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THE
PROVERBS.

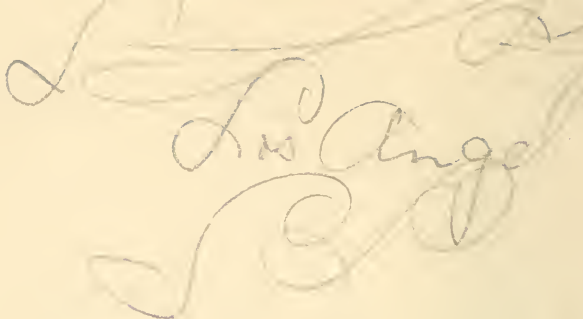
SCHOOL EDITION.

THIRD EDITION.

ARRANGED BY
ADOLPH MOSES AND ISAAC S. MOSES.



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NOTICE.

We herewith present to the public an *Expurgated Edition* of
THE PROVERBS, forming part of the publications issued by

THE HEBREW SABBATH-SCHOOL UNION.

The first religious and moral wants of Children may best be supplied from the rich sources of the Proverbs, which were composed by successive generations of didactic poets, for the express purpose of teaching the ways of wisdom and righteousness to the young of their people. The Proverbs present to the young the golden apples of moral maxims in a silver setting of religious truth.

An asterisk (*) indicates that the sentence before which it is placed is to be committed to memory.

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THE PROVERBS.

CHAPTER I.

Warning against evil company.

THE proverbs of Solomon, the son of David, king of Israel :

That one may learn wisdom and instruction,

And receive words of understanding ;

That one may gain the instruction of prudence,

Justice, equity, and uprightness ;

Which will give caution to the simple,

To the young man wisdom and discretion ;

Let the wise man hear, and he will increase his knowledge,

And the man of understanding will gain wise counsels ;

So as to understand a proverb and a deep maxim,

The words of the wise and their dark sayings.

*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge,

Fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Hear, O my son ! the instruction of thy father,

And neglect not the teaching of thy mother !

For they shall be a graceful wreath for thy head,

And a chain around thy neck.

My son, if sinners entice thee,

Consent thou not !

If they say, "Come with us,

Let us lie in wait for blood,

Let us lurk secretly for the innocent without cause ;

Let us swallow them alive, as the grave,

Yea, in full health, as those that go down into the pit ;

We shall find all kinds of precious substance,

We shall fill our houses with spoil ;

Thou shalt cast thy lot among us ;

We will all have one purse"—

My son, walk thou not in their way,

Refrain thy foot from their path !

For their feet run to evil,

And make haste to shed blood.

In vain the net is spread

In the eyes of any bird ;

But they (the fowlers) lie in wait for their blood,

They lurk secretly for their lives ;

So are the ways of every one greedy of gain,

It takes away the life of its owner.

Exhortations of wisdom.

Wisdom crieth out in the highway ;

In the market-place she uttereth her voice ;

At the entrances of the gates, throughout the city, she proclaimeth her words (saying) :

"How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity ?

How long will scoffers delight themselves in scoffing,

And fools hate knowledge ?

Turn ye at my reproof !

Behold, I will pour out my spirit to you ;

I will make known my words to you !

"Because I have called, and ye have refused,—
 Because I have stretched out my hand, and no one hath regarded,
 Because ye have rejected all my counsel,
 And have slighted my rebuke, —
 I also laugh at your calamity,
 I will mock when your fear cometh ;
 When your fear cometh upon you like a storm,
 And destruction overtaketh you like a whirlwind,
 When distress and anguish come upon you.
 Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer !
 They will seek me early,
 But they shall not find me !
 Because they have hated knowledge,
 And have not chosen the fear of the LORD, —
 Because they would not attend to my counsel,
 And have despised all my reproof, —
 Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way,
 And be filled to the full with their own devices ;
 Yea, the turning away of the simple shall slay them,
 And the prosperity of fools shall destroy them.
 But whoso hearkeneth to me shall dwell securely,
 And shall not be disquieted with the fear of evil."

CHAPTER II.

The gain of wisdom.

