

all dangerous principles, bad maxims and scandalous actions ! May His grace confirm the just and touch the hearts of sinners ! May He be the mainstay of old age tottering to the tomb ; the shield of passionate youth, and the blessing of infancy ! May He be « Eternal Light » to loved ones who have preceded us through Death's dark passage : *lux perpetua luceat eis !* May God be with your beloved dead !

*May God be with you !* Oh ! may He be with you in that solemn hour which shall be your last in life, and after which you shall begin the unending hour of eternity ! Helas it may ring for me, it will certainly ring for some of you during the New Year ! Well, may God be with you in that terrible hour, may He guide you safely, sweetly, through life's last combat to the triumphs and joys of eternity. May God be with you !



o The secret of bearing up in times of sadness, weariness and perplexity, lies in the possession of a firm faith not only that God's plan of life for us is better than any we could make for ourselves, but also that in every seemingly unfortunate and unhappy circumstance, the details were purposely willed by God for the furtherance of some great good to us. It is hard to keep this faith when we are brought face to face with certain experiences. We are all alike in our thoughts and feelings when some unfortunate circumstance happens. But, after a while, we begin to realize that, if we have any faith at all in the godness and wisdom of God, we must, in our very ignorance and helplessness, lie down at His feet, as it were, and simply exercise our patience until He sees fit to enlighten or console us. Apart from religious motives, mere worldly wisdom would dictate this as the wisest course. In this world we do not condemn ordinary friends until we know the motives which actuated them in the doing of whatever seemed unaccountable and unfriendly. In like manner should we deal with God. We know so little, and see such a little ways ahead, that we ought to have the decency to wait until the next life before we question the wisdom of our Lord. And until that time comes we must take comfort in the thought so beautifully expressed by the poet :

« God's plans like lilies fair and sweet unfold ;

Time will reveal their calyxes of gold ! »