

bet from the south-west, meanwhile translating the Bible into the Thibetan language. For a little while past China Inland missionaries have been seeking an entrance on the north-east, having lately established themselves at a small Thibetan village on the very border.

It is now reported that some missionaries have actually worked their way into this idolatrous country, and are quietly labouring there amidst great dangers.

F. H. D.

A PRAYER FOR UNITY.

SPIRIT of truth and grace,

Come from above ;

Rest on us tenderly,

Peace-speaking Dove ;

Cherish our holy life,

Banish our carnal strife,

Fill us with love

Show us Christ's lowly heart,

Humble our pride,

Bring us in penitence

Close to His side ;

Bring us around His cross,

Counting our gain but loss,

There to abide,

Show his transfigured face,

Bright as the sun,

Show His transforming grace,

In us begun.

Make us His likeness bear,

Answer His holy prayer,

Let us be one.

Show us the ransomed throng,

Sealed as His own,

Out of all tribes and tongues

Circling His throne ;

Help us with them to sing,

Jesus, our glorious King,

Jesus alone.

Hail, blessed Saviour ! now

Whilst here we meet,

Loving and loved, in Thee

Union is sweet ;

Brighter our love shall glow,

Sweeter our song shall flow,

Here at thy feet.

Rev. H. J. Van Dyke, in *The Church Union*.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

MARCH 17TH.

"THE strength of God pilot me ; the power of God preserve me : the wisdom of God instruct me ; the eye of God watch over me ; the ear of God hear me ; the word of God give me sweet talk ; the hand of God defend me ; the way of God guide me. Christ be with me ; Christ before me ; Christ after me ; Christ in me ; Christ under me ; Christ over me ; Christ on my right hand ; Christ on my left hand ; Christ on this side ; Christ on that side ; Christ at my back ; Christ in the heart of

every person to whom I speak ; Christ in the mouth of every person who speaks to me ; Christ in the eye of every person who looks upon me ; Christ in the ear of every person who hears me. To-day, I invoke the mighty power of the Trinity. Salvation is the Lord's—salvation is the Lord's. Salvation is Christ's. May Thy salvation, O Lord, be always with us !" —*St. Patrick*.

DIGNITY.

DIGNITY is a matter of character, rather than of appearance. It cannot be assumed. Yet many a person thinks that dignity can be put on on an occasion, even though it is not shown in one's uniform conduct and bearing. "Dignity" is, in its root meaning, "worth," or "worthiness." He who has dignity has a consciousness of real worth, a prevailing sense of what is worthy in himself, and of what is worthy of him in his relation to others. Dignity is not haughty ; it is modest and unassuming. Dignity shows itself in lowly service rather than in proud self-assertion. Dignity is always quiet, always self-composed, always gentle, and therefore always admirable. Wordsworth says :

"True dignity abides with her alone
Who, in the silent hour of inward thought,
Can still respect, can still revere herself,
In lowliness of heart."

There is a charm in true dignity,—a charm that shows itself most clearly in one who has no thought of claiming dignity or of appearing dignified.—*Sunday School Times*.

RELIGIOUS TRAINING.

MORE and more there is growing up a disposition among parents to permit all matters of religious observance to be with their offspring mere matters of choice or preference. Your child must learn French and German and drawing ; but he shall learn his Catechism and his Bible lesson and a reverent observance of this holy day if he chooses, and not otherwise. A more dismal and irrational folly it is not easy to conceive of. I do not say that there may not have been folly in another and in an opposite direction. I am not unmindful that religious teaching has been sometimes made a dreary and intolerable burden. But surely we can correct one excess (not, I apprehend, very frequent or very harmful) without straightway flying to

an opposite and worse one. And so I plead with you who are parents to train your children to ways of reverent familiarity with God's word, God's house, and God's day. Let them understand that something higher than your taste or preference makes these things sacred and binding, and constrains you to imbue them with your spirit. And that they may do this the more effectually, give them, I entreat you, that mightiest teaching which consists in your own consistent and devout example.—*Bishop H. C. Potter, in Parish Visitor*.

FAITHFULNESS.

It is not success that God most requires, but faithfulness. Have you remembered this when you murmured because you could not do as much as some one else ? It is not the weight of the load you draw, nor the distance you pull it, but keeping the traces tight all the time that marks the true soul ; no jerks or spurts, but a steady gait—that is the ideal way of moving. Exactly the same quantity of soul in both tradesmen called out precisely the same compliment from the capitalist in the parable of the talents, though the tasks and trusts differed in size. God judges by ratios. It was a spiritual use of the old "rule of three," the arithmetical doctrine of proportions. The percentage was the same, because there was equal faithfulness with unequal ability. Does not this cheer the most humble ? What our Father values is the utmost use of ability and opportunity. He confers the one and provides the other ; it is ours to use both. A glow-worm's flash is as much of a glory to it as the thousand lights are to the great dynamo that makes them. Star differs from star, but each shines as much as it can. Faithfulness, then, is what I am, plus where I am, used as best I can. "I am holding all the waters I can," says the ocean. "So am I," says the cloud. "I too," echoes the overflowing spring. "And I," confidingly whispers the violet, into whose throat the cloud just let fall a drop. And so they all are, and no one blames them for not doing more. He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much. Young Christian, while the way is fresh, settle it in your heart that you will be faithful through life just where you are, and God's promotion will soon follow. Every true life is travelled in spiral