

position, or neglect its duties because of these things? No, a thousand times no. Who of us, standing as we do beneath the shelter of Calvary's blood-stained cross, would think for a moment of refusing to bear some burden for him who groaned, and died for us? No, we will not forsake him by neglecting his cause, let the cost be what it may.

Let the Church highly esteem her faithful stewards, as God will, no doubt, abundantly reward them.

May we all so perform our part that our triumphant Lord may say to us, "Well done good and faithful servant" on that great day when we shall have to give an account of our stewardship.

Buckhannon, W. Va.

Patience.

REV. A. W. BALLINGER.

No Christian grace is more needed, and more difficult to attain, than the grace of patience, that patience that abides God's time in all things. Paul declares we "need patience," and even exhorts us to be "patient in tribulation." To be patient in suffering, in sorrow, in persecutions, in all the unpleasant things that overtake us, waiting for the clearing away of the "dark and cloudy day," is no easy task. Hence the need of cultivating this grace. We are commanded to let patience "have her perfect work," which is to work for us experience, and experience hope. So the end of patience is the development of one of the Christian graces and the establishment of hope anchored in Christ produces character and the looking for the coming glory when he shall appear. David said, "I waited patiently for the Lord; and he inclined his ear and heard my cry."

I will wait patiently for him
Who doeth all things well.
In wisdom he my steps shall lead,
This, time will surely tell.
Be still my every anxious thought,
And rest alone in Him,
And patiently abide God's time
Till he shall make it plain.

Lima, Ohio.

Our Soliciting Agents.

REV. E. W. CURTIS.

During these times of great material prosperity, many are accumulating vast fortunes, and the masses are sharing of the abundance in an unparalleled degree.

But one of the best things in the financial world in the recent past is that a few have risen up and given away vast fortunes to purposes of the noblest charity, dispensed in the wisest manner.

And very many wise donors have made it a good time to build up the church and her institutions at home and to send the gospel abroad.

Debts have been paid, institutions have been endowed, larger plans have been developed, and new interest in investing money in the service of our Master begins to exist as not heretofore.

I wish we had a larger number who have large means in every conference, and not of those who simply get and hold, but of those who know how to get and know how to give.

Our people of smaller means ought to do more and our people of larger means in general ought to vastly increase their offerings. The voice of God in the church is distinctly calling for more money, that our institutions may all be better equipped that the church become what it should in the service of God for the present and future generations.

Every minister who preaches the gospel in its fullness does not neglect the financial phase, and everywhere men should be called upon to consecrate themselves and their money to the service of God.

We are God's stewards and he calls for a portion regularly for his service.

But apart from the regular pastoral work, the church has sent out many soliciting agents in order that by them a larger amount of wealth may be turned from worldly chan-

nels into channels that are spiritual and fruitful of highest good.

1. The solicitor must first know where there is a real want and its character. He must also know what will supply that want and how it must be applied. He must see this clearly, and then have the matter on his heart as a real work for God that must be done.

2. He must then hunt out men of means and let them know how great the need and all about its real character. He must show by what plan and work their money may be applied so as to meet the needs and do service to God. The solicitor has studied this as the ordinary pastor has not, and he can see where one thousand dollars, or twenty-five thousand dollars can be placed in a wise and good way to count for very much. We have many men of large means who only need to be shown such opportunity as the above and they will step forward and make their large offerings for the service of Christ.

These solicitors who stand between the needy institution and men of means need to know the institution and the men, and then they need business tact, and courage, and patience, and spiritual persuasiveness, and with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, giving efficient service to God, he will continue to call so that money will pour into the treasury of the church, and she will arise and put on her beautiful garments and none can put her to shame.

Vanmeter, Iowa.

Transformed.

HERMAN S. REICHARD.

To reach beyond the limits of a day
And leap the bounds of dull formality;
To soar and touch the highest place of life,
Unhindered by the false conceits of men,
This thrills the soul and crowns the man a king.
No rod can measure all the crowding dreams
That press and vex beneath the harsh restraint
Of censuous clay; no tongue baptized with fire
E'er flung to listening ears the magic rule
By which man might possess the wondrous power
To weigh his fellow's soul, or see its depths,
Or read aright the secrets written there.
And so, from day to night and night to day,
We wander on, dwelling a moment here
To drink the sweetness from some wayside flower,
Or rest beneath the cool, refreshing shade
Of great achievement, wrought in bygone days
By some forgotten master of the art.
But while we rest, and wait, and dream, a light
Breaks in upon us from the eastern sky;
A golden glow that speaks of peace untold.
It fills us with a sense of our deep need,
Yet points to One whose sacrifice of love
Has more than satisfied for every man.
Inspired, uplifted, filled with gracious peace,
We lift our eyes once more to see the path
Our feet must tread, and, lo! the way so rough
Seems smooth and easy; and besides the road
Bloom gorgeous flowers of variegated hue,
And as we pass along, from cloven rock
Gush crystal streams that sparkle in the light,
Like each small globule was a gem alive
With hidden fire. The buoyant gleam of hope
Shines forth anew, and from our day of dreams
We step to grasp a deep reality.
The force of purpose lights again the torch
Of striving, till at last the gates of pearl
Wide open swing, and with triumphant shout
We lay our garnered sheaves before the throne.

Farmersville, Ohio.

In a world where there is so much to be done, how happy that there is so large a portion of daylight.—Blunt.

"The guests of God" expressed beautifully the state of those passed away from earth into immortality.—Ruskin.