

"What can I give to Jesus?"

The teacher said, with tears;

"Take all my goods and talents,
Take all my future years.

"Let them be spent in service
For Thee, my God, and thine;
And so with these dear children
Thy blessing shall be mine!"

—Sel.

GOOD-BY, OLD YEAR!

The bells ring low in muffled tone,
The chilling wind makes sadder moan,
The flowers are dead, and all must die,—
Good-by, Old Year, good-by!

The laughing streams run coldly now;
Stern Winter reigns with ice-crowned brow;
Fair Summer is dead, and you must die,—
Good-by, Old Year, Good-by!

Once you were young, but now you're old;
Our youth can ne'er be bought with gold;
Your youth is dead; all youth must die,—
Good-by Old Year, good-by!

Your glory came; your glory's gone;
All glory fades time breathes upon;
Grandeur and pride shall surely die,—
Good-by, Old Year, good-by!

You brought us many glittering joys
That cloyed and broke like children's toys;
Our joys you've killed, now you must die,—
Good-by, Old Year, good-by!

You brought us much of galling grief,
But like our joys, its smart was brief,
If joys must go, then grief must die,—
Good-by, Old Year, good-by!

Thou wast a year of hundred years,
Of glorious triumph that endears;
But ah! as others, thou must die,—
Good-by, Old Year, Good-by!

Though husk must die, the kernel lives;
So doth the truth each year e'er give,
Thou brought'st us much that will not die,—
Good-by, Old Year, good-by!

THE NOBLER CONQUEST.

Young Alexander of Macedon lay asleep and dreaming, in his palace on the western shore of the *Ægean*. He was in doubt and perplexity about the future. The invasion and conquest of Persia was on his mind; but his army was small, his means were limited, and the prize seemed beyond his grasp. Suddenly out of the night, from across the Hellespont, "a man of Judæa" appeared to him in a vision of the night, beckoning him to come over and begin his career of conquest.

The dream decided him, according to the legend; and, like Caesar, he went, and saw, and conquered.

Years afterwards, when Tyre had been captured and Palestine had come under his sceptre, the Jewish High Priest, clad in his robes of office, met the conqueror on his way to Jerusalem and persuaded him to spare the city. Alexander at once acceded to his request, declaring at the same time, according to Josephus, that this was the very man who had appeared to him in the vision and encouraged him to enter on the campaign.

About 400 years later, in another dream, a vision of the night, "a man of Macedonia" from across the *Ægean* appeared to Paul (the little), inviting him to come over and conquer the West! The dream decided him, and he went, and saw, and conquered. He began with Alexander's country.

As far to the West, as Alexander had penetrated to the East, the Apostle carried the banner of the cross. He, too, marched from victory to victory. "His weapons were not carnal, but mighty, through God, to the pulling down of strongholds." His mission was salvation, not destruction. After ten years of conflict Alexander turned back from India; after ten years of spiritual warfare St. Paul returned from Spain. Alexander, after conquering the East, died at Babylon a victim to intemperance; he had failed to conquer himself. St. Paul, after conquering the West, died at Rome, winning a nobler conflict.

Let us enlist under Christ's banner, and follow him as Captain of our Salvation, and we, too, shall be "more than conquerors."—Sel.