

more you become like Him, and His service will be your sole joy.

O, it is good to be soldiers of the Cross, fighting for God and His Anointed against all foes whether in our hearts or in an evil world. Messiah is King and he must reign everywhere. A rod of iron is in his hand that will dash his enemies to pieces. If we fight against him we shall perish when his wrath begins to burn. If we refuse him the throne of our hearts He will vindicate his rightful sovereignty in our destruction.

His Church has need of brave and fearless soldiers who will do battle for Him wherever He may place them. The armies of the Enemy are strong and numerous, and they occupy posts fortified by Satanic agency through many ages. The powers of the world are against Christ and his Church; yet He has gone forth conquering and to conquer; and the grace and power which can convert and sanctify one soul can subdue a world! The present aspect of the battle-field is sad and disheartening; but darker days have passed away: and we have the blissful assurance that ultimate victory is certain however protracted the struggle. Shall we not then make sure of the victory in our own souls?

Christ has placed us in an important position of the field, and our work and warfare are clearly laid out before us. We cannot be disinterested spectators of the great War. As a Church we bear aloft the Gospel banner: and we have cast in our lot with Christ and His people and we rejoice in being called upon to make sacrifices for Him. What does he ask us to do to-day? Have we been vigilant, active, daring, in His service? How much spoil have we won for Him—how many captives led to His footstool? Have we seized on new posts and positions, and pushed forward our lines with sufficient assiduity? Have we kept the destroyer at bay, and lent a deaf ear to the Accuser of the brethren, and cultivated the peace and purity that come from God? The Church at large has a work to perform, a battle to fight,—but she cannot succeed as she ought unless every congregation and every individual be also sound faithful and active. One Slumbering or treacherous

sentinel, one regiment of cowards, one unfaithful officer, may lead to the loss of a battle or the destruction of an army. Reader! Whatever your position or condition, God calls upon you to work for Him, to fight for Him, and never to lay down your weapons till he call you up to join the noble armies of crowned victors who cast their palms at the feet of the Captain of our Salvation.

FORGIVE INJURIES.

In many things we all offend against God and man. Our hearts have harbored evil thoughts: suspicion, envy, hate have lurked there, and sometimes our tongues have uttered words that pierce like swords and wound hearts that are already bleeding. Deeply alive to the fact that we have offended, let us be ever willing to forgive the offences of others. Having spoken unkindly or harshly of another in a thoughtless moment or when the fire of passion burned within me, I reflect on the words with the keenest regret and would most willingly recall them. If this has been my experience, let me judge that others who have spoken unkindly or harshly of me feel as keen a regret, and an deep an anxiety to heal the wound. In this frame of mind I forgive him who has injured me even before he asks forgiveness—before he has had an opportunity of saying, "I repent."

How often do we say to God, "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors!"—and yet the very words may be invoking punishment and wrath upon our heads. It is an overwhelming sense of God's love that leads us to repent most sincerely of our sins against Him: He loves us even before we repent. And so should we continue to love our fellow man though he should be transgressing against us and treating us "uncharitably." Let us act towards man as we would have God to act towards us. Let us be consistent with our prayers. We mock God if, praying to Him for forgiveness, we retain enmity in our hearts.

An unforgiving, hard, revengeful spirit is one of the worst disturbers of the peace of the church. We all transgress, more or