

the happiest family it can teach that there is a greater depth of love than without it could be reached.

It may be thought that no intellectual advantages can with truth be attributed to a short and severe disorder; but such a conclusion is not supported by experience. In incipient delirium "what bright ideas rise!"

Lulled in the countless chambers of the brain,
Our thoughts are linked by many a hidden chain.
Awake but one, and lo! what myriads rise,
Each stamps its image as the other flies.

The testimony of metaphysicians, statesmen, poets, philosophers, is that some of their grandest conceptions have thus sprung into being. In the approach to recovery—the days when caution alone prevents return to work; the blood pure, though not abundant; the system unclogged with food; gratitude and hopefulness filling the soul—the mind is often unusually clear, and the absence of outside distraction allows the formation of plans alike simple, beautiful and practicable. Especially can we ascertain what errors in living have led to this sudden exhibition of weakness and disease.

These blessings, which are not imaginary, would be greatly lessened, if not destroyed, by the frequent repetition of such attacks. Life would then be broken up. Capacities for enjoyment and the ability for usefulness would be enfeebled, a dark cloud would hang over the prospects. Various evils would lie at the door. "The confirmed invalid is in danger of becoming absorbed in self, and of taking all kinds of care and sacrifice as a matter of course." Only great piety rises higher than enforced resignation.

Sickness away from home is embarrassing, but it often reveals the brightest side of human nature in the sympathy of strangers, and cements in a few days a friendship which, without it, would have required the growth of years. Also, though the kindness of strangers touches the heart, it cannot prevent the salutary thought from arising, "Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home." These reflections, born of a very recent experience, we send forth to thousands who have been or may now be similarly prostrate, with the hope that they may comfort them "with the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted."—*N.Y. Christian Advocate.*

"HOW MUCH OVEST THOU?"

There is no escape from personal responsibility in the Church of Christ. If we are in it, we are bound to do all that we can for the accomplishment of the objects for which it was established. The question for us is not, What wilt Thou, Lord, have the pastor, or the elders, or the deacons, or this or that private member of the church to do? but, What wilt thou have *me* to do, who am a professor of faith, upon whom Thou lookest down continually from Thy throne, taking account of my vows, opportunities and resources; who have given myself away to Thee a living sacrifice, and whose hope it is to know the power of an endless life in Thy presence, through Thy boundless grace? Thus we ought to feel. Just as in an army, each soldier ought to feel that the honour of his country is as much entrusted to him as if he was the only combatant in the field of battle, so each member of a Christian congregation ought to feel that the spread of the Gospel, the maintenance of the truth, the Christian education of the young, are just as much committed to *him* as if he were the only worshipper in that audience, and the only advocate and professor of the Gospel in the world.

And it is only by each individual thus, as it were, isolating himself in thought, and realizing his own individual responsibility before God, that great and magnificent results can be expected to be attained. Those tremendous excavations, which we see on our railways, have been all done by the exertions of individuals, and if each labourer had failed to do his part, the whole would have been a failure. Those steamers which plough the oceans are all the result of each individual taking his place and doing his part. Lord Nelson saw the importance in naval tactics of what we now affirm, when he said, "England expects," not the *whole fleet*, to do its duty, that would have failed; but "England expects *every man* to do his duty." So did John Wesley, when he said that the true way for Methodism to flourish, was to have *each* Methodist employed at something, and *always* employed. He knew that it was by making the individual feel that he had responsibility—that he had something to do—

that he should make the whole overcome and be more than conquerors.

It is high time for Christians to shake off their slothfulness, and address themselves with earnestness to the discharge of duty. The age, the country, the world's salvation, demand this. To whom can the Master look rather than to us? Who owes Him more than we? We are His by every right, and because we owe Him everything, we cannot fail of offering Him, through His Church, whatever His providence indicates to be our duty.—*Presbyterian Journal.*

SUNRISE.

"Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race."—Is. xli. 5.
"Unto you that fear My name shall the Sun of Righteousness arise with healing in His wings."—Mal. iv. 2.

Lo! in the kindling east the sun ascendeth,
Tinging the rising mists with streaming splendours,
Empurpled clouds around him float in glory;
A king he cometh!

The king of day! all nature pays him homage;
The mountains lift their heads to catch his glances,
The eager valley waits his smiles descending
To chase their shadows.

The forests clap their hands in rapturous greeting,
The fields put on their gay attire of gladness,
The gardens open all their blooming treasures,
Breathing sweet incense.

Now up the orient see the monarch climbing;
The wide earth glistens in his full effulgence,
And ocean, as her waves were molten silver,
Mirrors his image.

So hast Thou, Sun of Righteousness, arisen;
Prophetic day-dawn Thine approach foreshewing
Till, in the fulness of the time appointed,
Mortals beheld Thee.

Lo! now before Thee the deep shades are fleeing,
That through long ages the wide world enshrouded:
To life and hope and joy, at Thine ascending,
All earth is waking.

