

Words of the Wise.

I HAVE lived to thank God that all my prayers have not been answered.—Jean Ingelow.

IF you want knowledge, you must toil for it; if food, you must toil for it; and if pleasure, you must toil for it.—Austlin.

NONE are more restless and depressed than people who take their full liberty in all things which are not sin.—Cardinal Manning.

EXTRAORDINARY afflictions are not always the punishment of extraordinary sins, but sometimes the trial of extraordinary graces.—Matthew Henry.

WHAT a folly to dread the thought of throwing away life at once, and yet have no regard to throwing it away by parcels and piecemeal.—John Howe.

HE that has light within his own clear breast May sit in the centre and enjoy bright day; But he that hides a dark soul and soul thoughts

Benighted walks under the midday sun— Himself his own dungeon.—Milton.

ANXIETY to have deep convictions, and contentment with them after they have been experienced, are too often the means which Satan uses for turning away the sinner's eye from the perfect work of Jesus, who Himself bare our sins in His own body on the tree.—Horatius Bonar.

I HAVE found nothing yet which requires more courage and independence than to rise even a little, but decidedly, above the par of the religious world around us. Surely the way in which we commonly go on is not the way of self-denial and sacrifice and cross-bearing which the New Testament talks of.

CHRISTIANITY does not consist in a proud priesthood, a costly church, an imposing ritual, a fashionable throng, a pealing organ, loud responses to the creed, and reiterated expressions of reverence for the name of Christ, but in the spirit that was in Jesus, the spirit of filial trust in God, and ardent, impartial, overflowing love to man.

Christ leads me through no darker rooms Than He went through before; He that into God's kingdom comes Must enter by His door.

Come, Lord, when grace has made me meet Thy blessed face to see; For if Thy work on earth be sweet, What will Thy glory be?—R. Baxter.

"THERE is no greater mistake," said Dr. Bushnell, "than to suppose that Christians can impress the world by agreeing with it. No; it is not conformity that we want; it is not being able to beat the world in its own way; but it is to stand apart and above it, and to produce the impression of a holy and separate life—this only can give us a true Christian power."

WHAT numberless perplexities, and difficulties, and dangers shall we escape by having our conversation in heaven; and thereby making God our Refuge and Strength! Many cares and temptations under which we now sink will at once vanish away if we consider ourselves as citizens of heaven, and if our only joy is that our names are written there. But how can we expect that heaven should be our portion hereafter, unless our heart and our treasure are there now?—Isaac Williams.

CANON FARRAR says: "He alone, by whom the hairs of our head are numbered, can comfort the widows who are widows because of alcohol; the gray heads that it has made gray; the sad hearts that it has crushed with sadness; the ruined families it has ruined; the brilliant minds which it has quenched; the unfolding promise which it has cindered; the bright and happy boys and girls whom it has blasted into misery; the young and the gifted whom it has hurried along into dishonoured and nameless graves."

NEVER complain of your birth, your employment, your hardships; never fancy that you could be something if you had a different lot and sphere assigned you. God understands His own plan, and He knows what you want a great deal better than you do. The very things that you most deprecate as fatal limitations or obstructions are probably what you most want. What you call hindrances, obstacles, discouragements, are probably God's opportunities; and it is nothing new that the patient should dislike his medicines, or any certain proof that they are poisons. Therefore, crush that envy that gnaws at your heart because you are not in the same lot with others. Bring down your soul, or rather bring it up to receive God's will and do His work in your lot and sphere, under your cloud of obscurity, against your temptations, and then you shall find that your condition is never opposed to your good, but consistent with it.

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