OH, my son, that thou wouldst receive my words,
 And treasure up my precepts within thee ;
 That thou wouldst apply thine ear to wisdom,
 And incline thy heart to understanding !
 For if thou wilt call aloud to knowledge,
 And lift up thy voice to understanding, —
 If thou wilt seek her as silver,
 And search for her as for hidden treasures, —
 Then thou shalt understand the fear of the LORD,
 And find the knowledge of God.
 For the LORD giveth wisdom ;
 From his mouth proceed knowledge and understanding :
 He layeth up safety for the righteous ;
 He is a shield to them that walk uprightly :
 He guardeth the paths of his godly ones,
 And defendeth the way of his servants.
 Then shalt thou understand righteousness and equity,
 And uprightness, yea, every good path.
 When wisdom entereth into thy heart,
 And knowledge is pleasant to thy soul,
 Discretion will guard thee,
 Understanding will preserve thee.
 It will deliver thee from the way of the wicked,
 From the men who speak perverse things ;
 Who forsake the paths of uprightness,
 To walk in the ways of darkness ;
 Who rejoice in doing evil,
 And delight in the perverseness of the wicked ;
 Whose paths are crooked,
 And who are froward in their ways.

It will deliver thee from the perverse woman,
 Who useth strange words ;
 Who forsaketh the friend of her youth,
 And forgetteth the covenant of her God.
 For her house sinketh down to Death,
 And her paths to the shades of the dead :
 None that go to her return again ;
 They will not attain the paths of life.
 Therefore walk thou in the way of good men,
 And keep the paths of the righteous:
 For the upright shall dwell in the land,
 And the righteous shall remain in it ;
 But the wicked shall be cut off from the land,
 And transgressors shall be rooted out of it.

CHAPTER III.

Obedience. Reliance upon God. Patience under the divine chastisements. Value of wisdom.

MY son, forget not my teaching,
 And let thy heart keep my commands.
 For length of days, and years of life,
 And peace shall they add to thee.
 *Let not kindness and truth forsake thee ;
 Bind them around thy neck,
 Write them upon the tablet of thy heart :
 Then shalt thou find favor and good success
 In the sight of God and man.
 Trust in the LORD with all thy heart,
 And lean not on thine own understanding ;
 In all thy ways acknowledge him,
 And he will make thy paths plain.

*Be not wise in thine own eyes ;
 Fear the LORD, and depart from evil.
 It shall be health to thy muscles,
 And marrow to thy bones.

*Honor the LORD with thy riches,
 And with the first-fruits of all thine increase ;

So shall thy barns be filled with plenty,
 And thy vats overflow with new wine.

*My son, despise not the correction of the LORD,

Nor be impatient under his chastisement !

*For whom the LORD loveth he chasteneth,

Even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.

Happy the man who findeth wisdom ;
 Yea, the man who getteth understanding !

For the profit thereof is greater than that of silver,

And the gain thereof than that of fine gold.

More precious is she than pearls,
 And none of thy jewels is to be compared with her.

Length of days is in her right hand ;
 In her left hand are riches and honor.
 Her ways are ways of pleasantness,
 And all her paths are peace.

She is a tree of life to them that lay hold of her,
 And happy is every one that retaineth her.

The LORD by wisdom founded the earth ;

By understanding he established the heavens.

By his knowledge the deep springs burst forth,

And the clouds drop down the dew.

My son, let them not depart from
thine eyes;

Keep sound wisdom and discretion!
For they shall be life to thy soul,
And grace to thy neck.

Then shalt thou go on thy way securely,

And thy foot shall not stumble;
When thou liest down, thou shalt not
be afraid,

Yea, thou shalt lie down, and thy
sleep shall be sweet.

Be not thou afraid of sudden alarm,
Nor of the storm that is for the
wicked, when it cometh;

For the LORD shall be thy confidence;
Yea, he will keep thy foot from being
taken.

*Withhold not kindness from those
who need it,

When it is in the power of thy hand
to do it.

*Say not to thy neighbor, "Go, and
come again,

And to-morrow I will give to thee,"
when thou hast it by thee.

Devise not evil against thy neighbor,
While he dwelleth securely by thee.

Contend not with a man without
cause,

When he hath done thee no harm.

Envy not the oppressor,
And choose none of his ways.

For the perverse man is the abomina-
tion of the LORD,

But he is in friendship with the up-
right.

The curse of the LORD is upon the
house of the wicked,

But he blesseth the dwelling of the
righteous.

