

them sufficiently to stay with them at home and hide their weaknesses rather than depose them by going to the legislature. The husband may be grandly successful in other vocations. Let him struggle to know that for which he is best suited and the wife assist him, and devote her energies in raising sons who may adorn positions their father could not fill.

There are spheres for action when much more good can be accomplished by woman than travelling far from their homes. There is the cause of temperance, the Sunday schools, Home and Foreign Missions—to be assisted about the home in ways to which they can give their spare moments and at the same time be afforded a healthful recreation. Then will the home be protected by a mother's love and watch-care and the family become the great centre from which will radiate a power for good.

One of the crying evils of our day is that the home-circle is being broken up and is attracting the attention of all thoughtful and observing men. Now who can protect this sacred spot like mother? She is the queen upon the throne, but if the throne be vacated the results must be disastrous.

Women, send your husbands out to do the lecturing, preaching and legislating, and you yourselves be engaged in work agreeable to your modesty, at the same time rear truly noble sons and daughters who will rise, and, finding you at home, call you blessed and attribute their greatness to a mother's fostering care. There are many mothers who have been so blessed by such sons. "A good mother," said George Herbert, the English poet, "is worth a hundred schoolmasters."

This is true in every instance and would to God all homes were blessed with such mothers.

Yours truly,

R. W. STEVENSON.

Mankato, Minn., Jan. 18th, 1887.

RIGHTEOUSNESS.

M. B. RYAN.

"Let me die the death of the righteous and let my last end be like his." Num. xxiii. 10.

These are the words of Balaam when contemplating God's ancient people Israel. He had been sent for by Balak to curse the Israelites, but instead thereof he had blessed them.

I think these words voice the honest sentiments of every heart. The righteous man may be the subject of ridicule when living, but when he comes to death's door, he has a victory that even his enemies must envy him. I have seen the righteous die, and I have heard of the death of the wicked, and my choice is expressed in the words of the text. The Scriptures confirm this choice. The righteous man has hope in death, Prov. xiv. 32. There is a reward for the righteous, Ps. lvi. 11. They shall shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their father, Matt. xiii. 43. They shall go into eternal life, Matt. xxv. 46.

Those being facts, it is well for us to investigate the matter of righteousness. Let us see then:

I. WHAT IT IS NOT. It is not infallibility. That a man is a righteous man does not imply that he cannot sin. Men never reach that point of perfection in this life when they are beyond the possibility of sinning. Even Paul was under the necessity of watching himself, lest after all his preaching he should be a castaway. And yet we know that Paul was a righteous man. He had a righteousness which was not his own, or of his own manufacture, but righteousness of God, by faith in Jesus-Christ.

II. WHAT IT IS. It is rightness. To be right and to do right habitually; to have the heart right in the sight of God and the life right in conformity to his law; to sustain right relations to God and our fellow-men;—this is to be righteous.

III. THE SOURCE OF IT. Not ourselves. Paul says of men as men—"there is none righteous, no not one." So that in addition to being unrighteous ourselves, we find all other men in the same sorry plight, and there is "no eye to pity nor arm to save" among all the sons of men. The source of righteousness is Christ. He "is the end of the law unto righteousness to every one that believeth." Rom.

iv. 3. He "was made unto us, wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption." I. Cor. i. 30. You cannot be righteous independent of Christ. While you ignore Him, His sacrifice, His claims, His authority, His mediation, you are all wrong in the sight of God. You may be self-righteous; you may, like the Israelites of Paul's day, seek to establish a righteousness of your own; but while you neglect Christ, you are ignorant of God's righteousness, and free from it.

IV. HOW IT IS OBTAINED. It is not breathed into man, as God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, in the beginning. It does not come down from heaven like the lightning, striking a man here, and another there. It is not caught by one from another, as we catch an infectious disease. But in its acquisition, man is involved in the exercise of his intellect, sensibilities, and will. Man has something to do in obtaining righteousness, or in being made right. With the heart he believes unto righteousness. Rom. xi. 10. So that, if a man is righteous at all, his righteousness, like Paul's, is "that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith." But it don't stop at faith. Faith alone, makes no man righteous, or right. He must present himself as a servant of obedience unto righteousness. Rom. vi. 16. He must obey that form of teaching, &c., before he can be made free from sin and become a servant of righteousness. Rom. vi. 17-18. No man is right before God who does not believe in His Son and obey. Faith in Jesus and obedience to Him makes a man right. Then his righteousness is not his own, but God's, through Christ. Tit. iii. 5-6.

V. HOW IT IS MAINTAINED. The obedient believer becomes a servant of righteousness. Rom. vi. 18. Then his life should be devoted to the practice of righteousness. This was the purpose of Christ when he redeemed him. I. Pet. ii. 24. He should be filled with the fruit of righteousness. Phil. i. 11. He should follow after righteousness. I. Tim. vi. 11, II. Tim. ii. 22. God helps his people in the pursuit of righteousness. He strengthens them by His Spirit in the inward man, thus enabling them to resist temptation and preserve their integrity before Him. Eph. iii. 16-18. When they need correction He chastises them, that being "exercised thereby" they may enjoy the peaceful fruits of righteousness. Heb. xii. 11. If they sin He is willing to forgive their sins, and has appointed them an advocate, Jesus Christ the righteous, who is the propitiation for their sins. I. Jno. ii. 1-2.

