

Dr. Wright might have been heard on the last Sunday of the year, sounding, like a veteran general at the head of his regiment, the battle cry of "Forward!" "Forward in Christian work,—in the home; in the congregation; in the world around us." Then each of these departments gave him occasion to treat of the subject in his characteristic way: "In the home," he added—

That spot on earth supremely blest,
A dearer, sweeter spot than all the rest!

"God has created no grander picture in His world than that of the ideal Christian wife and mother, who rules in her home, and gives to the place of her abode her own quiet, soothing spirit. What she is in the depths of her being will soon appear,—in time at least it will appear in the place where she dwells, and in the faces of those children who look up to her."

Nor was the doctor timid about referring to the other type—"the gad-about mother, the atmosphere of whose home was one of restlessness, etc." In dealing with the subject of Mother-love, the Dr. found occasion to introduce a beautiful and telling parable, the source of which he acknowledged. It will bear repetition here: it was to this effect:—A heavenly visitant sought to take the sweetest treasure on earth up to the abode of the blessed as a memento, and first selected some beautiful flowers; next from among beautiful things he selected the smile of a little child, and in the third place he was attracted by Mother-love. When he reached heaven's gate he found the flowers had faded, and the baby's smile had also died away; but the Mother-love was as sweet and fresh and fragrant as ever. And so the angel called his comrades and said: "Here is the one thing that can retain its fragrance from earth to heaven." "O, Mothers, Queens of the hearth, go forward with your sweet sway over your earthly children, and there is no queen on an earthly throne who will have a richer reward than you will ever have!"

Too often and too readily do men ignore and belittle men and things for little reason other than that they are near and known, and no exception is made of preachers; but such language as that quoted may well remind those of his hearers who have ears and minds attuned, of Ruskin's lecture on "Queens' Gardens," and the closing appeal therein.

Again, on a recent Sunday, the following words from the lips