Surely the scornors he treateth scorn-
fully,

But he giveth favor to the lowly.
The wise shall obtain honor,
But fools shall bear off shame.

CHAPTER IV.

Exhortation to wisdom and virtue.

HEAR, ye children, the instruction
of a father,
And attend, that ye may learn under-
standing!

For I give you good instruction;
Forsake ye not my commandments.

For I was my father's son,
A tender and only child in the sight
of my mother.

He taught me, and said to me,
Let thy heart hold fast my words;
Keep my commandments, and live.

Get wisdom, get understanding;
Forget not, and depart not from the
words of my mouth.

Forsake her not, and she will guard
thee;

Love her, and she will preserve thee.
Wisdom is the principal thing; there-
fore gain wisdom,

And with all thy gain, gain under-
standing.

Exalt her, and she will promote thee;
She will bring thee to honor, when
thou dost embrace her;

She will give to thy head a graceful
wreath,

A beautiful crown will she bestow
upon thee.

Hear, O my son! and receive my
sayings!

So shall the years of thy life be
many.

I have taught thee the way of wis-
dom,

I have guided thee in the right path.
When thou goest, thy steps shall not
be hindered;

And, when thou runnest, thou shalt
not stumble.

*Take fast hold of instruction; let
her not go;

Keep her, for she is thy life.

Enter not into the path of the wicked,

And go not in the way of evil men;

Avoid it, pass not upon it,

Turn from it, and go away.

For they sleep not, unless they have
done mischief;

Yea, their sleep is taken away, unless
they have caused some to fall.

For they eat the bread of wickedness,

And drink the wine of violence.

But the path of the righteous is as
the light of dawn,

Which groweth brighter and brighter
unto the perfect day.

The way of the wicked is as thick
darkness;

They know not at what they stumble.

My son, attend to my words;

Incline thine ears to my sayings;

Let them not depart from thine eyes;

Keep them in the midst of thy heart!

For they are life to those who find
them,

And health to all their flesh.

*More than anything which thou
watchest, watch thy heart;

For out of it are the issues of life,

*Put away from thee a deceitful
mouth,

And remove far from thee perverse
lips.

Let thine eyes look straight forward,
And thine eyelids be directed before
thee.

Give heed to the path of thy foot,

And let thy ways be steadfast.

Turn not to the right hand or to the
left;

Remove thy foot from evil.

CHAPTER V.

Warning against vice.

MY son, attend to my wisdom,
And bow thine ear to my under-
standing;

That thou mayst keep discretion,

And that thy lips may preserve knowl-
edge!

Truly, the lips of a strange woman
drop honey,

And her mouth is smoother than oil;

But her end is bitter as wormwood,

Sharp as a two-edged sword.

Her feet go down to death;

Her steps lay hold of the under-
world.

That she may not ponder the way of
life,

Her paths waver when she heedeth it
not.

Hear me now, therefore, O children!
And turn not away from the words of
my mouth!

Remove thy way far from her,

And come not nigh the door of her
house:

Lest thou give thy bloom to others,
And thy years to a cruel one;

Lest strangers be filled with thy
wealth,

And thine earnings be in the house of
an alien;

And lest thou mourn in thy latter
end,

When thy flesh and thy body are
consumed,

And say, "How have I hated instruc-
tion!

And how hath my heart despised re-
proof!

I have not obeyed the voice of my
teachers,

Nor inclined mine ear to my instruct-
ors;

I have well-nigh fallen into utter misery,
In the midst of the congregation and the assembly."

The ways of man are before the eyes of the LORD,

And he weigheth well all his paths.
His own iniquities shall ensnare the wicked ;

Yea, he shall be held fast by the cords of his own sins.

He shall die for want of instruction ;
Yea, through the greatness of his folly he shall stagger.

CHAPTER VI.

Warning against suretyship, indolence, falsehood, and other vices.

MY son, if thou hast become surety for another,

If thou hast stricken hands for another,

If thou hast become ensnared by the words of thy mouth,

Do this now, my son, and rescue thyself,—

Since thou hast fallen into the hands of thy neighbor,—

Give not sleep to thine eyes, nor slumber to thine eyelids ;

Rescue thyself, as a roe from the hand,

And as a bird from the hand of the fowler.

