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An ocean-steamship, waiting at  
her wharf for the word that  
dianuses her to her great Task, is  
a familiar object of admiration &  
praise. Some pace up & down her  
brilliant saloons, delighted with their  
comforts; some gaze ~~and~~ surprised  
at her enormous length; another  
admires her bird-like shape. But  
her greater qualities appear in a  
closer fitness to the career she must  
pursue. ~~No other~~ It is no holiday  
jaunt for which she has been  
built; & thro' many a voyage  
may pass under a smiling heaven  
& thro' a placid sea, her common  
lot is to encounter direful storms,

3 Rocky coasts, amid pouring skies  
that conceal alike the peril & the  
way of escape. So, while the landman  
cares for cushions & carpets, the  
traveler at sea ~~and~~ rejoices to ob-  
serve the <sup>charts & compasses for the</sup> ~~traveller~~ of the ship's  
~~compartments~~ her ~~rotary power~~  
~~stern~~ <sup>direction</sup> the power of her engines, &  
that last resource, the anchor that  
will hold in the stormiest sea.

We do not so far in life before  
we recognize its resemblance to  
a voyage over the trackless ocean. Too  
soon upon our way, we are over-  
taken ~~with~~ by trouble, ~~and~~ in  
some one of its thousand forms;  
nor does the pleasing illusion long  
remain, that it is only an episode

that soon will be passed never again to be  
be encountered. Experience early assures  
each one of us, that "altho affliction com-  
eth not forth out of the dust, neither doth  
trouble spring out of the ground / Job v,  
6, 7); yet man is born to trouble, as  
the sparks fly upward." The storms  
are many, the fogs bewildering; there  
here & there, perhaps, <sup>an</sup> ~~a~~ ~~favoured~~ <sup>enriched</sup> one escapes  
them all; or, rather, here & there on one  
may each of us find "a season of  
clear shining; when we can <sup>put</sup> ~~throw~~  
~~down~~ <sup>aside</sup> the guards & delight ourselves  
in our speed, our activity, & our pros-  
pects. But for the most part he has the  
sweat ~~for~~ prospects, whose craft is the  
~~best fitted to who is the strongest to~~  
now, whose craft has the strongest motive

power, ~~is best fitted to control the~~  
the truest instruments of observation &  
~~tools~~ and that holds firmest to the ~~text~~  
direction, bottom by the stoutest anchor. Trials  
must knit betide; & happy, then, is  
he, not who has the greatest immunity <sup>from evils,</sup>  
but who is best furnished to conquer  
them, & who best does conquer.

~~We need not contemplate life without~~  
~~at once perceiving that our~~

God has prepared us against these  
ills of life, as the shipbuilder fits his  
vessel to stand the storm. He has  
given us the power of faith, ~~which~~  
to direct us ever, in storm & calm alike, <sup>to the</sup>  
~~to sustain us on the fiercest tempests;~~  
true course & haven of peace;  
the power of love, ever inviting us to  
press onward; ~~thro' the deepest dark~~  
~~ness,~~ & <sup>for the stormiest seasons,</sup> that anchor of the soul, a  
sure & steadfast hope. With the  
latter we have to do on this occasion.  
Our text is one of many which bid us, &

encourage us, to make ourselves famil-  
iar with that precious power; not  
constantly needed, but reserved to supply  
a frequent emergency; an inseparable  
companion among the three graces,  
faith, hope, and love.

Hope is a distinct feeling from  
faith, with which, nevertheless, it is eas-  
ily & often confounded. The confusion  
has perhaps been facilitated by the neglect  
of our translators to ~~observe and~~ pre-  
serve a distinction which is to be found  
in the Hebrew of the Old Testament.

(Twice they have ~~rendered~~ said <sup>"trust"</sup> ~~"hope"~~ in  
translating  $\text{בְּיִשְׁרָאֵל}$ , which essentially means  
his elsewhere rendered "hope"; viz., Job xiii,  
15, & Isa. li, 5. Twice also, as thro' to com-  
pensate by a coincident number for the

7 fault, they have used the term ~~that~~  
"hope" in translating ΠΙΣΤΙΣ — Job vi,  
20, & Psalm xxii, 9 — which is elsewhere  
rendered - trust? In the New Tes-  
tament, with a single unimportant ex-  
ception — Heb. x, 23 — the distinction  
between ΕΠΙΣΤΑΣ & ΠΙΣΤΙΣ is inflexibly  
preserved in our translation.)

Faith is the foundation of hope;  
hope is the <sup>"daughter of faith", Campbell has styled her.</sup> enthusiasm of faith; we  
could not hope in God unless we trust-  
ed in God, believed God; & when we  
shall have no further occasion to  
hope in Him, faith will have become  
actual sight. The two are intimately  
connected; but they differ, as in-  
tended to serve distinct purposes. Faith  
must always be <sup>a steady</sup> ~~an active~~ power in

the soul; hope is rather reserved  
for <sup>action in</sup> ~~times~~ of deepest distress. Faith  
believes, hope expects; faith accepts,  
hope seeks. Faith looks upward; hope  
looks forward. The heart of a bereaved

mother may be fixed in faith in  
a merciful God; but the renewal of  
his promises stirs up a hope that  
enables her at length to smile at Satan's  
rage in the very hour of her need.

Hope includes desire, & Expectation; &  
hope in God, is a desire for his blessing  
& a ~~probable~~ <sup>probable</sup> expectation of it.

~~last~~ It is the wisdom of the Almighty  
One, moved by his infinite love, that  
when he suggests a resource to the af-  
flicted heart, he directs it to hope.  
The divineness of his counsel is ~~seen by~~

9 ~~distress~~ perceived when we observe the  
contrast of human methods. How do  
men seek to relieve an afflicted heart?  
~~It is not in their power to bid it hope;~~  
~~& they offer it diversion instead, some~~  
~~momentary diversion; they turn the~~  
~~heart away, since they cannot lift it~~  
~~above its trouble.~~

They cannot bid it expect the ~~same~~  
gratification of ~~the~~ such a desire as the  
distress occasions; so they offer to it, not  
hope, but diversion. They avert the  
attention ~~from~~ <sup>and it</sup> moment, ~~to~~ return with  
redoubled intensity <sup>to its source.</sup> It is God  
~~It is God~~ only who can make the  
sorrow a step to lift the heart  
to a higher plane of joy.

One evening, some years ago, as



of the Most High, to find the 12  
word of the Lord awakening sweet  
Rose within you.