The secret of a righteous life, then, is a faithful obedience to Christ and a confident reliance on Him. Brother and friend, if you wish to realize the prayer of Balaam in a righteous and peaceful death, you must make that possible by living a righteous and godly life.

A LETTER FROM BRO. J. B. WALLACE.

DEAR BRETHREN,—As we are always glad to hear from you, we suppose you will be pleased with a few words from us. There is a nearness and a dearth of relationship between the members of our Lord's body which we cannot fully describe. Each member of the Lord's family is deeply interested in the welfare of every other member. The household of faith is the best regulated, the most united, and the happiest family on earth. This family has done, is doing, and will do more to bless the world than any other in existence. God, the great creator of the universe, is the Father; the Lord Jesus, the Christ, is the elder Brother; and all the faithful followers of the Lord Jesus are members of this family. Every member of this glorious family is an heir to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that fades not away. Oh! what an honor to be a son or daughter of the Lord Almighty, to be a member in the royal family of the King of kings.

Dear brethren, let us endeavor by the favor of God to walk worthy of so high a calling; worthy of our Lord who redeemed us with His own precious blood; worthy of the work of redeeming love. The Lord Jesus is the master workman, and all the

children of God are co-workers together with Him in rescuing the perishing. Oh! let us not neglect the great salvation. God our Father has not neglected it; Christ has not neglected it; the Holy Spirit has not neglected it; the apostles and prophets have not neglected it. And surely we, the recipients of so great a blessing should not neglect it.

May our Lord at His glorious appearing find us all at work, with our lamps burning bright, and ready to go in to the marriage supper of the Lamb.

Marriages.

MORTON-FORD.—At Milton on Wednesday, by Elder Howard Murray, assisted by Rev. H. Goddard, at the Christain Church, Mr. Rufus Morton, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Miss Belle Ford, daughter of L. S. Ford, Esq.

FORD-MURRAY.—Also at the same time, Mr. Harley Ford and Miss Jennie Murray, daughter of Elder Howard Murray.

Died.

CROSS.—Suddenly at Black's harbor, Charlotte Co., N. B., Dec. 27, 1886, Bro. George Cross in the 64th year of his age, leaving a large family of children to mourn the loss of a kind father. Bro. Cross was a deacon of the church worshipping, at the place and much esteemed as a faithful Christian brother, and as the church is small their loss will be deeply felt. The writer met on the 30th in their very neat and commodious little meeting house with a large and deeply sympathizing audience who met to pay the last tribute of respect to a brother, a friend, and a neighbor: and as we looked upon the face of the sorrowing ones we were reminded of the words of Paul—I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that you sorrow not even as others which have no hope, for if we believe that Jesus died and rose again even those also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. Oh, how many precious promises we find to them that are in Christ Jesus. The apostle says if any man be in Christ he is a new creature, old things are past away, behold all things are become new. And again if you are Christ's then are you Abraham's seed, heirs according to the promise. When the shout and the voice of the archangel and the trumpet of God shall be heard, then the dead in Christ will rise first. John says, I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, write blessed are the dead which die in the Lord. Though millions have explored, none but the Son of righteousness has illumined the dark valley and shadow of death. Though millions have been bound by the narrow limits of the grave until Christ came none had burst the bars of death, though thousands had dreamed of future glory. None but Emmanuel has brought life and immortality to light. This corruptible must put on incorruption and this mortal must put on immortality then shall come to pay the saying that is written, O death where is thy sting; O grave, where is thy victory.

A. W. RIDEOUT.

HARVEY.—At Newport, N. S., January 11, 1887, Bro. John Arch. Harvey, aged 75 years and 10 months. Bro. Harvey was for many years an active and devoted member of the Church of Christ at Newport. But in later years his reason was sadly impaired at times. He was stricken down with paralysis about nine or ten months ago, since when he has been entirely speechless, and failing gradually, a part of the time almost helpless. Our departed brother had been down in the dark valley of the shadow of death before, but now he has gone down into the cold dark valley of death. How sad to his friends, especially to his wife and granddaughter who waited upon him, that he could not speak a word to tell them of his aches, or pains, his hopes or fears.

Whatever he intended
Must ever remain unspoken.
His mortal life has ended
"The golden bowl is broken."

Hope looks beyond this sadness,
To Christ our Lord's appearing,
When Christians meet in gladness
All speaking, seeing, hearing.

From every earthly fetter
Immortal life relieving;
To be with Christ is better,
A crown-of-life receiving.

J. B. WALLACE.

PROSPEROUS.—The business of the Ontario Mutual Life Co., for 1886 shows an increase of 50 per cent. over that for 1885. This company's record for reliability and promptness will doubtless make their eighteenth year a still greater success. Mr. E. M. Sipprell manages their business for N. B. and P. E. Island.