have no right, dear. I only think that when you see your life in the full light of God's Word you will not wout to shink or complain. You have just this ministry, this man boarding with you, this sickly lusband,' this family of growing boys, this untrained, anreless servant. Seeing, then, you have this ministry, as Seing, then, you have this ministry, no you have received morcy you faint not.
You are called quite as phainly as you long You are called quite as phanly as you long
to have your son called, and to caite as to have your son catl.
important a ministry."
' Or ministry, let us wait on our ministoring.' I have noticed how that text might apply! Why, you have made it such, a dillerent matter to plan for to-morrow's meals, to try and make things run suoothly, and tofbe patient with my poor husband I had been trying and tryying to see a way out offit all, and so many gave me such advicel Every one seems to think I should get rid of this or that burden! Yet liever con see that I onght, and if it is my ministry I would not.
"، 'Tako heed to the ministry which thou hast received in tho Lord, thiat thou fultij it," " sitid Mrs. B., lovingly. "There is such niwonderful rest in accepting our lot as a gift from our dear Lord. As to the puzales in your life, 310 experience is without them, and I finch mach comfort intrusting to what God is peoparing for us. youre-
member how, when Jonalh was east into member how, when Jomh was east into
the sea, God 'prepared a great fish to swail-
$\left\lvert\, \begin{aligned} & \text { low him ;' then later he 'prepared' a gourd } \\ & \text { and in east wind. He is noto only able but }\end{aligned}\right.$ and in east wind. He is not only able, but
willing to propre what we need of trinh and willing to prepmro what we need of trinh and
blessing, and to give us his mercy that wo blessing, and to give us his mercy that wo
faint not. I fear'we too often weaken each other by our sympathy for trials which, if scen as part of eich one's ministry, would not seem trials but hlessings."
"I am sure we do. I never before thought of my, little daily cares and duties as a ministry ; but I shanl not forget it, I hope. And now I must go home, for it is neirly dimer-time, and 'wait' on ny 'ministering.'
Is there not a suggestion here for you. denr reader? Are you accepting your daily dear reatder? Are you accepting your daly
cares and duties as a ministry to be entered cares and duties as a ministry to be entered
into for God? If, day by day, we say to into for God? It, day by day, we say to
him, "Whatever work thou hast for' me him, "Whatever work thou hast for' me
to do, give it into my hands and give me to do, give it into my hands and give me
grice to do it," and then just "wait on our ministering," will not our life be one of peace, even though full of trial and seeming perplexity!-Selccted

## DOUBLED IN TEN YEARS.

The fact that the number of converts in China has moro thin doubled within ten years, and now exceeds thir'y thousand, is proof that Christian work is eminently successful there, and should act as an stimulus to more abundant labors.

## Question Corner.-No. 23.

## PRIZE BIBLE QUESTIONS

## 1. Name in their order the flrst four prophesic

 of the eoming of Christ in the Bible?
## foretold the phase of his birth?

## OUR PRIZE COMPETITION.

Our prize competition is almost at an end. One more number and it will be finished. It is well more number and it will be finished. It is well that it is so, for one large drawer is alrendy tighty packed with the papers, and if many more an swers como in wo shall have
donwer to accommodate them.
dywer to accommodate them.
Wo shall give the resultsas carly in January as possible. We would strongly urge that our young Bible students make no delay in sending in thei hast unswers.

## OUR NEW PREMIUMS.

The next number of the Northerm Messenger will contain our New Premium List, just in time to enable all our young people to seenre handsomo new books for the Christnias holidiays.

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