

our own. It keeps us from grudging to others possessions which may be greater than our own, and sets us free from all envy.

It is more blessed to give than to receive, v. 35. In India they tell the story of a great king who employed a skilful builder to erect in the mountains of snow a splendid palace. But the builder, instead of spending the king's money on the palace, used it and all his own in feeding the people of the neighborhood, who were starving on account of a great famine. The angry king was about to put the builder to death, when he was shown in a dream, a palace in heaven more

magnificent than any on earth, called the "Palace of Merciful Deeds," which had been built with his money, and which should endure when all earthly things had passed away. The lesson of the story is, that the life which is spent in the service of Christ will bring a reward of true and enduring blessedness. Nothing is ever wasted which is given to Him.

Prayed with them, v. 36. Life is continually a meeting and parting; and death is the most solemn and trying of all our farewells. The only parting that leaves no regret is that which follows upon a life of usefulness and duty.

POINTS AND PARAGRAPHS

By The Associate Editor

A good example adds weight to wise warnings. v. 28.

We are quick to see the danger of those whom we love. v. 29.

A disloyal subject is worse than a foreign foe. v. 30.

The greater the danger, the more earnest should be our warnings. v. 31.

God's past faithfulness is good ground for our present confidence. v. 32.

In covetousness there lies the germ of every sin. v. 33.

An unselfish motive ennobles the lowliest toil. v. 34.

Proper forms help, but cannot replace, the spirit of prayer. v. 35.

The strongest are apt to be the tenderest. v. 36.

Since any farewell may be final, every farewell should be sacred. v. 37.

If the home is reared on twin pillars of love and unselfishness, if each member of the family has learned to take a place subordinate to the welfare of the whole, and to yield instinctively a point whenever the interests of one collide with those of all, there will issue from such a household men and women who are fit for the life of the state and worthy to be entrusted with the task of government.—Horton.

"The blessings and hopes of Christian

faith, which are so dear to us, are blood bought. By Christ's stripes we are healed. We have joy, because He endured sorrow. We have peace in the midst of storm, because He faced the tempest. We have forgiveness of sin, because the darkness gathered about His soul on the cross. We have life, eternal life, because He died in shame. The grave has no gloom for us, because He lay in it wrapping its gloom about His own soul. Every blessing comes to us baptized with blood, the blood of the Son of God. The hands that save us are pierced hands, pierced in saving us."

"The question was once asked why the Dead Sea received the name it bears. One answered appropriately, 'Because it is always receiving and never letting out.' Water, to be pure, must be kept flowing. No man can be a Christian and keep it all to himself."

"The covetous man is like a camel with a great hunch on his back; heaven's gate must be made higher and broader, or he will hardly get in."

"My Father worketh hitherto, and I work." "And I work!" Say that too. Swing into line with the eternal energy, be a force among forces, a toiler, a producer, a factor, and life never loses its tone and flavor, its bit of glamor. There is no real taste to bread nor bliss in sleep for the idler. He is the doubter, the skeptic, the unhappy man.—Dr. Maltbie D. Babcock.