

The Lord shall be to thee an everlasting light.—Isa. lx. 19.

Lights of the World.



A FRIEND told me that he was visiting a lighthouse lately, and said to the keeper, 'Are you not afraid to live here? it is a dreadful place to be

constantly in?' 'No,' replied the man, 'I am not afraid. We never think of ourselves here.' 'Never think of yourselves. How is that?' The reply was a good one, 'We know that we are perfectly safe, and only think of having our lamps burning brightly, and keeping the re-

flectors clear, so that those in danger may be saved.' That is what Christians ought to do. They are safe in a house built upon a rock, which cannot be moved by the wildest storm, and in a spirit of holy unselfishness they should let their light gleam across the dark waves of sin, that they who are imperilled may be guided into the harbour of eternal safety."

W. H. H.

The Sinner's Liberty, and the Christian's Liberty Contrasted.

LIBERTY to sin; liberty to love sin; liberty to offend God; nay, liberty to hate God. This is the liberty the sinner claims, and Satan and Satan's messengers pretend to give him. And what is it? Just liberty to ruin one's self. Just liberty to condemn the soul, and cast it into hell for ever. Tremendous thought! Can this be called Liberty? No; it is licentiousness—the lowest, meanest, vilest portion which man can be doomed to suffer.

Contrast with this the Christian's liberty. Liberty to come near to God through a Mediator; liberty to trust in Jesus, and to believe and rest in the hope of Salvation through Him; liberty to apply personally, and to plead, all the promises of the Bible; liberty to appropriate to one's self all the matchless consolations of the Gospel; the liberty of prayer,—of coming at all times to God's footstool,—of seeking pardon, peace, and grace,—of making known every desire, not only in one's own behalf, but in behalf of others; liberty to pour out on every occasion, into the ear of the most compassionate Friend, every sorrow and

care; and not only so, but liberty to hope and rest assured of an answer to all these prayers from One who is omnipotent, and therefore able to grant every desire of the heart—nay, not only able, but absolutely more willing to give us the blessings which we need than we are to receive them. This is liberty indeed—the noblest, grandest, sublimest possession which man can enjoy—the gift of the Spirit of God (2 Co. iii. 17), and truly bearing the stamp of the Spirit.—*From Memoir of Robert Paul, Esq.*

"Never put off until To-morrow what You can do To-day."

SO runs the saying, but the modern version of it seems to be, "Never do to-day what you can put off until to-morrow."

We wish Christian people would take this to heart, and work more on the principle of "striking while the iron's hot." Our service for Christ admits of no delay. Like the leprous men at the gate of Samaria, we ought to say, "We do not well: this day is a day of good tidings, and we hold our peace: if we tarry till the morning light, some mischief will come upon us: now therefore come, that we may go and tell the king's household." It is all very well to talk about men going to hell, but how many of us act as if we really believed it?

Methinks if we really believed what we often speak about, we should act very differently. Many of God's people find abundant opportunity to diligently study the newspapers, but "they hav'n't time" to go and help bring in the wanderers to the fold of grace. Some of them are "really too tired" to go and help in the mission service, yet they are not too tired to while away time at home over some trifle or other.

Surely some of the Lord's servants have gone into a deep slumber! Brethren and sisters, this is not the way to win souls for Christ. You must deny yourselves these trifling things, and set about the work in a workmanlike manner.

God won't reward idle people; you must *work* if you want the "Wall done." And "work while it is called to-day." F. G. S.

Preciousness of the Bible.

IHAVE had a lonely life,' said David Saunders, the shepherd of Salisbury Plain, 'and often have had but little to eat, but *my Bible has been meat and drink to me*; and when want and trouble have come upon me, I do not know what I should have done if I had not had the promises of the Bible to support me.'