

Words of the Wise.

THE man who does nothing can be seen any place, but the man who has nothing to do altogether rare. There is work waiting for every one.

THERE is never anything lost by aiming at things that are high and noble. Even though we do not attain to them in every instance, their influence will tell upon us as we have contemplated and striven after them.

THE young man who makes a good beginning in a financial way has won half the battle of business life. It is similarly true in other things. The intellect and heart are likely to be barren in later years if they do not have early nurture.

IT is common to talk about the work of the school in making good citizens. The school can aid in this work, but the homes of a country, far more than its schools, determine the character of its citizens. It is in the home that the foundations of character are laid.—Geo. McDonald.

NOTHING is settled until it is settled right. A thing may be patched up; it may be tinkered and cobbled; but it is not settled. The artist may paint your cheek, yet all the life may be flowing out of the heart. Nothing that is wrong can be set right except on the basis of righteousness in Jesus Christ.

WHAT does that man do who repeats the Lord's prayer, saying, "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them who trespass against us," while his heart is full of wrath against his neighbour because of some real or imaginary offence? He prays, but for what? Not for pardon, but "for a curse on his own head." His request is equivalent to asking Heaven not to forgive him. What a shocking prayer!

ANXIETY is rust to the wheels of life, causing them to stop heavily and wear out speedily. Jeremy Taylor quaintly says, "No man carries his bed into his field to watch how his corn grows, but believes in the general order of Providence and nature, and at harvest finds himself not deceived." A wiser than Jeremy Taylor says, "Be anxious for nothing." Why then, O troubled soul, dost thou fear? God careth for thee. Why needest thou add anxiety to thy burdens?

THE minister who is properly clothed and fed, and whose salary is always paid when due, is better able to minister to the spiritual wants of his people than one who is forced continually to beg for what is due, and worry about the support of himself and family. The members of the church are under obligation not only to sustain him in his efforts to save souls, but must look after his temporal comfort. Feed him well, and the chances are large that he will feed his flock well.—Herald and Presbyter.

WE think a prayer-meeting, however brief, should follow every evening evangelistic meeting; in order (1) to ask a blessing on the testimony, and (2) to afford opportunity for conversation with anxious souls. In some cases prayer meetings are held occasionally, or the members are asked to remain, if an impression seems to have been made. But (1) fewer persons will stay to an occasional than to a regular prayer-meeting; and (2) it is impossible to know certainly when impressions have been made on individual souls, unless by means of a second meeting.—London Call.

IT is that makes all those men who associate habitually with women superior to others who do not? What makes that woman who is accustomed to, and at ease in, the society of men, superior to her sex in general? Solely because they are in the habit of free, graceful, continued conversations, with the other sex. Women in this way lose their frivolity, their faculties awaken, their delicacies and peculiarities unfold in their beauty and captivation in the spirit of intellectual rivalry. And the men lose their pedantic, rude, declamatory, or sullen manner. The coin of the understanding and the heart changes continually. Their aspirations are lifted, their better materials polished and bright, and their riches, like gold, is wrought into finer workmanship by the fingers of women. And it ever could be by those of men. The iron and steel of their characters are hidden, like the chariot of an armour of a giant, by studs and rivets of gold and precious stones, when they are not treated in actual warfare.

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