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FIRST INSTALLMENT
MAY TWENTY-FIFTH

**A
Summer's
Tale**

BY....
MARY BRIGHT BRUCE

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FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT.

Victor Speer.

Ye broken hearts, bind up your wounds,
Ye weary souls, lift up your heads,
Eternal mercy still abounds,
The sick men still take up their beds.

What right have ye to droop and die?
Who gives to you authority
To live in faith, yet never try
To strike a blow to set men free?

Rouse up! Be strong! Gird up your loins!
The army fights in full array.
Christ calls and every Christian joins.
Be men! Stand forth! Ye must obey.

Suppose ye fall, what happens then?
What right have ye your wounds to fear?
Fight to the end! Quit ye like men!
The Great Physician draweth near.

He comes with healing in his wings,
He takes you to His loving breast,
And all the angel chorus sings:
"Come home, ye weary one, and rest."

All Round the Horizon.

All respectable people must feel gratified that at last the United States Government has interfered to check the blatant disloyalty, not to call it treason, of the small but noisy anti-imperialist party. For a time no doubt the more dignified course was to take no notice; and no notice is still being taken of the loud talk which pierces the welkin of Boston, Chicago and other storm centres. But when these agitations go so far as to tamper with the peace of mind of our brave boys on the field, by sending them seditious letters and tracts, it is time that government interfered to protect them. All loyal persons must approve the seizing of such matter by the post office authorities of San Francisco last Wednesday.

One of the most important bills of last session was signed by Governor Roosevelt on Saturday. It provides for the removal from political influence of the police departments of this State. To free the officials of these departments from the corrupting influences against which they have hitherto been well nigh powerless to take a stand is to give "the finest" their first honest opportunity to be that through and through which they have gloried to be in name. Germane to this bill is another signed by the Governor on the same day, extending the scope of punishment for tampering with officials in charge of primary elections.

There is hope for a true civil service reform in this State, since Governor Roosevelt, having signed the bill, is now carefully studying the practical workings of the system. For example, much depends not only upon the honesty of the examinations under the law, but upon their adaptation to meet the end proposed—to distinguish among candidates for promotion, or for office, the one really best fitted for the post in question. It becomes evident through a report offered by Commissioner Collier, who

was selected by the Civil Service board to investigate the subject, that the questions hitherto asked in such examinations have been absurdly inadequate. For the position of deputy factory inspector, for example, questions have been asked concerning the Constitutional powers of government, the difference between grand larceny and robbery, methods for the purchase of real estate, the amending of the constitution, the deciding of contested elections, and such like, with not a word of the State factory laws, laws regulating the employment of women and minors, damages for injury, sanitary conditions of factories and other subjects of immediate relations to the office.

An important event in France is the recent Temperance Congress in Paris, April 4th to 7th. Its members represented the noblest spirits of the country. Senators, deputies, military officials, pastors, prelates and scientists, gathered at those meetings with a unity of purpose which was striking. The press reported the proceedings and thoroughly supported the resolutions of the Congress. *Le Temps*, *Le Journal des Débats*, *Le Signal* and even a paper like *Le Figaro* were at one upon the necessity of taking violent measures against the spreading of alcoholism. Nothing wounds the pride of Frenchmen like the fact that in their country there is one saloon for every 85 inhabitants, that in one department there is one for every 46 inhabitants, and that France is now the greatest consumer of alcohol in Europe. They understand also the degrading and brutalizing significance of alcoholism. As a consequence of this Congress public opinion is strongly aroused. A bill will soon be presented to the Chamber for the reduction of the number of saloons, and for measures which will secure the elimination of the worst ones. The fight is not against what the French call hygienic drinks, but against spirits. Unanimous support, in opposing the evil, comes from scientists and physicians.

Never in the history of France has any court done such thorough work of investigation as that of the French Court of Appeals (*Cour de Cassation*) in the Dreyfus case. The fairness of the questions is very impressive, as is the liberty given to witnesses as to what they wish both to say and to omit. If the documents submitted convey some evidence which militates against one or two Generals, they also show the extent to which the military authorities had already gone, before the present agitation, in an effort to find out the truth, dictated by a genuine spirit of justice.

