

## Words of the Wise.

PRAY to God at the beginning of all thy works, that so thou mayest bring them all to a good ending.

THE most terrific storm of real woe in a man's heart rarely flings its froth and foam as high as his lips.

THE physically blind feel their infirmity; but what shall we say of the morally blind?—*John Paul.*

WHAT I admire in Columbus is not his having discovered a world, but his having gone to search for it on the faith of an opinion.—*Turgot.*

WE are hanging up pictures every day about the chamber walls of our hearts that we shall have to look at when we sit in the shadows.

THE mind has a certain vegetative power, which can not be wholly idle. If it is not laid out and cultivated into a beautiful garden, it will of itself shoot up weeds and flowers.

BLESS me in this life with but peace of my conscience, command of my affections, the love of God and my dearest friends, and I shall be happy enough to pity Caesar.—*Sir Thomas Browne.*

CONTENTION is no part of religion. To quarrel needs no grace. The devil can fight, and your imitation of his conduct discredits you as a member of the "household of faith."—*Zion's Herald.*

I VERY often think with sweetness, and longings and pantings of soul, of being a little child, taking hold of Christ, to be led by him through the wilderness of this world.—*Jonathan Edwards.*

PREJUDICES are the fogs in Christendom which turn the bright sun itself into a dull copper ball. A bad heart is like the jaundice that sees its own dingy yellow in the purest lily, and in the comeliest face.

ROUSSEAU'S praises of the Scriptures remind us of the high encomiums bestowed by Balaam on the tabernacles of Israel. It is no unusual thing for men to admire that which they do not love.—*Andrew Fuller.*

ONE who prides himself that "I am a plain, blunt man, who always say what I mean," and accordingly goes about saying all things at all times, without regard to courtesy, discretion, or Christian kindness, is not a model of frankness, but rather a social pest.—*Sunday School Times.*

RELIGION in its deepest form is always sacrifice; and the necessity of offering something to God is a peculiar characteristic of grateful love. But that sacrifice only can be well-pleasing to him, which is not only well-meant, but is, besides, presented according to his will and in agreement with his design.—*Van Oosterzee.*

I HAVE found nothing yet which requires more courage and independence than to rise even a little but decidedly above the par of the religious world around us. Surely, the way in which we commonly go on is not the way of self-denial and sacrifice and cross-bearing which the New Testament talks of.—*Dr. J. W. Alexander.*

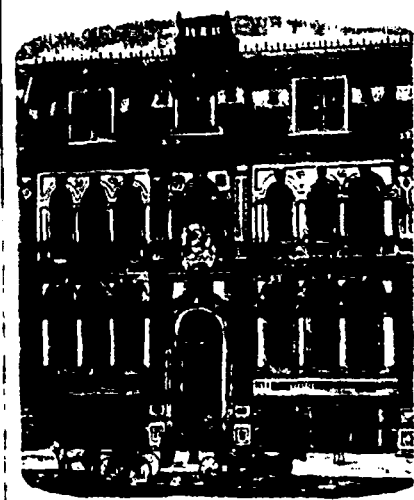
IT is a high, solemn, almost awful thought for every individual man, that his earthly influence, which has a commencement, will never, through all ages, have an end! The life of every man is as the well-spring of a stream, whose small beginnings are indeed plain to all, but whose course and destination, as it winds through the expanses of infinite years, only the Omniscient can discern.—*Carlyle.*

WHAT we want in our daily exposures to temptation, what the father or brother wants in his business, what the mother or daughter wants at home, what the school-boy or school-girl needs in the associations of the class-room or the play-ground, what we all want chiefly is Christian courage—the courage of our convictions, the courage of high calling, readiness to suffer anything, all things, and even to die rather than sin and bring reproach on Christ.

IT is sometimes mentioned by skeptics, to the reproach of Christianity, that its professors are chiefly women. A Western preacher was tauntingly asked by an ungodly scoffer why it was that most Christians are women. "I will ask you a question," said the minister, "and, if you will answer it, I will answer you. I was recently at the State penitentiary, where I saw hundreds of men, and very few women. If you can tell me why there was this great inequality between the male and female convicts, I will tell you why the professors of Christianity are largely females." The reply was a just rebuke of the scoffer, a triumphant vindication of female character, and a strong proof of the benign influence of Christianity.

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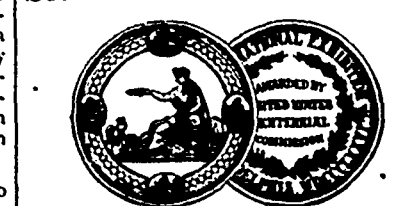
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