

## THE WAY TO CONQUER

MANY times there is preserved in a fable a great truth of human life. Thus there is the story of the contest between the wind and the sun to take the coat off a man's back. The wind blew and blew until it became a heavy hurricane, but the man only buttoned his coat the tighter and held onto it the harder. When it became the turn of the sun, the sun simply shone down mildly upon the man and warmed him and so removed his coat. Gentleness and affection will many times accomplish more than force.

Again there is the story of the various tools which set about to cut a piece of iron. "I will master it," said the ax. His blows fell heavy, but each blow made his edge more blunt until further striking was useless.

"Then leave it to me," said the saw, and with his relentless teeth he would draw back and forth on the surface. But the teeth were only broken.

Then the hammer laughed and said, "I knew you couldn't do it. I will show you the way." But after a few hard strokes its head flew off, while the iron remained unchanged.

"Shall I try?" said the small flame. All despised the flame, but it curved around the iron and embraced it, and did not leave until the iron melted under its irresistible influence.

The comment is made in the way of a moral in the account of the above story. "There are hearts hard enough to resist the force of wrath, the malice of persecution, and the fury of pride, so as to make their acts recoil on their adversaries; but there is a power stronger than any of these, and hard, indeed, is the heart which can resist love."

## SELF-SATISFACTION

Perhaps we should not complain that there are individuals who throw their full weight against every forward-looking and aggressive program for the church. It has always been so and no doubt always will be so. At the same time it is not easy to remain silent when the persons who take such an attitude ought to know better.

The day is long past when any right-thinking Christian can afford to oppose the new educational effort being made to improve the quality of teaching done in our church schools and day schools. It must be apparent even to the casual student of affairs that a new standard has been raised up for our work.

There are multitudes of people who applaud those who declare that the old days are good enough for them. A world of harm is being done by such a position. The champions of the old as over against the new have a large following, for it is the easy way and takes to the line of least resistance.

Unless we come to see that the promotion of Christianity is being placed on an educational basis we are going to stand in the light of those whose ideals we are helping to shape.

The chief curse of the present age is that so few people see any wrong in anything that they wish to do or say.

No names or works with more than six syllables are found in the Bible.

# Quiddities



A paint manufacturer recently received the following letter: "Gentlemen, will you please send us some of your striped paint? We want just enough for one barber pole."

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"Tommy, isn't it rather extravagant to eat both butter and jam on your bread at the same time?"

"Oh, no, mother. It's economy. You see, the same piece of bread does for both."

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Little Joan: "Mummy, what's this funny thing I've found?"

Mother: "That's called a hairpin, dear. If you take it to grandma, she'll show you how it was used."

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"Uncle, don't you think it would be rather foolish for me to marry a girl who was intellectually my inferior?"

"Worse than foolish, Thomas," was the reply. "Worse than foolish—impossible."

\* \* \*

A little country girl went shopping in the city with her mother, and had her first experience in an elevator. "How did you like it?" asked the father on her return.

"Why, it was so funny, Daddy," answered the child. "We went into a little house, and the upstairs came down."

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Doctor: "Your husband must have absolute quiet. Here is a sleeping draught."

Wife: "And when do I give it to him?"

Doctor: "You don't give it to him—you take it yourself."

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Visitor: "Are you going to be a great man when you grow up, Willie?"

Willie: "I'm going to be an Arctic explorer."

Visitor: "I like your spirit, my boy. There is a great deal of glory in a career of that kind."

Willie: "Yes'm, and you don't never have to wash your face unless you want to."

\* \* \*

Two farmers met in town a few days after a cyclone hit the countryside.

"Yes, it did quite a bit of damage out our way," said one, reflectively. "By the way, Hank, was that new barn of yours injured any?"

"I can't say rightly," he answered, slowly. "I ain't found it yet."

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The small girl was on a visit to her aunt and grandmother.

"Grannie," she said, after her aunt had left the room, "how old is Auntie Agatha?"

"I couldn't tell you, dear," answered the old lady, "without looking it up in the family Bible."

"Gracious!" gasped the child, "is she old enough to be mentioned in the Bible?"