*Go to the ant, O sluggard !
Consider her ways, and be wise !

*She hath no governor,
Nor overseer, nor ruler ;
Yet she prepareth in the summer her bread,

She gathereth in the harvest her food.

*How long wilt thou lie in bed, O sluggard ?

When wilt thou arise from thy sleep ?

*"A little sleep,— a little slumber,—
A little folding of the hands to rest:"

*So shall the poverty come upon thee like a rover,

Yea, thy want, as an armed man !

A worthless wretch is the unrighteous man,

Who walketh with a deceitful mouth ;
Who winketh with his eyes,

Speaketh with his feet,
And teacheth with his fingers.

Fraud is in his heart ;

He deviseth mischief continually ;

He scattereth contentions.

Therefore shall calamity come upon him suddenly ;

In a moment shall he be broken, and that without remedy.

*These six things doth the LORD hate ;

Yea, seven are an abomination to him :

*Lofty eyes, a false tongue,
And hands which shed innocent blood ;

*A heart that contriveth wicked devices,

*Feet that are swift in running to mischief,

*A false witness, that uttereth lies,
And him that soweth discord among brethren.

CHAPTER VII.

Obedience to parents.

KEEP, O my son ! the commandment of thy father,
And forsake not the precepts of thy mother !

Bind them continually to thy heart,
Tie them around thy neck !

When thou goest forth, they shall guide thee ;

When thou sleepest, they shall watch
over thee ;

And, when thou awakest, they shall
talk with thee.

For the commandment is a lamp,
and instruction a light ;

Yea, the rebukes of correction lead to
life.

My son, keep my words,
And treasure up my commandments
with thee !

Keep my commandments and live !
Yea, my teaching, as the apple of
thine eye !

Bind them upon thy fingers,
Write them upon the tablet of thy
heart !

Say unto wisdom, "Thou art my
sister !"

And call understanding thy near ac-
'quaintance.

CHAPTER VIII.

The value of wisdom.

DOOTH not wisdom cry aloud,
And understanding put forth her
voice ?

Upon the top of the high places,
By the way-side,
In the cross-ways,

She taketh her station,
By the side of the gates,
In the entrance of the city,

In the approaches to the doors, she
crieth aloud :

"To you, O men, do I call,
And my voice is to the sons of men !
O ye simple ones ! learn wisdom,
And ye fools, be ye of an under-
standing heart !

Hear, for I speak excellent things,
And my lips utter that which is
right.

For my mouth speaketh truth,

And wickedness is an abomination to
my lips.

All the words of my mouth are in
uprightness ;

There is nothing crooked or deceitful
in them ;

They are all plain to the man of un-
derstanding,

And right to those who find knowl-
edge.

Receive my instruction, and not
silver,

And knowledge rather than choice
gold !

For wisdom is better than pearls,
And no precious things are to be
compared with her.

"I, wisdom, dwell with prudence,
And find out the knowledge of saga-
cious counsels.

*The fear of the LORD is to hate evil ;
Pride and arrogance, and the evil way,
And the deceitful mouth, do I hate.

Counsel is mine and sound reason ;
I am understanding ; I have strength.

By me kings reign,
And princes decree justice.

By me princes rule,
And nobles, even all the judges of
the earth.

I love them that love me,
And they who seek me early shall
find me.

Riches and honor are with me ;
Yea, durable riches and prosperity.

My fruit is better than gold, yea,
than fine gold,

And my revenue than choice silver.
I walk in the way of righteousness,
In the midst of the paths of judge-
ment.

I cause those who love me to possess
substance ;

Yea, I fill their treasuries.

“The LORD created me, the firstling
of his course,
Before his works, of old ;
I was anointed from everlasting,
From the beginning, even before the
earth was made.

When as yet there were no deeps, I
was brought forth ;

When there were no springs, abound-
ing with water.

Before the mountains were settled,
Yea, before the hills, I was brought
forth ;

Ere yet he had made the land and
the plains,

And the first of the clods of the earth.
When he framed the heavens, I was
there ;

When he drew a circle upon the face
of the deep ;

When he made firm the sky above,
And stopped up the fountains of the
deep.

When he gave to the sea its bounds,
That the waters should not pass their
border ;

When he marked out the foundations
of the earth,—

Then was I by him as a master-
builder ;

I was his delight day by day,
Exulting before him at all times ;
Exulting in the habitable part of his
earth,

And my delight was with the sons of
men.

