

Words of the Wise.

HE that covereth his sins shall not prosper; but whose confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.—Prov. xxviii. 13.

QUAINT old Richard Fuller very beautifully said that "he who spends all his life in sport is like one who wears nothing but fringes and eats nothing but sauces."

It was admirable advice which Mr. Wesley records as having been given to a preacher by an old woman: "Preach," said she, "the law first, then the gospel, then the law again."

"ONE additional grain of holiness or conformity to God," said the late Dr. James, of Albany, "with a consciousness that God was pleased with it, would out-weigh a universe of every other kind of good."

DR. PAYSON, when interrupted by calls in busy moments, or when he would not have desired them, found relief in the thought, which he often expressed, "The man who wants me is the man I want."

Greatness and goodness are not means, but ends.

Hath he not always treasures, always friends, The good, great man? Three treasures, Love and Light,

And Calm Thoughts, regular as infant's breath;

And three firm friends, more sure than day and night.

Himself, his Maker, and the angel Death.

—Coleridge.

AN Indian, having heard from a white man some strictures on zeal, replied, "I don't know about having too much zeal; but I think it is better the pot should boil over than not boil at all."

A RECENT German writer says: "The lark goes up singing towards heaven; but if she stops the motion of her wings then straightway she falls. So it is with him who prays not. Prayer is the movement of the wings of the soul: it bears one heavenward; but without prayer he sinks in the filth of earthly impulses."

Sow, sow, sow;
Ever keep on sowing;
God will cause the seed to grow
Faster than your knowing.
Nothing e'er was sown in vain,
If, His voice obeying,
You look upward for the rain,
And falter not in praying.

THINK about yourself; about what you want, what you like, what respect people ought to pay you, what people think of you, and then to you nothing will be pure. You will spoil everything you touch; you will make sin and misery for yourself out of everything which God sends you; you will be as wretched as you choose on earth, or in heaven either.

MY son, trust not to thy feelings, for whatever they be now, they will quickly be changed toward some other thing. But he that is wise and well-instructed in the Spirit standeth fast upon these changing things; not heeding what he feelth in himself, or which way the wind of instability bloweth; but that the whole intent of his mind may be to the right and the best end.—Thomas A. Kempis.

Why sit you down at sighing
Because 'tis dark, my friend?
A light is underlying
The gloomiest shades that blend.

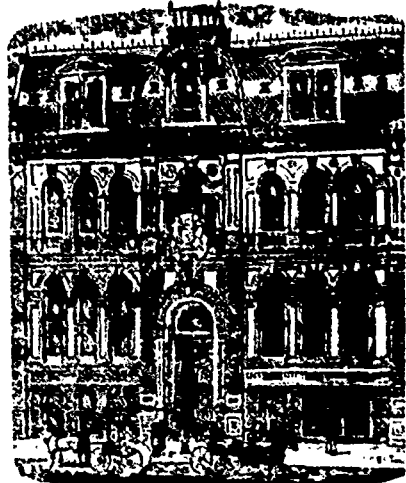
That life, it is completer,
If it embraces all:—
The sweet is always sweeter,
If you have tasted gall.

Then bravely bear your crosses,
Nor closely clasp your pains,
And hid among your losses
Perhaps you may find gains.

It was the quaint saying of a dying man, who exclaimed: "I have no fear of going home. God's finger is on the latch, and I am ready for him to open the door. It is but the entrance to my Father's house." And said another: "Why should I shrink from dying? It is the funeral of all my sorrows, and evils, and sins, and the perfection of all my joys forever!"

"I HAVE been a member of your Church for thirty years," said an elderly Christian to his pastor, "and when I was laid by with sickness for a week or two, only one or two came to visit me. I was shamefully neglected." "My friend," said the pastor, "in all those thirty years how many sick have you visited?" "Oh," he replied, "it never struck me in that light. I thought only of the relation of others to me, and not of my relation to them."

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