In this extensive inquiry, the slight evidence adduced to prove Dreyfus's guilt is very striking, especially when compared with the multitude of facts going to establish his innocence. Almost every position taken by his accusers in the first instance has been thoroughly undermined by irrefutable considerations. The number of Frenchmen who are convinced of the injustice of Dreyfus's sentence is growing.

It certainly amounts now to the majority of the thinking public of France.

Especially important in this connection is the resignation of the War Minister, M. Freycinet. Scenes of violence and disorder occurred in the Chamber of Deputies on Monday, when M. Berry interpellated the government on the cause of the Minister's resignation of the war portfolio, and criticised the appointment of his successor. M. Monestier is unwelcome to the Progressist party as having opposed the Deputy Cabinet bill proposing the transfer of the Dreyfus Revision proceedings from the Criminal Chamber to the full Court of Cassation. M. Lasies followed M. Berry with a violent attack upon M. Delcassé, Minister of Foreign Affairs, accusing him of cowardly subterfuge and evasion. The government supporters rallied enthusiastically around M. Delcassé, who defended his position. The situation is most grave. The Progressists have become hostile to the Prime Minister. Senators and Deputies believe, however, that M. Depuy will continue in office until judgment in the Dreyfus matter is rendered.

The friendly arrangement between England and Russia, defining what are practically the relative spheres of influence of the two countries in China, is of importance to peace loving commercial nations. Russia is to be free to spread her lines of railway without interference by Great Britain, north of the Great Wall, and England has the same privilege south of the Hoang Ho valley, in the basin of the Yang-tse. Between these two districts neither are to claim anything, the Manchu dynasty being left in full control. Both States agree not to infringe on existing treaties. In this agreement France has no part, and it appears that she feels aggrieved at being overlooked; all the more because not only is Russia her powerful ally, but since recent events in Africa she has been looking upon England as her friend.

The resignation, on May 2, of the Italian Cabinet with General Pelloux as Prime Minister, was caused by the violent opposition of the Chamber to its foreign policy. The demand for the cession to Italy of San Mun Bay, which is attributed to English influence, gives rise to fear of a breach with France, with whom a most advantageous commercial understanding has lately been established. King Humbert, however, has asked General Pelloux to form a new Ministry, and a number of portfolios have already been allotted. General Pelloux retains the ministry of the Interior, that of Foreign Affairs is to be held by Marquis Visconti Venosta, Signor Princetti has the Treasury, and Signor Salandra, Finances. The Marquis of Rudini is included, but he is also spoken of for President of the Chamber of Deputies.

The news that Colonel Funston has been raised to the rank of Brigadier-General has given universal satisfaction. He has gone on fighting with his usual valor. General Luna's

division of the Filipino army has suffered disastrous defeat. Army gun boats of light draft have cleared the country of the insurgent forces, to the west of McArthur's division, at San Fernando, and shelled Lexmoan and Guagua before returning to Manila for supplies for his army. The capture of Aguinaldo's capital, San Fernando, last week by the division under General McArthur has not convinced the insurgent leader that he is beaten. He continues to ask for an armistice, which General Otis refuses to grant, insisting on immediate surrender. The terms have been made easy but the pride of the Filipino leaders is not yet subdued to this point. President Shurman of the United States Peace Commission has had several interviews with Aguinaldo's envoys, and hopes that a nearer view of the strength of our army and the character of the terms offered will induce them to insist on the advantages of peace. In the meantime, San Tomas has been taken by General McArthur. General Lawton made a prompt capture of Balinag, finding therein valuable stores of rice and sugar. General Hale's advance from Calumpit to the Northeast has brought him within touch of Lawton, thus cutting off Aguinaldo's line of retreat. Word has been received that Lieutenant Gillmore and seven men of the Yorktown are safe and well, though prisoners in the enemy's lines. Supplies have been sent to them.

