

child, parental faithfulness and pastoral attentiveness could spread each a wing of protection and guidance; if the consecration in infant baptism could always grow, during later childhood into conscious consecration of the whole life, the coming generation would shine with young men, pure, loyal, brave Galahads and Launcelots, knighted by the laying on of Apostles' hands, inflamed by one sacred purpose,

"All armed I ride whate'er betide,  
Until I find the Holy Grail."

But you recognize from earlier parts of my Charge, that my chief anxiety abides with our duties toward those who have passed out of childhood. Alas for the priest or prophet who lets the hands fall and waits for children, already under God's training, to reach maturity! My brethren, inside the meridian circle which marks the place of most of us, between it and the orbit of youth, are multitudes of souls needing us. Outside of us are not a few, with trembling limbs, closing the short remainder of life's revolution. If we wait, time waits not. Many of these will have gone beyond Church influences and the Pastor's crook, before the children of our congregations are old enough for Confirmation. Let not all industry, patience and energy be spent upon the immature. Devote them to grown men, in the height and decline of life. I confess there is no very bright light of success or even of hope at the trodden wayside, in the stony places, or among the twisted thorns. But in these spots, I see our Lord and His labor. Where greater hardness and oppositions are, you are to strike the

spade more sharply, to maintain efforts with persistence.

I feel almost like pressing the literal word of the king of Syria:—"Fight neither with small nor great, save only with the king of Israel." There is no fear that wives will not be at altars where husbands are vowing devotion and loyalty. Children will commonly follow where godly fathers lead. It is this man, head of the family, king among subjects, commander of soldiers, clad with harness impenetrable except at a single exposed joint, who is to be our mark. Some "bow drawn at a venture," more surely some shaft skilfully pointed, may come out at the heart of his spirit of sloth, vice, indifference, infidelity or pride. Is there any talent or virtue of ours which can be spared in this warfare? Indeed, the Priest must be as Elijah, the loins perpetually girded, running before the worldly with a step equal to that of his prosperity, with sympathy staying at Sarepta till affliction is relieved, chording with all chords, fellow and brother of all.—*Bishop Burgess*, 1880.

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ST. JOHN XXI., 1--7,

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THIS miraculous drought after the resurrection, is to be contested with the miracle at the beginning of our Lord's Ministry (Matt. iv., Mark i., Luke v). There the fishes were hauled into the *boats* on the sea. here they are drawn to the *land*. There, the net was on the point of bursting; here it is not torn at all. There, the fishers were to be called "fishers of men"; here they are invited to sit down and feast.

"The former represents the fish-