

pity of that childish face. He watched it for an instant, his own features working curiously the while, and then turned his head with an impatient motion which told Alice that she had annoyed him. Her tender little heart was sorry in a moment, and starting forward, she went almost close to the dangerous man, and said earnestly :

"I didn't mean to plague you, poor man—only I'm sorry for you. And Jesus is sorry for you, too."

One of the policemen caught her quickly up and gave her to her father, who had already sprung forward to stop her. No one had heard those whispered words save the man to whom they were spoken. But, thank God ! he had heard them, and their echo with the picture of that tender, grieved child's face, went with him through all that long ride, and passed in beside him in his dreary cell. The keeper wondered greatly when he found that his dreaded prisoner made no trouble, and that, as time passed on, he grew gentle and more kindly every day. But the wonder was explained when, long months after the chaplain asked him how it was that he had turned out such a different man from that what all had expected to see.

"It's a simple story," said the man. "A child was sorry for me, and she said that Jesus was sorry for me, too ; and her pity and His broke my hard heart."

You see how easy a thing it is to work for Jesus. Surely any one of you may show you are "of God," in some such simple way as that in which Alice gave proof that the Master's hand had touched her heart.

THINGS THAT LAST.

Let us look at those things that "will never wear out."

I have often heard a poor blind girl sing, "Kind words will never die!" Ah ! we believe that these are among the things that "will never wear out." And we are told in God's own book to be "kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another."

"The word of the Lord will never wear out. Though the grass shall wither, and the flowers fall away, the word of the Lord endureth forever." (1 Peter i. 24, 25.)

The life of the righteous will never wear out. They will live in the world to come as long as God shall live ; but the death of the wicked will last forever.

The joys of the kingdom of heaven will never wear out. The people of this world soon die, but the enjoyments of that world will never end.

The crown of glory will never wear out. The crown of the winner in the Olympic games soon faded ; the crowns of kings all wear out ; but the crown of glory will never fade away. (1 Peter v. 4.)

The "new song" will never wear out. We hear sometimes that some of our tunes are worn thread-bare, but that will never be said of the new song.

Which will you choose, the lasting, or that which fades away ? The things of time or eternity ? Will you choose wealth, honour, fame or the joys of heaven, eternal life, the crown of glory and the "new song" ?

May God enable us to take a wise choice, and with Joshua may we choose to serve the Lord.

THE DUSTY ROOM.

A young girl was sweeping a room one day when she went to the window-blind, and drew it down.

"It makes the room so dusty," she said, "to have the sunshine always coming in."

The atoms of dust which shone golden in the sunbeams were unseen in the dimmer light. The untaught girl imagined it was the sunlight which made the dust.

Now many persons imagine themselves very good people. One poor old man, who lived all his life without a thought of love to God, said he was willing to die. He didn't owe any man a shilling.

If the Spirit of God should shine brightly into such a heart how would it look ? It would show him sins enough to crush him. This light of the Spirit is like the sunshine in the dusty room. It reveals what was before hidden. When we begin to feel unhappy about our sins, let us never try to put away the feeling. Don't let us put down the curtain, and fancy there is no dust. It is the Holy Spirit's voice in our hearts. He is showing us ourselves, and better still, He will show us the true way to happiness.