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BE GLAD!

Be glad when the flowers have faded!
Be glad when the trees are bare,
When the fog lies thick on the fields and moors,
And the frost is in the air!
And the clouds obscure the light,
When there are no songs for the darkest day,
No stars for the longest night!
Be glad when the world is lonely,
And the heart has been bereft;
When of all the loves of the young spring-time
Scarcely a friend is left.
Be glad in the desolate valley
After the sunny hills,
When the joy of the morning is far behind,
And the gloom its task fulfills.

Be glad when the heart is failing,
And the brain is losing power,
And the cunning skill of the strong right hand
Wearies in one short hour.
We are glad in the merry morning,
And glad at the noon again,
But the wintry night is a tired time—
Do we look for gladness then?

Ah, yes, for the truest gladness
Is not in ease and mirth;
It is his home in the heart of God,
Not in the loves of earth,
God's love is the same forever,
If the skies are bright or dim,
And the joy of the morning lasts all day
When the heart is glad in Him.

—*Marianna Farningham.*



A Force To Work With.—The *Canadian Baptist* makes a good point in commenting on Dr. Parkhurst's saying: "I have got past calling my church my field. It is not my field, it is my force." If all churches, instead of being fields to absorb the energies of the pastor could be forces and be used in aggressive work upon the powers of evil, what a religious revolution there would be! And yet, is not this the ideal of what a church ought to be?



Pray for the Pastor.—In an article on the duties of church members, Dr. Robert F. Horton, of London, makes this valuable suggestion. Speaking of the duty of members to pray for the pastor he says: "I therefore urge every reader to make an experiment. Give ten minutes on Saturday night to definite prayer for your minister, that his word may come with power, that souls may be saved, that your church may be quickened. Give yourself wholly to that prayer for ten minutes; wait upon God, wrestle, believe. Then you will see something remarkable. You will think it a change

in your minister; probably it will be a change in you."



The Y. M. C. A.—Speaking of the Young Men's Christian Association, Rev. Clinton Locke, in an article in *The Christian Standard*, says: "This Association is the necessary complement of the home and Church in the work to be done to make young men what they ought to be as factors in the larger duties which come as they enter upon a fuller manhood. In no sense does it try to, or should it, supplant the well-directed teachings of a godly home or a godly Church. It but makes more efficient the earlier precepts of both for those who have been fortunate enough to enjoy them, and grants to those ignorant of such blessings a protecting care which must mean in their lives the difference between failure and success, bad citizenship and good."



The Open Door in India.—In his quadrennial report Bishop Thoburn says: "The open door which God first set before us, especially in North India, remains wide open still. If we are baptizing fewer converts than formerly it is solely because we have discovered that we cannot provide nurture for 20,000, or even 10,000 tender babes every year. In many other parts of the empire other doors are opening, so that practically the opportunities before us are boundless. To meet such an emergency we should select scores, and even hundreds, of young men and put them under training at once, so that they may at the earliest possible day be prepared to enter upon the great work of training these coming multitudes in the first elements of Christian truth and the first rules of Christian living. At present we cannot attempt anything further in this direction without adding to financial obligations, which are already too heavy to be borne."



"A Speciality of Toothache."—*The Central Christian Advocate* has the following racy item on Christian Science: "A week or so ago a woman in Topeka, Kan., who was under Christian Science treatment for typhoid fever, died what was the most natural thing for one to do under such circumstances—she died. And now, it seems, the Masons of Topeka, who believe that every one, even a Christian Scientist, has a right to 'life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness,' and who are so blind that they can not see that there is really no such thing as illness, are to prosecute the Christian Scientists who had charge of this case, and who doubtless convinced themselves and their patient that her trouble was purely imaginary. The Christian Scientists, instead of essaying the general practice of healing, would do well to make a speciality of toothache and earache. This would afford them

ample scope for testing their theories with reference to physical ailments, or rather lack of ailments, and at the same time would not result in embarrassing fatalities."



Vacations.—The *Outlook* remarks upon the change that has taken place during recent years in the vacation habits of the people: "A generation ago a business man took his vacation, if he took it at all, with reluctance, regarding it as a kind of unlawful pleasure; to-day he takes it, not only as pleasure, but as a business duty. In many cases he takes a day out of each week during the season which permits him to be out of doors. As a result he is a stronger man than his father was, he bears heavier responsibilities, and does more work."



A Temperate Army.—Lord Roberts is not only a great military leader but a staunch temperance advocate. The following note from him contains information of the most gratifying kind: "There never was a more temperate army than that which marched under my command from the Molder River to Bloemfontein. Nothing but good can result from so many soldiers being brought together in an arduous campaign, when they see how splendidly our temperance men have borne up against the hardship and dangers they have had to face."

The First Department.—A correspondent in the *Nashville Era* writes sensibly concerning the importance of the first department of the League as follows: "A man with one limb gone may lead a quite useful life, though his capacity for utility is much less than it otherwise would have been, and many channels of usefulness are closed to him. But a man with perfect limbs is powerless and lifeless without a heart with the power to perform its required functions. When the heart ceases to act, man dies. So with the Epworth League in reference to its departments. A League chapter might live if robbed of its second or third departments, though it would be crippled and would not enjoy the capacity for usefulness that one with all its departments in harmonious action would. But destroy the devotional department, and your League chapter dies, because it has lost the life-giving stream of spirituality and Christian experience that flows from its very heart, so to speak. The departments are inter-dependent, but in many respects the devotional department is of the greatest importance. It is the first department to get into operation, and it will always be the last to leave the field, no matter how discouraging the circumstances. If we have good devotional meetings, conducted and participated in by all of the members of the chapter, such a chapter will furnish good material for the other departments."