

30 AUG 19 1919
407 W. WALKER ST
Raleigh, N. C.

Raleigh

Christian Advocate

Organ of the North Carolina Conference.

SIXTY-FIFTH YEAR.

RALEIGH, N. C., MARCH 13, 1919

NUMBER 6.

Life's Real Jewels

By WILLIAM COLFAX MARKHAM.

She was old and worn and wrinkled and gray,
And her step was feeble, as she pressed her way
To the ticket window, a fare to buy
For a far-away town. She breathed a sigh;
For the whistle and clang of the coming train,
The bustle and noise confused her brain.

Out on the farm by the meadow brook,
The whip-poor-will's song in the shady nook,
The music of showers on the growing grain,
And violets dripping a glad refrain,
Had softened her heart and opened her eyes
To the wealth of earth's real paradise.

Mid the jostling crowd in the coach's aisle,
She brushed a woman in the latest style
Of velvet and plush and jewels gay,
On pleasure bent—life's smiling way—
Who heeded her not, and scorned to know
That souls are not measured by raiment and
show.

As the train sped on, the woman of wealth,
Placed jeweled fingers as if by stealth
To her soft, white throat, to protect a pin
Set with four diamonds, all sparkling within.
With never a care or thought of distress,
She dreamed of high halls where throngs do not
press.

Across the car, her face drawn with care,
Sat the mother of sons—some of them "over
there."
She too at her throat held a careworn hand
Which covered a pin—four starred—with plain
band.
But she visioned a world free from turmoil and
strife,
Where her jewels might shine in the City of
Life.