Ye nations, hail the longed for day advancing:
Behold e'en the deserts bud and blossom!
And all earth's tribes shall walk in noontide glory,
Exultant singing:

O God, whose hand hath set the sun in heaven,
With the heart's incense, while we greet his rising,
Thee would we worship, lift to Thee our praise,
Father Almighty!

—Ray Palmer, D.D.

A WISE FATHER AND A SENSIBLE DAUGHTER.

Judge A. was a leading lawyer and a prominent Christian in the city of B., a man of property and influence, honoured and respected by all who knew him. One of his children was a daughter, highly educated and accomplished, and a favourite in her social circle. She had every comfort in the home of her parents, and their property was such as to give her the prospect of ample means if they should at any time be taken away.

But the father was wise and the daughter was sensible. So one day he said to her:

"You have every prospect, my daughter, of comfortable provision for the future, and that, in case of my death, you would be independent as to property, and without care or anxiety as to the means of living. But the changes of life are beyond our control, and reverses often come when we least expect them. And I think if you were to learn some trade or business, so that if you were left poor you could earn a living for yourself, and, if need be, help others, it would be the wisest and best thing you could do."

And he reminded her of the old Jewish maxim, that "he that brought his son up without a trade brought him up to be a thief," and that our Saviour Himself probably worked at the trade of a carpenter till He entered on the work of His public ministry; telling her still further that though she might never be dependent on her own exertions, it was well to be prepared to support herself if it ever should be found necessary.

The daughter at once understood and fully apprehended the sensible views of her father, and fixed on dressmaking as that to which she would give her attention; and arrangements were made with a leading dressmaker of the city that from her she should thoroughly learn the business, just as any young apprentice might do. She did so; and while many in the leading society in which she moved wondered

that the daughter of Judge A. should ever think of such a thing as learning to be a dressmaker, she quietly went on with her work till she understood thoroughly all its details, and found a pleasure in making her own dresses, as well as in aiding her mother in many ways for which she was before unqualified.

And now mark the result. Within a year or two after the time alluded to she met and soon became engaged to marry a gentleman well known to the world as one of the most scholarly and devoted missionaries that ever went forth from this country. And, as the accomplished and educated wife of such a man, she was not only greatly useful as an instructor in the female seminary connected with the mission, but in teaching the girls as to their own dresses, and giving most valuable suggestions and help to the mothers and families of the vicinity. She led them on to the views of domestic economy and comfort and civilization to which they might long have been strangers but for her personal and practical knowledge of dress-making. And she often remarked that she never could be thankful enough that her father had been so thoughtful and wise as to suggest the course she had taken.

A somewhat similar case is that of an only son of wealthy parents who graduated at college with high honour and then entered a machine shop, and began at the very lowest point and diligently and faithfully worked his way up through all the steps of locomotive building till he made himself thoroughly familiar with the rolling stock of railroads and the connected engineering. His college associates and friends went, for the most part, to some one of the professions; but he went steadily on with his mechanic employment, coming home at night to take off his greasy and soiled clothing and appear as the gentleman in the parlour, and in the morning rising for breakfast long before the family and going off to his work for the day. And the consequence is that, having thoroughly mastered the details of his work, he was at once called to an important and lucrative position on one of the large railroads of the land, with the fair prospect of rising to its highest office of honour and trust.

Are not these facts full of instruction? Are there not many young ladies of wealthy families who would be wise if they would in some way, by the knowledge of some business, prepare to be able to support themselves if, in the changes of life, they should be left dependent? And, instead of crowding the professions, as such multitudes of our young men are doing, where for years they can, for the most part, expect but a limited and precarious income, would they not be far wiser to engage in those mechanical employments which are so conducive to the progress of society, and almost always amply remunerative to those who intelligently follow them?—*Ill. Christian Weekly.*

CHEERFULNESS.

Try for one day, I beseech you, to preserve yourself in an easy and cheerful frame of mind. Be but for one day, instead of a fire-worshipper of passions, the sun worshipper of clear self-possession, and compare the day in which you have rooted out the weed of dissatisfaction with that on which you have allowed it to grow up; and you will find your heart open to every good motive, your life strengthened, and your breast armed with a panoply against every trick of fate; truly you will wonder at your own improvement.—*Richter.*

SOME persons, instead of "putting off the old man," dress him up in a new shape.—*St. Bernard.*

I HAVE read in Plato and Cicero sayings that are very wise and very beautiful; but I never read in either of them, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden."—*Augustine.*

THE Irishman had a correct appreciation of the fitness of things who, being asked by the judge when he applied for a license to sell whiskey if he was of good moral character, replied: "Faith, yer honour, I don't see the necessity of a good moral character to sell whiskey!"

A WORD for Jesus may be spoken without a mention of His name. When we counsel gentleness, kindness, candour, honesty, forgiveness, brotherliness, devotion; in short, when we inculcate any of the virtues taught by the Gospel, we are speaking in behalf of the Saviour and exalting His name.