

WAYS.

THROUGH night to light.

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THE truth, and not its exponent, will make us free.—Dr. Wilder.

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To every one of us. O God, according as we serve and love each other!—Henry Lazarus.

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EACH morning founds a dynasty of fate; each evening ends the empire of a day.

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THE theosophical movement is based on the affirmation of the perfectibility of humanity.—W. Q. Judge.

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It is better to pray that we may know the truth, than to pray that our belief may be true.

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WE are teaching our young men everything except this: to teach themselves, and to look the Lord Jesus Christ in the face!—Professor Blackie.

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IF things were real then it would naturally follow that we must all see them in precisely the same light, and then difference of opinion would be absolutely impossible.—Coomra Sami.

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In the assembly I desire to speak five words with my understanding, so that I may also instruct others, rather than ten thousand words out of a glossary. I Corinthians xiv, 19.

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There is no evidence from Scripture that any of the Apostles were married except St. Peter. St. Jerome says that if any were married, they certainly separated from their wives, after they were called to the Apostolate. Even St. Peter, after his vacation, did not continue with his wife, as may be inferred from his own words: "Behold, we have left all things, and followed Thee," Matt. xix, 27. Among "all things" must be reckoned the fellowship of his wife; for, he could hardly say with truth that he had left all things, if he did not leave his wife. And our Saviour immediately afterwards enumerates the wife among these cherished objects, the renunciation of which, for His sake, will have its reward. Matt. xix, 29.

—Cardinal Gibbons.

HOW PEOPLE DIE?

Familiarity with death is apt to alter one's earlier conceptions of it. Two ideas are very generally accepted which experience shows to be false. One is that the dying usually fear death; and the other, that the act of dying is accompanied by pain. It is well known to all physicians that when death is near its terrors do not seem to be felt by the patient. Unless the imagination is stimulated by the frightful portrayal of the supposed "pangs of death," or of the sufferings which some believe the soul must endure after dissolution, it is rare indeed that the last days or hours of life are passed in dread. Oliver Wendell Holmes has recorded his protest against the custom of telling a person who does not actually ask to know, that he cannot recover. As that loving observer of mankind asserts, so must everyone who knows whereof he speaks assert that people almost always come to understand that recovery is impossible; it is rarely needful to tell anyone that this is the case. When nature gives the warning, death appears to be as little feared as sleep. Most sick persons are very, very tired; sleep—long quiet sleep—is what they want. I have seen many people die. I have never seen one who seemed to fear death, except when it was, or seemed to be, rather far away. Even those who are constantly haunted, while strong and well, with a dread of the end of life, forget their fear when that end is at hand.

As for the act of dying—the final passage from life to death—it is absolutely without evidence that the oft repeated assertions of its painfulness are made. Most people are unconscious for some hours before they die; and in the rare cases where consciousness is retained until a few minutes before the end, the last sensation must be of perfect calm and rest. It is worse that cruel to add to the natural dread of death which oppresses the majority of us while in good health, the dread of dying. —Dr. J. West Roosevelt in Scribners.

"When now the fuller tide
Slackens a little, turn your calmer eyes
To the fair page of knowledge. It is power
Give, and power is precious. It is strength
To live four-square, careless of outward shows,
And self-sufficing. It is clearer sight
To know the rule of life, the Eternal Scheme,
And, knowing it, to do, and not to err,
And doing, to be blest."

—Athena. LEWIS MORRIS.