

His word is to be lived upon, and as we take this precious book and live by it, and live in it, we shall find it is food that enables us to meet that enemy. As we grow stronger by feeding on that Word the enemy himself has no power over us, the world can have no charm for us, and thus we go on in all the strength which our blessed God gives us.—S. RIDOUT, in Treasury of Truth.

THE GRASS OF THE FIELD.

Everywhere the lowly grass offers its kindly ministrations to clothe everything with beauty, to make us happy. This is the form of vegetation which our Lord bids us consider, that we may learn the graces of a lowly and trustful life. The happiest are those who are willing to take the lowliest place. Self-conceit makes the misery of multitudes who might be cheerful and contented all the day long if they would learn to think less of themselves and more of making others happy.

In our ignorance and pride we are constantly forgetting that lowly things are mighty. God has given the grass strength to curb the sea and chain the avalanche and set bounds to the desert. It is by gentleness that God makes his children great. The silent sunshine is mightier than the roaring storm. The Divine Conqueror, who has overcome the world, made Himself the servant of every man's need.

Pride is strong, and it makes men do and suffer a thousand things which they would never attempt without it. But compared with humility pride is weak, and all the enterprises to which it gives rise end in disappointment

and sorrow. Pride exhausts itself in fighting against imaginary foes, and it rejoices over victories that confer no honor and promise no peace.—Pride pulls down where it cannot build, spoils others without enriching itself, makes great sacrifices and gains nothing by suffering.

The grand truth of Christian faith is to suffer and be strong, to submit and conquer, to be killed all the day long and yet live, to wear the cross and win the crown. Our true greatness begins not when we think more of ourselves, but when we think more of God, more of His service, more of making others happy. Envy nobody, despise nobody. Be willing to take the lowest place, and then strive to make it the highest by filling it well.

When disposed to pine at your lot and to grow weary in well-doing, think of the manger in Bethlehem and who was laid there—think of the cross of Calvary and who was nailed thereon. To be happy be humble. To learn how little reason you have to be proud, look down upon the lowly flower and the perishing grass, and see what beauty, what glory God confers upon things that you tread beneath your feet. Hear His voice who says, "Learn of Me, for I am meek and lowly."—M.

"I will smite the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad." Matt. xxvi. 31. Such is our present position—a smitten Shepherd and a scattered flock. But the day is at hand when "he that scattered shall gather," and there shall be a glorified Shepherd and a gathered flock; not merely one flock, one fold, and one Shepherd, but one flock gathered into one fold around the one Shepherd, the scattering ceased, the wandering at an end, the famine exchanged for the green pastures, the danger forgotten, and the devouring lion received his doom.