

## The Upward Look

### Hoping and Waiting

"It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord."—Lam. iii. 25.

Hope, child, to-morrow, and to-morrow still,  
And every morrow hope; trust while you live,  
Hope! and each time the dawn deths  
beams fill  
Be there to ask as God is there to give.

—Victor Hugo.

NEVER has there been a time in the history of the world when so many hearts were beating with hope as in these days. As the news of victory after victory comes from the battle line the hope that peace may soon come burns brighter in each heart. We speak of the star of hope as shedding its rays of hope and promise of glory on our heads telling us when we doubt and fear that disorder, death and destruction shall cease, that out of chaos will yet come order, and that joy, harmony and peace shall one day overspread the earth and the whole world shall sing the glad song of hope fulfilled.

Hope and waiting. No words could better describe what should be the Christian's attitude of mind than these. It is by hope that Paul tells us that we are saved, and turning to serve the living and the true God we are to wait for His Son from heaven. Inseparably are they linked together. It is this "glorious hope" which shining like a beacon above the trials, sorrows and disappointments of life enables us to patiently wait earth's little while ere we pass to the King in His beauty or till He come.

This glorious hope revives our courage by the way. While each in an expectation lives And longs to see the day. "Hope," the poet says, "springs eternal in the human breast," and well for us that it is so, but if our hope is only for this life, then "we are of all men," Paul tells us, "the most miserable." It is the hope of something beyond this life that is the Christian's joy, and that reconciles us to the inconsistencies and sorrows we see here, and the sure and certain witness we have within that all wrongs will yet be righted; that the crooked shall be made straight and the rough places plain. To be without hope for the next life must be unspeakable despair such as exists only in Hell. "Abandon hope, all ye who enter here," were the words Dante tells us he read above the door as he and his guide entered that dark abode of the wicked.

And so it is through all the vicissitudes of life, when friends have gone, and the material things we cherished have taken to themselves wings and flown away, when we have stood, maybe, at the graveyards of those who were dearest to us, exclaiming in our despair, "Waked and forlorn I stand amid the ruins of the past," it is then that the blessed promise sheds its glorious rays on our souls "that we sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again even so then shall we also sleep in Jesus will God bring with him."

Hope on, hope ever; thought-to-day be dark,  
The sweet sunburst may smile on thee to-morrow;  
Though thou art lonely, there's an eye will mark  
Thy loneliness, and guard on all thy sorrow,  
Though thou must toil 'mong cold and serried men,  
With none to echo back thy thought or love thou,  
Cheer up, poor heart, thou dost not beat in vain  
For God is over all, and heaven above  
Hope on, hope ever.

—J. H. H.

### The Ideal Home Life

FEW and far between are the homes which come anywhere near to being ideal. It does us good, however, to visit or hear about a home where conditions approaching the ideal are in evidence. Not long ago we read in a United States contemporary, of a home, to reach which a man would gladly drive ten miles out of his way in order to spend the night with the members of that family. "They're poor people and have a large friendliness makes up for their lack of room and money. I've stayed with them when I had to sleep on a bed with dry goods boxes under each corner of the springs for posts. By going a little farther I could have stayed at one of the finest country homes around, but I chose the first just because I got a welcome that money could not purchase anywhere."

"It did one's heart good," said the writer of that article, "to hear this man tell of the home that was not dependent upon spacious rooms and costly furniture to make it that earthly symbol of heaven—a real home. There is no word in any language so dear as 'home' for our most treasured names of mother, father, love, country, loyalty, each and all are a part of the true home. As a chain is no stronger than its weakest link, so is a neighborhood weaker by a so-called home where young people gather and engage in questionable amusements and conversations, the evil of which is unquestionable. Or if there is a man or woman in the neighborhood whose life is so impure as to be a bad example to the growing generation, the disgrace rests in some extent upon all in the community who sit idly by."

"First, is our duty to our family, but to make our home life ideal, we must extend our interests unselfishly in every direction. Some time ago an article was written by a literary lady, whose strong minded views make life pleasant for her husband when spent in a distant state, in which she said the world becomes a great nation only by doing away with the so-called private life and have everything from our birth to our funeral under the direction of the government direct. She gave as an argument the fact that Jews almost worship their home life and place it above everything, proving that through this they lost their national life and their country."

"On the other hand, we may suggest that while other nations have risen, reigned, fallen and been forgotten, the Jewish people, scattered to the four corners of the earth, abused and mistreated, have through the ages retained the features, the customs and the traits of character that were old and established when David was a lad herding sheep. I should like to meet the mother who is the centre of the ideal home my friend mentions, like him, I believe it would be well worth the trip."

### Handling Ferns Successfully

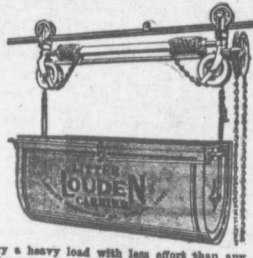
NO class of plant appeals perhaps more strongly to the majority of women throughout the winter season at least than ferns. The best soil for ferns consists of equal portions of turf loam, peat and leaf soil, with a good sprinkling of charcoal broken to the size of a small nut. In preparing the soil for potting it should be chopped up coarse. If the loam is stiff or hard of fibre, (that is dead grass roots), take some of the soil out and retain all the leaf soil as it is the plant food and the charcoal is the filterer which keeps the soil sweet.

In potting enough soil should be used to raise the plants so that the crown is level with the top soil. Care should be taken to leave enough space to hold sufficient water to thoroughly soak the ball when watering the plant. Pot moderately firm.

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