



A sacred burden is the life ye bear :
Look on it, lift it, bear it solemnly ;
Stand up and walk beneath it steadfastly :
Fail not for sorrow, falter not for sin,
But onward, upwards, till the goal ye win."
J. R. MILLER.

IF!

If those who hate would love us,
And all our loves were true,
The stars that swing above us
Would brighten in the blue ;
If cruel words were kisses,
And every scowl a smile,
A better world than this is
Would hardly be worth while ;
If purses would untighten
To meet a brother's need,
The load we bear would lighten
Above the grave of greed.

If those who whine would whistle,
And those that languish laugh,
The rose would rout the thistle,
The grain outrun the chaff ;
If hearts were only jolly,
If grieving were forgot,
And tears and melancholy
Were things that now are not,
Then love would kneel to duty,
And all the world would seem
A bridal bower of beauty,
A dream within a dream.

If men would cease to worry,
And women cease to sigh,
And all be glad to bury
Whatever had to die,—
If neighbour spoke to neighbour
As love demands of all,
The rust would eat the sabre,
The spear stay on the wall.
Then every day would glisten
And every eye would shine,
And God would pause to listen,
And life would be divine.
—A. BESOLD,
A prisoner in Los Angeles County Jail.

The woman who can go to the polls and cast her ballot against the public house finds it a far simpler and pleasanter task, and one requiring much less time, than the arduous task of ministering in her own home or in some other home or in some slum abode called a home, even for a day, to some degenerate victim of the public house.—*L. M. N. Stevens.*

After all, the old lady was right when she said : "If I had the entire corn crop in my possession, I'd convert it all into starch to stiffen the backbones of these men who can't stand up straight on the temperance question."—*Winthrop (Ia) Congregationalist.*

W.C.T.U., N.Z.

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