

of love. He never can be angry, as some represent Him, even with the sinner. This quality is given by men in rant of His true nature. This feeling was found in the sinner's mind and was attributed to God. It mostly obtained with the Old Testament writers, but Jesus Christ, the revealer of a higher law, by word and act testified against the error and represented Him as a God of unchanging love, and this love ever goes out to saint and to sinner. It is His ingathering power drawing His children unto Him that they may hold sweet intercourse and communion together, for He speaks a language adapted to every condition. And he will lead them along, becoming more and more to them as their desire increases, until they may come into the Kingdom of Heaven even here and now. But this one thing remember, in the day of our visitations lay restraint upon everything that rises in the heart counter to the divine will. This restraint that is required is not designed to be cruel, but is required through love as a necessity for our soul's welfare. Then let us seek for the manifestation of His love either in its calling forth, or restraint, for it is the moving of God's spirit in our souls. It is to this love, the love with which God loves all men, the love which Jesus manifested alike to His friends and to his persecutors, the love which will induce us to do good even to our enemies, that I feel, O Friends, to commend you all to.

You, my young friends, you must form your own character; I entreat you to form it rightly. Be one of the innumerable multitude which John saw, gathered of all the nations and kindreds, and people, and tongues, which stood before the throne, and before the Lamb clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands. These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the "blood of the Lamb." These are they who have succeeded in keeping their characters pure, which is

your privilege and mine, and is accomplished by means that God has placed within our reach. But we can reject it. We have the freedom of choice. Let us not trifle with errors lest, ere we know it, they will bind us down in darkness with adamant chains. Let us rather take up the cross. It will not be a hard task nor take away from you one pleasure, but will crown you with the blessings of God. Taking the cross is but to lay a proper restraint on your passions that might otherwise become abused and perverted, and thus lead to wrong acts. You will find this to be to your advantage and you will become a pillar of truth for God. This is the spring time of your lives, and you know if there are no blossoms in the spring there can be no fruit in the autumn. I know the temptations that may beset you, for I travelled the same path, but be faithful to your Divine Master, then you will pass between venomous serpents and they shall not harm you, through the fire and it shall not kindle upon you, and through the waters and they shall not overflow you.

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## BLACK BRIGADE.

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### THE STORY OF ITS FORMATION.

The last number of the *Sunday at Home* tells the story of the founding of the London Shoe-black Brigade by John Macgregor, better known as "Rob Roy," the *nom de plume* under which the philanthropist recorded his canoe adventures in the Jordan and elsewhere. Forty years ago there were no school boards, no industrial homes, and no Salvation Army. But there were voices raised to plead for the poor in "the dim rich city." Dickens had startled the world by his revelations in "Oliver Twist;" his genius had thrown a lurid glare on the terrible education which alone was possible for many a poor boy in London. Kingsley was thundering at the doors of the rich, in his struggle to awaken them to a sense to their callous indifference and selfish-