

and go to their Father. Once a good king was found in this way, who sent a man to the fore front of the battle that he might be killed, and so secure the man's wife to himself, but the Lord was kind to him and sent a special message after him warning him of his sin, and so he was persuaded to leave the way and the company for the better way of truth and righteousness.

The company in the other way are a very different class.

They are the poor in spirit, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, and those who hunger and thirst after righteousness—Jesus himself walked all over the way.

But, it is true, we often find very crooked characters in the way, those who should not be in it, whose actions are not in keeping with the rules that govern the way; but these people are very uncomfortable, they often wish for a short trip on the other way to gratify some sinful desire. The people who like a little of both ways are the most unhappy people in the world.

It requires a new heart and new desires to be able to enjoy the company and the blessedness at the end of the road. The master, who is the way, the truth and the life, gives us this preparation. He, in His rules for the journey, has promised His Holy Spirit to those who ask for Him to be a guide over its roughest places.

I cannot now speak of the character of the way, the rules for wayfarers, or the end of it. Meanwhile let all my young readers be careful in the selection of their company. "A companion of fools shall be known," known to men, known to Satan, known to God; a person is always known by the company he keeps. Choose the company of the good, the noble, the just, and the wise. In their company you will shortly come to an innumerable company of angels, to the spirits of just men made perfect, and to the great king God, the judge of all.

## LITTLE STRINGS.

I suppose you have all seen an india-rubber face? And I daresay you have amused yourself in pinching it one way and pulling it another, and seeing what different expressions it will put on. But when you stop pulling or pinching it, it returns to the same face that it was before.

Now, your faces are softer than india-rubber, and they are full of little strings called muscles. The muscles, or strings, are pulled one way, or pulled another, just according to your feelings. For example, you feel happy and glad, and the little muscles pull your face into smiles and dimples, and you look just ready to burst out into a broad laugh.

But when we commit sin, wicked feelings are at work pulling these strings. Anger pulls one set of strings, and then you know what a disagreeable look the face puts on in a moment! Pride pulls another set of these strings, and so does vanity, or envy, or deceit, or discontent; and each of these brings its own peculiar look or expression over the face. And the worst thing about it is, that if these strings are pulled too often