

LINKS WITH HEAVEN.

OUR God in heaven, from that holy place,
To each of us an angel-guide has given;
But mothers of dead angels have more grace,
For they give angels to their God in heaven.

How can a mother's heart feel cold or weary,
Knowing her dearer self safe, happy, warm?
How can she feel her road too dark or dreary,
Who knows her treasure sheltered from the storm?

How can she sin? Our hearts may be unheeding,
Our God forget, our holy saints defied;—
But can a mother hear her dead child pleading,
And thrust those little angel-hands aside?

Those little hands, stretched down to draw her
ever
Nearer to God by mother love,—we all
Are weak and blind, but surely she can never,
With such a stake in heaven, fail or fall.

We may not see her sacred crown of honor,
But all the angels, flitting to and fro,
Pause smiling as they pass,—they look upon her
As mother of an angel whom they know.

ARE YOU CONVICTED?

WHETHER the individuals have all apprehended the fact or not, I do not believe that any one ever yet received the blessing of entire sanctification without having been first convinced of the absolute necessity of that work of grace in their hearts. Neither do I believe that any ever will receive it till they are brought to that state of mind. Our conviction is sometimes more pungent than it was when we were seeking justification. It is quite natural that this should be the case, since we have so much greater light than we had at that time. Many think it is simply a desirable state of grace, and seek it as such; but they never attain unto it till they see their absolute need of the cleansing blood.

It is a blessed thing to have the desire awakened; for, by first desiring, we often afterward come to "groaning after it." If we could but see ourselves as we are, thoroughly steeped in iniquity, our inmost hearts would instantly and involuntarily groan. We should find no rest till we were purged. We should desire—more than life—the perfect cleansing. Our

mourning should never cease till it was turned to joy on account of the great transformation that had been wrought in us.

There is less fear in conviction for holiness than in conviction for justification, but more love and greater desire. May the Lord open our eyes, humble our hearts, and sanctify our souls and bodies. We are apt to reserve the body, and its appetites, and passions; this will never do. If your body is not sanctified your soul is not. The Holy Spirit will not dwell in an unclean temple. Do not think that you cannot be made holy because you are so very sinful. There is no hope of you till you see your sinfulness. That is no obstacle. There is no limit to the cleansing power of Jesus' blood. Your own righteousness is an abomination. You are better off without any. No matter how vile you have been. Will you accept the cleansing now? You have no other hope.

S. A. Y.

"BE HOLY."

REMEMBER that to be holy is to be happy. The two are convertible terms. Holiness! It is the secret and spring of the joy of angels; and the more of holiness attained on earth, the nearer and closer my walk is with God, the more of a sweet earnest shall I have of the bliss that awaits me in a holy heaven. O my soul! let it be thy sacred ambition to "be holy."

BACK NUMBERS.

WE cannot supply any more back numbers of EARNEST CHRISTIANITY. Subscriptions, in future, must begin with the June or July numbers. Persons desirous of examining the Magazine would do well to subscribe for the remainder of the year. FIFTY CENTS will pay till the end of 1873.

We have to apologize to our readers for an interruption in the publication of the articles on "The First Union," and "Eastertide." As soon as the hurry of "moving time" is over they will be resumed.

Will brethren kindly endeavor to procure as many Subscribers as possible for the current half-year,—July to December. FIFTY CENTS will pay subscription and postage.