

upon us by the graves of our loved ones, lying with their feet towards the dawn in anticipation of that Great Day when all the quick and dead shall stand upon the earth, looking towards Him who shall then be seen coming as the Sun, attended by all His holy angels, to judge every man according as his work shall be. And when we enter God's earthly temple with this thought impressed upon our minds, surely we who know ourselves to be of the earth, earthly, will banish from our minds, by God's help, all earthly things, and keep silence before Him from their clamour. And after our prayers and praises, when every one of us preaches His gospel by reciting our Creed with a loud voice, we shall be reminded, as we look towards His altar in the east, of the deep necessity of being ready to meet Him who shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

Satan, who well knows the nature of man and the benefit which he may derive from God's teaching, through the eye, the ear, and every avenue to man's soul, is ever ready to prevent, if possible, man's taking full advantage of God's means of grace, by suggesting that all such things are but superstition, and quite beneath the dignity of reasonable beings, and a "heartfelt worship." Satan is never so dangerous as when he takes the form of a bright angel scorning the earthly accessories of human worship. And man is never in greater spiritual danger than when, seeking an easy and cheap kind of religion, he can be persuaded that "one religion is as good as another,"—and therefore the more difficult kind of religion, including the worship with the body as well as the soul, the religion requiring suspicion

of self, and consequent self-denial, is to be avoided,—thus elevating the spiritually proud and censorious into a very satisfying self-righteousness which costs nothing. Our fault-finders are generally conspicuous by their neglect of the means of grace.

WHY NOT BE CHEERFUL?

Why not be cheerful? and help others to be so too. Our lot may be hard, but who is he who has not something hard to bear?

Of course there are a great many who, at first sight, seem to have so much more to be cheerful over than their neighbors. I have frequently heard people say, "Now, if I was only so and so, I would be as happy as the day is long; no wonder he wears a smile; he has everything his heart could wish." And I have learned that that same man, tho' rich and titled, carried about a heavy weight of sorrow, hidden bravely, with God's help, under a smiling face. He had learned the grand lesson of life, and did not try to shadow every fellow creature he met with his own little cloud of sorrow, tho' to him it was large enough to shut out the sunshine from his own heart.

I have often met a wayworn brother or sister on the dusty highway of life, to whom a cheering word or a sunny smile was like the dew from heaven to the thirsty flowers.

Then why are we so miserly with our cheerful words, our friendly hand clasps; they do not cost us anything—at least nothing but an effort. We sign our names to lists for charitable purposes; give of our worldly goods; but so many of us go abroad with our faces drawn into a frown! If we meet anyone we