

Letting the light of this great truth fall upon the definition of the decrees of God, what glorious grace shines out of this statement, that He has, "for His own glory, foreordained whatsoever comes to pass." It is for the express purpose of feeding the souls of His creatures with that which alone can regulate and nourish and satisfy them that God has planned His whole procedure in this world. Instead of consummate selfishness as it would be in any created being, it is benevolence beyond expression.

"Father, glorify thy name." "Hallowed be thy name." So be it. So it *shall* be.

Training in Giving.

Giving is living; it is a law of growth and order. It prevails in the physical universe, and in the social world is the open sesame which is establishing universal reciprocity and brotherhood. In giving, man's capacity for receiving and being enlarged. The miser's greatest sin is against himself. Avarice atrophies, but generosity is twice blessed. Happiness, activity, self hood, and purpose are bound up in giving—giving freely.

As a lamentable result of failing to preach the scriptural doctrine of the tithe, it has been computed that while the Church owns one fifth of the wealth of the country, one sixteenth per cent is given for evangelizing the heathen world.

O, let us train our young people into exact business-like methods of caring for the kingdom! Christianity needs the youth, with their boundless faith and hope and their fiery enthusiasm. In training the youth into scriptural habits of giving we are teaching them that they are called to the service of a living Christ. If we urge the earnest habits of giving, our youth shall belong to a knight-hood which shall never perish, and as incarnations of the King shall press the battle for righteousness to the end of the earth and hold the citadels of truth.—Dr. Charles E. Locke.

Half-Done Work is always Wasteful.

The extravagance and waste of doing work badly are most lamentable. We can never over-estimate the value, in a successful life, of an early formed habit of doing everything to a finish, and thus relieving ourselves of the necessity of doing things more than once. Oh, the waste in half done, careless, patched work!

The extravagance and loss resulting from a slipshod education is almost beyond computation. To be under the necessity, all through one's life, of patching up, or having to do over again, half done and botched work, is not only a source of terrible waste, but the subsequent loss of self respect and life is also very great.

There is great economy in putting the highest possible personal investment in everything we do. Any thoroughness of effort which raises personal power to a higher value is a judicious expenditure of individual effort. Do not be afraid to show thoroughness in whatever you undertake. Thoroughness is a great quality when once mastered. It makes all work easier, and brings to life more sunshine.—"Success."

Give me the lowest place; not that I dare
Ask for that lowest place, but thou hast died
That I might live and share
Thy glory by thy side.

Give me the lowest place; or if for me
That lowest place too high, make one more low
Where I may sit and see
My God and love thee so.

—Christina Rossetti.

Our Young People

Topic.—An Evening with Arctic Missions.

Sunday, Apr. 20.

Job 38: 22, 23, 29, 30.

An Alaskan Martyr.

Within the last year Alaska has given a young native martyr to the cause of the gospel—a boy of sixteen, who, having accepted Christ, went home to his tribe and told them of the Saviour. The *angelok*, or medicine man of the tribe, became afraid that his power would be lost if the tribe were converted, and determined to get rid of the Christian lad, as he could not silence his teachings. Arousing the superstitions of his followers, he finally succeeded in burying the boy alive.

The young martyr's death for his faith was not in vain, for the wicked *angelok* has been taken from the tribe, and the gospel will henceforth be free to do its work among them. The heroic witness of this young disciple, faithful unto death, should stir Christian hearts to fresh efforts for his people.

The Example of Greenland.

Hans Egede, the Danish missionary, began his work in Greenland in 1721. He found the Eskimos stolid and stupid dwarfs, entirely indifferent to what he preached. Yet he labored on unceasingly for ten years and more, and when he was obliged to give up the work two Eskimo converts, meeting Count Zinzendorf at the court of Saxony, told him the need of their nation, and the Moravian brethren took up Egede's work and carried it forward.

For five years, however, the natives of Greenland refused to listen to the new missionaries, as they had refused to listen to Egede. Dirty, stupid, depraved, they seemed beneath the lifting power even of the gospel. But in 1738 a change came and one more convert, Kayarnak, was made. In 1747 a church of three hundred members had been established. To-day every settlement in Greenland is Christian, and the Greenland Eskimos are a transformed race.

For the Master's Use.

Danger and temptation to let the hands move at other impulses are every bit as great to those who have nothing else to do but to render direct service and who think they are doing nothing else. Take one practical instance—our letter-writing. Have we not been tempted (and fallen before the temptation), according to our various dispositions, to let the hand that holds the pen move at the impulse to write an unkind thought of another; or to say a clever and sarcastic thing, or a slightly colored and exaggerated thing, which will make our point more telling; or let out a grumble or a suspicion; or to let the pen run away with us into flippant and trifling words, unworthy of our high and noble calling? Have we not drifted away from the golden reminder, "Should he reason with unprofitable talk and with speeches wherewith he can do no good? Why has this been, perhaps again and again? Is it not for want of putting our hands into our dear Master's hand and asking and trusting him to keep them? He could have kept; he would have kept!"

Whatever our work or our special temptations may be, the principle remains the

same, only let us apply it for ourselves.

Perhaps one hardly needs to say that the kept hands will be very gentle hands. Quick angry motions of the heart will sometimes force themselves into expression by the hand, though the tongue may be restrained. The very way in which we close a door or lay down a book may be a victory or a defeat a witness to Christ's keeping or a witness that we are not truly being kept. How can we expect that God will use this member as an instrument of righteousness unto him, if we yield it thus as an instrument of unrighteousness unto sin? Therefore let us see to it that it is at once yielded to him whose right it is; and let our sorrow that it should have been even for an instant desecrated to Satan's use, lead us to entrust it henceforth to our Lord, to be kept by the power of God through faith for the Master's use.

For when the gentleness of Christ dwells in us, he can use the merest touch of a finger. Have we not heard of one gentle touch on a wayward shoulder being the turning point of a life? I have known a case in which the Master made use of less than that—only the quiver of a little finger being made the means of touching a wayward heart.

What must the touch of the Master's own hand have been? One imagines it very gentle, though so full of power. Can he not communicate both the power and the gentleness? When he touched the hand of Peter's wife's mother, she arose and ministered unto them. Do you think the hand which Jesus had just touched must have ministered very excellently? As we ask him to touch our lips with living fire, so that they may speak effectively for him, may we not ask him to touch our hands that they may minister effectively and excel in all that they find to do for him? Then our hands shall be made strong by the hands of the mighty God of Jacob.—Frances Ridley Havergal.

For Daily Reading.

- M., Apr. 20.—God in the Northland. Ps. 147: 16, 17
T., Apr. 21.—The snow obeys his will. Job 37: 6-10
W., Apr. 22.—The North people live. Ps. 95: 7, 8; 100: 3
T., Apr. 23.—God King of the earth. Ps. 103: 18-22
F., Apr. 24.—Sun of the sunless. Ps. 84: 11, 12
S., Apr. 25.—Salvation for all. Rom. 10: 11-15
S., Apr. 26.—Topic.—An evening with Arctic missions. Job 38: 22, 23, 29, 30.

Stars Shining in Darkness.

When darkness shuts in, lights are the more vivid and the more valued. This is true in the moral world as in the world of nature. While the sun shines we have little need of minor lights. In the gloom of night we appreciate, and are grateful for, the stars that guide our course. In the glare of prosperity we think little of the aid of personal friends, but when adversity presses on every side we realize that "a friend in need is a friend indeed."

"Night brings out stars, as sorrow shows us truths."—S. S. Times.