

GOD'S WILL. THE BRIGHTEST THING IN OUR LIVES.

God's will is not so much a thing to which we must submit as a thing in which we should glory. It is not a rod beneath which we must bow, but a flag which we may follow. It is the one hopeful, glad and glorious thing in this world. We are too apt to think of the petition, "Thy will be done," as one only to be placed on tombstones and mingled with roods, when it is rather our battle cry of freedom, our cheer for hope and progress. There is no glad, good thing in all the world, in any day of any single life, but that is the will of God being done. The triumphs, the successes, the hopes, the joys—these are the will of God. There is, indeed, a sense in which these are far more the will of God than the burdens, the tears, the failures, in which are mingled much of the fruit of the feeble, frail and faulty will of man. Let this prayer, then, ring in our anthems; let us shout it in our praises, let us cherish it in our hearts as our exceeding confidence and our great joy: "Thy will, O God, be done."—Sunday School Times.

LOST SAYINGS OF JESUS.

We are told in the New Testament that there were many sayings of Jesus that were not recorded therein, and Bible scholars are ever eager to trace them. Among the most interesting traditional sayings of Christ are some to be found on inscriptions in Futtehpur Sikri, North-West Provinces, India, which have just been copied by Dr. W. H. Tribe, late Archdeacon of Lahore. Dr. Tribe gives an English translation of the inscriptions as follows:

"His Imperial Majesty, Jahal-ood din Mohameel Akbar, the mighty Emperor, the shadow of God—conquered the Deccan and Dandesh, which was formerly called Khandeish. In the forty-sixth year of his reign, A. H. 1,000, having reached Futtehpur (Sikri) he resolved to proceed to Agra. May the glory of his name and his life continue as long as Heaven and Earth remain. The blessed Jesus hath said, 'The world is a bridge, pass over it and stay not.' It is written that he who hath been anxious to obtain rest after this life hath sought for everlasting rest. 'The world is fleeting, therefore pass the remainder of thy life in serving God, for his service is invaluable.' 'He who prays to God without sincerity becomes only farther removed from him. The best use of money is to devote it to God's service. Exchange this world for that which is to come, and thy gain will be great.'—Sel."

HALF-WAY CHRISTIAN.

I have read that there has been discovered beneath Jerusalem, an immense cavern or quarry near the Damascus gate. Travellers who have been into this quarry say that there are niches in the live rock out of which the magnificent stones were cut with which Solomon's temple was built.

Some stones that were expected to form part of the building never reached it; there is one huge stone of that sort in the Bezetha cavern now. It is still there for this reason—that, though it is squared and chiselled on the front and two sides, and also on the top and the bottom, yet it has never been cut away at the back and so it cleaves to the rock of which it was a part, and remains in its original darkness.

Now the passage I would like you to think of is that in the fifty-first chapter of Isaiah—"Look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged." There are many who have been cut off from the rock, and lifted up out of the horrible pit; since which early operation of Divine grace they have been coming and coming till they have reached the foundation, and are built up as lively stones in the temple which is established upon Christ.

But there are others of you who need further excavating. God has begun his work upon you, he has used sharp tools, and begun to separate you from the world; it has taken a long time to get you cut away from the rock, even in part. You used to be altogether sinful, and earth bound, and you lived in worldliness, just as the stone formed a part of the rock; God has been using his great chisel upon you, and cut you away, and separated you to a great extent from your fellowmen; but still at the back, in secret your heart cleaves to sin. You have not given up the darling lust of your heart, and therefore you are not quarried yet, and cannot come to Christ, for that is impossible till you are separated from the rock of which you naturally form a part.

O, how I wish that Almighty grace would

take the saw of the Word and make clear cuts right across your stony heart until you are sawn right adrift from the hard rock of sin, that you may afterwards be made to come to Christ to be built upon him as your foundation.—C. H. Spurgeon.

THE MASTER'S HAND ON THE HARP.

A strange instrument hung on an old castle wall, so the legend runs. No one knew its use. Its strings were broken and covered with dust. Those who saw it wondered what it was, and how it had been used. Then, one day, a stranger came to the castle gate and entered the hall. His eye saw the dark object on the wall, and taking it down, he reverently brushed the dust from its sides, and tenderly reset its broken strings. Then chords long silent wove beneath his touch, and all hearts were strangely thrilled as he played. It was the master, long absent, who had returned to his own.

It was but a legend, yet the meaning is plain. In every human soul there hangs a marvelous harp, dust-covered, with strings broken, while yet the Master's hand has not found it. Is your soul-harp hanging silent on the wall? Have you learned the secret of glad, happy days?

Open your heart every morning to Christ. Let him enter and repair the strings which sin has broken, and sweep them with his skillful fingers, and you will go out to sing through all the day. Only when the song of God's love is singing in our hearts are we ready for the day.—J. L. Miller.

AIMLESS READING.

One of the most dangerous habits a young person can form is the short-story habit.

On the other hand, one of the most advantageous things a young man or a young woman can do is to train the mind by persistent effort to take sinewy and comprehensive grasp of great themes. As you lift heavy weights in the gymnasium, accustom your mind to deal with the books which it is the fashion to call "heavy." Put yourself on a short allowance of story papers, but read the reviews and scientific periodicals. Make history and biography your mental staples. Depose brevity from among your gods, and put in his place thoroughness. It is easy to make of your mind a sand-bank, instantly dry after the patter of innumerable raindrops. What you want to make of it is a well.—Christain Endeavor World.

