

A WHOLE FAMILY IN HEAVEN.

The following eloquent passage is from the pen of Albert Barnes:—

A whole family in heaven! Who can picture or describe the everlasting joy? No one absent. Nor father, nor mother, nor son, nor daughter away. In the world they were united in faith, and love, and peace, and joy. In the morning of the resurrection they ascended together. Before the throne they bow together in united adoration. On the banks of the river of life they walk hand in hand, and as a family they have commenced a career of glory which shall be everlasting. Hereafter there is to be no separation in that family. No one is to lie down on a bed of pain. No one to sink into the arms of death. Never in heaven is that family to move along in the slow procession, clad in the habiliments of woe, to consign one of its members to the tomb. God grant that in His infinite mercy every family may be thus united.

THE OVER-TIMID.

There are members in all our churches who are afraid to undertake to be useful. They say, and are doubtless honest in their disbelief of themselves, that they are not qualified. Yet herein they are mistaken. All qualification of whatever sort anywhere is the result of effort, and of persistent effort. Make a beginning. Be not simply a hearer of the word, but take its directions, trusting in Him who has said, "My grace is sufficient for you." Do not be afraid of failure or of criticism. Do the best you can, and you shall soon find that faith will beget experience and experience faith, and ere long you will wonder why you waited to enter upon some pathway of Christian work. And then you shall have joy in the discipleship. The unhappy, the discontented, the irritable, fault-finding, and censorious members of active and aggressive churches are commonly found to be those who sit still and decline to share with others in the service whereunto all are called. A united church can never be where there is room for many who are too timid to undertake tasks for Christ, and yet bold enough to sit in judgment upon the ways, methods, and manners of others.—*Christian Intelligencer.*

ATHEISM.—We know, and it is our pride to know, that man is by his constitution a religious animal; that atheism is against not only our reason but our instincts, and that it cannot prevail long.—*Burke.*