

ped with the necessary qualifications for fighting the great battle of life. A great many men make failures in after life because they were not properly instructed before leaving their father's home. I do wish we could realize our responsibility here. We have no idea how the home instruction follows a boy or girl through life. We meet with them, and by the way they say, "Good morning," and by their method of expression, we can tell how they have been instructed in the home. You, parents, a great responsibility rests upon you here, for how the world looks upon your children it looks upon you, for your children are for the most part a counterpart of yourselves. On your honor then, set before them the true example of Christian piety.

And then with regard to their reading. Here, also, much is required of us. In these days of cheap literature, and where so much of it is just as questionable as it is cheap, we require, to say the least, good judgment in selecting what shall and what shall not be read. Buy none but the best books, and then cultivate in yourselves and your children a love for reading them. Stories of travels, adventures, historians, lives of great men. Apart from the Bible there is no reading so wholesome for the boys as the lives of statesmen, orators, warriors and historians. This brings the boys and girls into closer companionship with the greatest men that have ever lived, and thus when they grow up and depart from the old home fireside, they are instructed and fitted to meet with and talk with great men such as they have read about in the days of their youth.

Further, a truly pious home will prove itself a preparation for the home that is to come. A truly pious home should be a training place for us, to help us to appreciate and value the home in Heaven; and here again great responsibility rests upon the parents. Parents! it rests with you whether your home is a preparation for Heaven or a preparation for Hell. Then let us awake to a sense of duty. Let us break away from our lethargy, and let us make our homes a very house

of God. Neglect not his appointed Means of Grace, namely: The reading of His Word and faithful continuance in prayer. You, who lay claim to the dignified name of father, you who claim to be the head of the house, gather all the members of the family, children and servants, round you, and read for them daily a portion of God's revealed will, and having done this, let all humbly bow in prayer to God for blessing upon the day's work; and if you continue in this because of your love for Him, and because of the consolation you receive, then you will see your children grow up around you truly pious, and meet for the home that's yet to come; and when all the ties that bind us together in this earthly home are broken, then we will be ready for the reunion in that heavenly Home which He has prepared for those that love Him.

A RESURRECTION HYMN.

EASTER.—"THE LORD IS RISEN."

And then there shall be yet an end,
An end how full to bless!
How dear to those who watch for Thee
With human tenderness.

Then shall the saying come to pass
That makes our hope complete;
And, rising from the conquered grave,
Thy parted ones shall meet.

Yes, they shall meet, and face to face
By heart to heart be known;
Clothed with Thy likeness, Lord of Life,
And perfect in their own.

For this corruptible must rise,
From its corruption free,
And this frail mortal must put on
Thine immortality.

Shine then, Thou Resurrection Light,
Upon our sorrows shine!
The fulness of Thy joy be ours,
As all our griefs were thine.

Now in this changing, dying life,
Our faded hopes restore,
Till in Thy triumph perfected,
We taste of death no more.

—Miss A. L. Wearing in *Hearts-Ease*.

DAILY TASKS.

"Over and over again,
No matter which way I turn,
I always find in the book of life
Some lesson that I must learn;
I must take my turn at the mill,
I must grind out the golden grain,
I must work out my task with a resolute
will
Over and over again."—*Anon.*

RAYER.

The soul of man is like a kindled brand—so long as the air breathes on it, it will retain to the last its genial warmth and crimson glow. But let the air stagnate around it, and, flake on flake, the white ashes will gather over it, and the fire will die away within it, and under those ashes it will be left black and charred, a cold and useless log. What the breath of wind is on the glowing brand, that prayer is to the soul. Let a man or a woman live a prayerless life, and all the light and fire and glow, all the wisdom and generosity and love, will die away, because these are the results of spiritual grace alone, and, covered with the dead, white embers of its own selfishness and pride, the soul will soon become cold and dead.—*Canon Farrar.*

1. In prayer the principal thing is faith. The whole of the new life is by faith, therefore also by prayer. There is all too much prayer that brings nothing, because there is little faith in it. Before I pray, and while I pray, and after I have prayed, I must ask: Do I pray in faith? I must say: I believe with my whole heart.

2. To arrive at this faith we must take time in prayer; time to set ourselves silently and trustfully before the Lord, and to become awake to his presence; time to have our soul sanctified in fellowship with God; time for the Holy Spirit to teach us to hold fast and use trustfully the word of promise. Let us not think to learn how to pray, how to enjoy the power and the blessedness of prayer, if we do not take time with God.

3. And then there must be not only time every day, but perseverance from day to day. Time is required to grow in the certitude that we are acceptable to the Father, and that our prayer has power. We must not suppose that we know well enough how to pray, and can but ask and then it is over. No; prayer is converse and fellowship with God, in which God has time and opportunity to work in us, in which our souls die to their own will and power, and become bound up and united with God.