

DUTIES OF DAILY LIFE.

Life is not entirely made up of great evils or heavy trials; but the perpetual recurrence of petty evils and small trials is the ordinary and appointed exercise of the Christian graces. To bear with the failings of those about us—with their infirmities, their bad judgment, their ill-breeding, their perverse tempers; to endure neglect when we feel we deserve attention, and ingratitude where we expected thanks; to bear with the company of disagreeable people whom Providence has placed in our way and whom he has provided on purpose for the trial of our virtue, these are the best exercises of patience and self-denial, and the better because not chosen by ourselves.—To bear with vexation in business, with disappointment in our expectations, with interruptions of our retirement, with folly, intrusion, disturbance—in short, with whatever opposes our will or contradicts our humor—this habitual acquiescence appears to be more of the essence of self-denial than any little rigors or afflictions of our own imposing. These constant, inevitable, but inferior evils properly improved, furnish a good moral discipline, and might, in the days of ignorance, have superseded pilgrimage and penance. *Hannah More.*

THE ART OF FORGETTING.

WHAT a blessed thing it is we can forget. To-day's troubles look large, but a week hence they will be forgotten and buried out of sight. Says one writer—

"If you would keep a book, and daily put down the things that worry you, and see what becomes of them, it would be a benefit to you. You allow the thing to annoy you, just as you allow a fly to settle on you and plague you; and lose your temper. But if you would see what it was that threw you off your balance before breakfast, and put it down in a book, and follow it up, and follow it out, and ascertain what becomes of it, you would see what a fool you were in the matter.

"The art of overlooking is quite as important. And if we should take time to write down the origin, progress, and outcome of a few of our troubles, it would make us so ashamed of the fuss we make over them that we would be glad to drop such things, and bury them at once in eternal forgetfulness. Life is too short to be worn out in petty worries, frettings, hatreds and vexations.

CHARACTER AT HOME.

HOME life is the sure test of character. Let the husband grow cross and surly, and the wife grows cold and unamiable. The children grow up saucy and savage as young bears. The father becomes callous, peevish, hard, a kind of two-legged brute with clothes on. The wife bristles in self-defence. They develop an unnatural growth and sharpness of teeth, and the house is haunted by ugliness and domestic brawls. This is not what the family circle should be. If one must be rude to any, let it be some one he does not love,—not to his

wife, brother or parent. Let one of the loved ones be taken away, and memory recalls a thousand sayings of regret. Death quickens recollections painfully. The grave cannot hide the white faces of those who sleep; the coffin and the green ground are cruel magnets. They draw us farther than we would go. They force us to remember. A man never sees so far into human life as when he looks over a wife's or mother's grave. His eyes get wondrous clear then, and he sees, as never before, what it is to love and be loved, what it is to injure the feelings of the loved. It is a pitiable picture of human weakness when those we love best are treated worst.

THE Old Testament intelligently read and interpreted by the New Testament is of great advantage to every Christian, but more especially to every Christian minister. It is an inexhaustible source from which material can be gathered for presenting the gospel in all its phases, and for illustrating the teachings of the New Testament. A converted Jew said, "The New Testament is the Holy Ghost's commentary on the Old Testament."—*Christian Visitor.*

God feeds the wild flowers on the lonely mountain side without the help of man, and they are as fresh and as lovely as those that are daily watched over in our garden.

WHATEVER busies the mind without corrupting it, has at least this use, that it rescues the day from idleness; and he that is never idle will not often be vicious—indeed, if wisely busy, he cannot be so.

TEACH your young child to obey, and you give him the most precious lesson that can be given to a child. Obedience is the grandest thing in the world to begin with.

BAPTISMS.

NICHOLS.—In St. Mary's Church, on 1st January, 1884, Elizabeth Laura, daughter of James and Lucy Nichols.

STERN.—Also in St. Mary's Church, Bayfield, on Jan. 13th, William Oliver Randall, son of James and Lorena Sterns.

At Catalone, in the Mission of Louisbourg, Jan. 5th, Emma Isabel, daughter of Francis and Catherine Dickson; William Wellington, son of Theophilus and Henrietta Dickson; and Albert James, son, and Jessie Ann, daughter of Charles and Isabella Dickson.

DEATHS.

TUTTY.—At Lorraine, C. B., Jan. 6th, James Tutty, aged 62 years.

TOWNSEND.—At Louisbourg, Jan. 9th, in communion with the Catholic Church, Jane, wife of Isaac Townsend, Jr., aged 27 years.

READ.—On Sunday, the 3rd of December, fell asleep in Jesus, Mary Argall, the dearly loved wife of J. Herbert Read, D. D., Archdeacon of Prince Edward Island.

PETERS.—At Albert, Albert County, Jan. 9th, John Forbes Peters, son of the late Hon. Charles Jeffrey Peters, formerly Her Majesty's Attorney General of this Province, aged 57 years.

CREIGHTON.—At Montreal, 6th Jan., Lavina Ruel, relict of Joseph Creighton, barrister, and twin daughter of the late Charles M. Cleary, of Halifax.

MARRIAGES.

ARMSTRONG—EHLER.—At Halfway Cove, Guysboro' Co., Jan. 2nd, 1884, by Rev. W. J. Arnold, Joseph Armstrong to Jennet C. Ehler, both of Halfway Cove.

PROWSE—RANDALL.—In St. Mary's Church, Bayfield, by the Rev. A. C. Macdonald, on the 31st Dec., 1883, George Prowse, of Sidmouth, England, to Annie Smith Randall, of Bayfield.

COOK—NICHOLS.—Also by the same, on the 13th Jan., 1884, James Randall Cook to Maggie Lowden Nichols, of St. James' River, Antigonish.

PREST—JACKSON.—At Mooseland, Jan. 16, by the Rev. E. H. Ball, Rector of Tangier, J. Henry Prest, to Esther Jackson, of Mooseland.

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