GROWING OLD AND KEEPING YOUNG.

Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler.

Since the time when Cicero wrote his immortal treatise on Old Age, innumerable sermons have been written on this venerable topic; but as it is an experimental matter, there is always room for another one's experience. Some people regard old age as a disgrace, and practice various devices to conceal it. Their wigs and other "simulacra" wear out, and expose their folly; for Solomon declares that a hoary head is a crown of glory if it be found in the way of righteousness. That old age is an incurable malady is only partially true, for some vigorous persons pass fourscore years without ever having caught it, or they have it so lightly that nobody suspects them. "Old" is a relative term, after all. I have known people who were pitifully old at fifty; and when I met that swift-footed Christian, the late William E. Dodge (senior), at the age of seventy-five, with the brisk gait of a boy, and with scarcely a gray hair on his head, I said to him, "You are one of the youngest men in New York."

How to keep young—that is the problem; and it is a vitally important problem, for it really means how to make the most of life, and to bring in the largest revenue of service to the Master. Healthy heredity counts for a great deal. Longevity runs in certain clean-lived families. For example, that stalwart philanthropist, Neal Dow, alert at ninety-two, told me that his Quaker father reached ninety-four, his grandfather eighty-five, and his great-grandfather ninety. Such inherited vigor is a capital to start with, and not to be wasted. On the other hand, one of the most atrocious of crimes is that committed by some parents, who not only shorten their own days, but make long life an impossibility to their offspring.

Supposing that a man has a fairly good and unmortgaged constitution to start with, there are several methods to ward off the infirmities of a premature old age. The first and most important is to keep the Commandments. Our Creator has written certain laws on our mortal bodies—laws as irrevocable as those written on the stone-tables of Sinai—laws for the breach of which Jesus Christ has made no atonement. To squander vital resources by

violating these laws, or even by neglecting them, is an unpardonable sin. There are suicides in Christian churches—yes, in some Christian pulpits! Rigid care as to a digestible diet does not mean fussiness. It means a clear head, clean blood, and a chance for longevity. Stimulants are dangerous just in proportion as they become indispensable. Hard brain-work, hearty eating and little or no physical exercise are a short road to a minister's grave. That famous patriarch of the New England pulpit, Dr. Nathaniel Emmons, who was vigorous at ninety-four, used to say, "I always get up from the table a little hungry." The all-comprehensive rule of diet is very simple—whatever harms more than it helps, *let it alone!* Wilful dyspepsia is an abomination to the Lord.

A second essential to a healthy longevity is the repair of our resources by sound and sufficient sleep. Insomnia is worse than any of the plagues of Egypt; it kills a man or woman by inches. How much sleep is absolutely necessary to bodily vigor must be left to nature; she will tell you if you don't fool with her. "Burning the midnight oil" commonly means burning out your life before your time. Morning is the time for work; one hour before noon is worth five after sunset. When a man who has as much strain on his brain and on his nervous sensibilities as most ministers have goes to his bed-room, he should school himself to the habit of dismissing all thought about outside matters. If he has difficulty in doing this, he should pray for divine help to do it. This suggestion is as applicable to hard-worked business men and to care-laden wives and housekeepers as it is to ministers or to brain-workers in any profession. That wonderful physical and mental phenomenon, Mr. Gladstone, once told me that he had made it a rule to lock every affair of State and every other worry outside of his bed-room door. To this excellent rule he attributed his sound sleep, and to his refreshing sleep he largely attributed his vigorous longevity. Paddy's rule is a good one, "When you slape, pay attention to it." Personally, I may remark that it is to a full quota of slumber at night and a brief nap after a noon meal that I mainly owe fifty-three years of steady ministerial work without a single Sunday on a sick bed.

