

CHURCH PRAYER MEETING.

The Church Window.

Darkly the window looms the long night through,
Blank as the the orbit where hath been an eye,
Stern as a cloud against a midnight sky,
Low'ring and lone in sorrow's somber hue.
But when the dawn's red ray's thereon are flung,
How changed its aspect! Quivering with gems
That pale the stars of kingly diadems!
A lamp from heaven in God's own palace hung!
Such is man's soul. If not by virtue led,
It lies eclipsed, disowned, a captive chained,
Its beauty quenched its unborn vigor dead.
But if to virtue's light it be regained,
(Creator's miracle, imperial, great,
The splendor and the pride of God's estate!

ANGELUS.

Prayer Meeting Topic.

G. L. WHITE.

THE SPIRIT ABIDING, John i : 32 ; xiv : 16.—The work of the Spirit is as much to abide as to descend. The record concerning Jesus at his Baptism is that the Spirit abode upon him. "Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending and remaining upon him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost." The manifestations of power which Jesus showed throughout his ministry, the marvelous words of wisdom which he spoke, were they not owing to the fact that the Spirit was with him constantly? God gave not the Spirit by measure unto him. This same spirit is promised as an abiding presence in the church. "Another comforter shall abide with you." "Ye are not in the flesh, but in the spirit, if so be that the spirit of God dwell in you." The Comforter comes to stay. He is not a transient visitor. He has prepared himself a home in sanctified hearts. "Forever" is the blessed word in Gospel vocabulary signifying the constancy of the spirit's fellowship and grace. "The Comforter will abide with you forever," "A well of water springing up into everlasting life." Divine grace is as free, exhaustless, perennial, continuous as is the Divine nature itself. We are not to expect, and we are not to allow, transitions of feeling, mercurial temperaments, to triumph over that steadily inflowing grace which should keep the Christian up to the high water mark of spiritual enjoyment and life. The Comforter's presence is a restraint,—a restraint upon the hand that would reach forth and pluck forbidden fruit, a restraint upon the surges of passion which often break with tempestuous force upon the youthful disciple, and sometimes lift him from his moorings as though a mere feather on a wave. The Spirit's presence is strong assurance that floods may break, storms may beat, tides may rise, winds may shake, tempests howl, but the believer, founded on the Rock, buoyed up by the Eternal Presence, will receive no harm. Again, the Spirit is a quickening power. He stirs our noblest activities into life; all the dormant energies of our being are aroused, all the latent forces all the possible capabilities, are thrilled, energized, vitalized, and brought into active working condition. When you feel dull, remember the power and presence of the Spirit. He waits to stir you into life; he would breathe upon you power; he desires to equip you for the best possible service.

"Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove,
With all thy quickening powers."

We walk out into the mystery fearless because we trust in Thee. We face the great emergency with our hearts full of vital questions which cannot here be answered. We leave them all with thee, knowing that thou wilt cherish our wistful aspirations toward him who loved and has redeemed us. We would know many things that thou hast not revealed, but we can only love, and trust and wait.—*Madam Willard's Last Family prayer.*

Christian Endeavor.

Daily Readings.

First Day—Faithful service—Matt. xxiv : 45-51.
Second Day—Our best service—Mal. i : 6-14.
Third Day—Humble service—Luke xvii : 3-10.
Fourth Day—Zealous service—Col. iii : 17-25.
Fifth Day—Christlike service—John xiii : 1-17.
Sixth Day—Not servants, but friends—John xv : 12-20.
Seventh Day—WHOLE-HEARTED SERVICE—Eph. vi : 5-17.

PRAYER MEETING TOPIC, Aug. 12.—"Whole-hearted service," Eph. vi : 5-18. Christian brother or sister do you belong to the O. and O. Brigade? It is not a new society, so there is no need for alarm; it is the Brigade the Apostles and Martyrs belonged to, the Out and Out Brigade. Are you out and out for Christ, whole-hearted altogether His? If not there is no room for you in the ranks of Christian Endeavor. No half-hearted, uncertain members are wanted in its army. No men pleasing, eye servers need seek commission there. If you are all for Christ heart and pocket, from dawn to sunset, then you are welcome. Such soldiers are needed to-day, when men who never won a soul for Christ, are splitting hairs about creeds and doctrines, and wasting precious time in discussing a deuter-Isaiah, or the author of the Pentateuch. Let us have less argument and more action, less words and more work, less logic and more life. A Consecrated Christian is a more convincing proof of the truth of Christianity, than all the lectures or books professors of Christian evidences have ever delivered or written.

Let us have whole-hearted service for Christ in the home and the workshop, on the street and behind the counter, at the ballot box and in the Legislature, and then indeed may we say "the Kingdom of God is at hand." "Finally my brethren be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might."

REFERENCE PASSAGES:—Matt. v : 16 ; vi : 24 ; 2 Cor. ix : 8 ; Col. i : 10 ; Gal. i : 10 ; Jas. iv : 4 ; Mark viii : 38 ; Luke xii : 8, 9 ; 2 Tim. i : 8.

The Boys and Girls for Christ.

Distinctly the most important branch of the Y.P.S. C.E. is the Junior Society. At the recent convention more attention was given it than ever before, and yet none felt that it got more than its share. To win the boys and girls for Christ is a work which none can be more encouraging, or have grander possibilities. There has been a grand impetus given to this work lately, but much remains to be done before every Young People's Society will have its accompanying Junior band. We mean to do what we can to bring this about, and we think we are the first general denominational paper to take this work up. Junior Superintendents watch this department, we will have something in it to interest you just as often as space will permit, and the Junior topic will be published regularly every week. May God bless the boys and girls, and give them a larger place in our hearts than ever.

JUNIOR TOPIC, Aug. 12.—"Bible Friends. How should we be like them?" 1 Sam. xviii : 1-4.

A Good Idea.

Hold a Convention-at-Home. Take the report in last week's REVIEW, cut out the brightest sentences given there, and distribute them among your brightest members asking them to prepare five minute talks with the clippings as texts. Six such talks, interspersed with singing, would make a most interesting and helpful programme for an evening's gathering. If you do this let us hear from you.

God leads through retirement and meditation, to life's work.

God sees and knows all the trials and afflictions of his people.