We should study for readiness. A good swordsman must train to parry and thrust, but must train the eye and the hand to quickness of motion and alertness in seizing opportunity. He must know what to do and when to do it. He will have no time to pause and reflect, "I wonder which movement of the sword I should make now in view of the way my opponent holds his at this moment." Such unreadiness would be fatal in a multitude of cases in spiritual encounters with the unsaved. Study to have the truth at your tongue's end. Make up for deficiencies of wit, as all sensible people do, by careful preparation in advance. Bob Burdette says when he is called on for an impromptu speech he wants six hours to get ready in. Apply this principle in using the Bible. The work is important. It is worth your best efforts. Take a certain quibble or objection that has been raised. Write it at the head of a sheet of paper, and search out answers for it in your reference Bible. Then think them over till they are your own and you can present them to your own mind so that they completely satisfy you as answers to the question raised.—Ex.

FAVORED ARBITRATION.

The old gentleman was leading his boy to the woodshed. A strap dangled in the hand of the old man and a tear trickled down the face of the boy.

"This will be more painful to me than to you," said the unhappy father, with quivering lip.

"Then let's settle the matter without striking," suggested the boy. "I'm willing to arbitrate."

Here is the latest tale going the rounds as to Dr. Buckley, the famous Methodist editor, orator and wit. Dr. Buckley was a speaker at the recent alumni luncheon at Wesleyan. He began, as usual, in a low tone; and, almost immediately, an overanxious undergraduate, who was looking on from the gallery, called out: "Louder!" Without changing his pitch, Dr. Buckley retorted: "That young gentleman will be able to hear me distinctly if he will only use the full length of his ears."

THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

HOMESTEAD REGULATIONS.

Any even numbered section of Dominion Lands in Manitoba or the North-west Territories, excepting 8 and 26, which has not been homesteaded, or reserved to provide wood lots for settlers, or for other purposes, may be homesteaded upon by any person who is the sole head of a family, or any male over 18 years of age, to the extent of one-quarter section of 160 acres, more or less.

ENTRY.

Entry may be made personally at the local land office for the District in which the land to be taken is situate, or if the homesteader desires he may, on application to the Minister of the Interior, Ottawa, the Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg, or the Local Agent for the district in which the land is situate, receive authority for some one to make entry for him. A fee of \$10 is charged for a homestead entry.

HOMESTEAD DUTIES.

A settler who has been granted an entry for a homestead is required by the provisions of the Dominion Lands Act and the amendments thereto to perform the conditions connected therewith, under one of the following plans:

(1) At least six months' residence upon and cultivation of the land in each year during the term of three years.

(2) If the father (or mother, if the father is deceased) of any person who is eligible to make a homestead entry under the provisions of this Act, resides upon a farm in the vicinity of the land entered for by such person as a homestead, the requirements of this Act as to residence prior to obtaining patent may be satisfied by such person residing with the father or mother.

(3) If a settler has obtained a patent for his homestead, or a certificate for the issue of such patent countersigned in the manner prescribed by this Act, and has obtained entry for a second homestead, the requirements of this Act as to residence prior to obtaining patent may be satisfied by residence upon the first homestead if the second homestead is in the vicinity of the first homestead.

(4) If the settler has his permanent residence upon farming land owned by him in the vicinity of his homestead, the requirements of this Act as to residence may be satisfied by residence upon said land.

The term "vicinity" used above is meant to indicate the same township or an adjoining or cornering township.

A settler who avails himself of the provisions of Clauses (2), (3) or (4) must cultivate 30 acres of his homestead, or substitute 30 head of stock, with buildings for their accommodation, and have besides 80 acres substantially fenced.

Every homesteader who fails to comply with the requirements of the homestead law is liable to have his entry cancelled, and the land may again be thrown open for entry.

APPLICATION FOR PATENT.

Should be made at the end of the three years, before the Local Agent, Sub-Agent or the Homestead Inspector. Before making application for patent, the settler must give six months' notice in writing to the Commissioner of Dominion Lands at Ottawa of his intention to do so.

INFORMATION.

Newly arrived immigrants will receive at the Immigration Office in Winnipeg, or at any Dominion Lands Office in Manitoba or the North-west Territories information as to the lands that are open for entry, and from the offices in charge, free of expense, advice and assistance in securing lands to suit them. Full information respecting the land, timber, coal and mineral laws, as well as respecting Dominion Lands in the Railway Belt in British Columbia, may be obtained upon application to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Ottawa; the Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg, Manitoba; or to any of the Dominion Lands Agents in Manitoba or the North-west Territories.

JAMES A. SMART,

Deputy Minister of the Interior.

N. B. In addition to Free Grant Lands, for which the Regulations above stated refer, thousands of acres of most desirable lands are available for lease or purchase from Railroad and other corporations and private firms in Western Canada.

The Friend of the Housewife and Cook.

The necessity of eating three or more times a day is a habit that lasts a life time. It ought to be a pleasure unless perchance your world is upside down because of indigestion or poor cooking.

No need of the bread being wrong if you use Ogilvie's Flour, for it's easy to make, raise and bake.

No need of being half-nourished, for Ogilvie's Flour contains only No. 1 Manitoba wheat, the best that grows.

Its bread is easy to digest, 'twill make you strong. It's a friend of the housewife and cook.

To Housekeepers!

Woodills

Do You Use It?