To keep young, every man or woman should endeavor to graduate their labors according to their age. After threescore and ten, lighten up the loads. It is *over-work* that wears out life, just as it is the driving of a horse after he is *tired* that hurts him and shortens his days. But while excess of labor is injurious to the old, an entire cessation of labor may be still worse. A work-less life is apt to be a worthless life. If a minister lays off the burdens of the pastorate, let him keep his tools sharp by a ministry-at-large with tongue and pen. When a merchant or tradesman retires from business for himself, let him serve the public, or aid Christ's cause by enlisting in enterprises of philanthropy.

Rust has been the ruin of many a bright intellect. The celebrated Dr. Archibald Alexander of the Princeton Theological Seminary kept young by doing a certain amount of intellectual work every day so that he should not lose his touch. He was as full of sap on the day before his death as he was when a missionary in Virginia at the age of two and twenty. He prepared and often used a prayer that was so beautiful that I quote a portion of it for my fellow-disciples whose life-clock has struck threescore and ten:

"Oh, most merciful God, cast me not off in the time of old age; forsake me not if my strength faileth. May my hoary head be found in righteousness. Preserve my mind from dotage and imbecility, and my body from pro-

tracted disease and excruciating pain. Deliver me from despondency in my declining years, and enable me to bear with patience whatever may be thy holy will. I humbly ask that my reason may be continued to the last; and that I may be so comforted and supported that I may leave my testimony in favor of the reality of religion, and of thy faithfulness in fulfilling thy gracious promises. And when my spirit leaves this clay tenement, Lord Jesus receive it. Send some of the blessed angels to convey my inexperienced soul to the mansions which Thy love has prepared; and oh, may I have an abundant entrance ministered unto me into the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." This beautiful petition flooded his closing years with sweet peace, and a strength unbroken to the last.

A sore temptation to the aged is a tendency to querulousness and pessimism. Losses are unduly magnified, and gains are not rightly appreciated. While we cherish and cling to many of the things that are old, and are all the better for having been well tested, let us not seek to put our eyes in the back of our heads, and live only in the past. Keep step with the times; keep sympathy with young hearts; keep in touch with every new-born enterprise of charity and in line with the marchings of God's providence. A ten minutes of chat or play with a grandchild may freshen you more than an hour spent with an old companion, or over an old book.

Above all, keep your hearts in the love of God, and walk in the sunshine of Christ's countenance. Our "Indian Summer" ought to be about the most golden period of a life consecrated to him who bought us with his precious blood.

"Eye hath not seen—tongue hath not told
And ear hath not heard it sung,
How buoyant and fresh—though it seem to grow old,
Is a heart forever young."

MINISTERIAL PERSONALS.

The Rev. Abram Woodruff Halsey, who has been named by our Foreign Board to succeed the lamented Dr. Gillespie, has been for about fifteen years the pastor of the Old Spring Street Church—the farthest down town of all our churches on the West side of the city. He has done a noble work in that relation—to which he came fresh from Princeton Theological Seminary.

Profs. C. A. Briggs and Francis Brown expect to sail on May 18. As is pretty well known, both are engaged on the great Hebrew Lexicon now in a forward state of preparation at Oxford University. Canon Driver and other British and Continental scholars are on the same work, and in order to expedite it, Prof. Francis Brown has been granted a year's absence by the Seminary Board. We believe it is the first time he has been voted a vacation in his long and splendid service in the Seminary faculty.

Prof. A. C. McGiffert of Union Theological Seminary will speak at the Summer School in Cambridge, Mass., July 15-22, and in Harrogate, Eng., September 1-12. He will sail early in August to meet this engagement.

Dr. G. F. Wright, professor of geology in Oberlin College, has been granted one year's leave of absence for study and scientific research in northern Siberia and Alaska.

The twenty-fourth anniversary of the First Reformed Church of East Orange, N. J., the Rev. Dr. George S. Bishop pastor, was observed on April 18 with appropriate exercises.

The Rev. Thomas C. Hall D.D. is now crossing the ocean in the expectation of spending the summer in Germany.

Dr. B. M. Palmer of New Orleans is visiting South Carolina—his early home.