“Now, therefore, ye children, hearken
to me !

For happy are they who keep my
ways !

Hear instruction, and be wise !

Yea, reject it not !

Happy the man, who hearkeneth to me,
Who watcheth day by day at my
gates,

Who waiteth at the posts of my doors ;
For he that findeth me findeth life,
And obtaineth favor from the LORD ;
But he who misseth me doeth violence
to himself ;

All they who hate me love death.”

CHAPTER IX.

The foundation of true wisdom. The delu-
sions of folly.

WISDOM hath builded her house ;
She has hewn out seven pillars.

She hath killed her fatlings ;

She hath mingled her wine ;

Yea, she hath furnished her table.

She hath sent forth her maidens ;

She crieth aloud upon the highest
places of the city :

“Whoever is simple, let him turn in
hither !”

To him that is void of understanding
she saith,

“Come, eat of my bread,

And drink of the wine which I have
mingled !

Forsake folly, and live !

And go forward in the way of under-
standing !

“He who correcteth a scoffer

Bringeth shame upon himself ;

And he who rebuketh the wicked

Bringeth upon himself a stain.

Rebuke not a scoffer, lest he hate
thee ;

Rebuke a wise man, and he will love
thee.

Give instruction to a wise man, and
he will be yet wiser ;

Teach a righteous man, and he will
increase his learning.

*The fear of the LORD is the begin-
ning of wisdom,

And the knowledge of the Most Holy
is understanding.

Yea, through me thy days shall be
multiplied,

And the years of thy life shall be in-
creased.

*If thou art wise, thou art wise for
thyself;

And if thou art a scoffer, thou alone
must bear it."

The foolish woman is clamorous;
She is very simple, and careth for
nothing.

She sitteth at the door of her house,
Upon a seat in the high places of the
city,

To call aloud to those that pass by,
Who go straight forward in their
ways,

"Whoever is simple, let him turn in
hither!"

And to him that is void of understand-
ing she saith,

"Stolen water is sweet,
And bread eaten in secret is pleas-
ant."

But he considereth not that the dead
are there,

That in the vales of the under-world
are her guests.

CHAPTER X.

Of wisdom, diligence and righteousness.

*A wise son maketh a glad father,
But a foolish son is the grief of his
mother.

*Treasures of wickedness do not
profit;

But righteousness delivereth from
leath.

The LORD will not suffer the right-
eous to famish;

But he disappointeth the craving of
the wicked.

*He that worketh with an idle hand
becometh poor;

But the hand of the diligent maketh
rich.

*He that gathereth in summer is a
wise son;

But he that sleepeth in harvest is a
son causing shame.

Blessings are upon the head of the
just;

But the mouth of the wicked conceal-
eth violence.

*The memory of the righteous man
shall be blessed;

But the name of the wicked shall rot.

He who is wise in heart receiveth
precepts;

But the foolish talker falleth headlong.

*Whoso walketh in honesty, walketh
without fear,

But he that maketh his way crooked
shall be punished.

*He that winketh with the eye caus-
eth sorrow;

And a foolish talker falleth headlong.

The mouth of the righteous is a foun-
tain of life;

But the mouth of the wicked conceal-
eth violence.

*Hatred stirreth up strife;

But love coverth all offences.

Upon the lips of a man of under-
standing wisdom is found;

But a rod is for the back of him that
lacketh understanding.

Wise men treasure up knowledge;

But the mouth of the foolish is de-
struction close at hand.

The rich man's wealth is his strong
city;

The destruction of the poor is their
poverty.

*The labor of the righteous tendeth to
life;

The revenues of the wicked, to sin.
He that keepeth instruction is in the
path of life;

But he that refuseth reproof will go
wrong.

*He that hideth hatred hath lying
lips;

And he that uttereth slander is a
fool.

*In the multitude of words there
wanteth not offence;

But he who restraineth his lips is
wise.

*The tongue of the righteous is as
choice silver;

The understanding of the wicked is
of little worth.

*The lips of the righteous feed many;
But fools die through want of
sense.

*It is the blessing of the LORD that
maketh rich,

And he addeth no sorrow with it.

It is as sport to a fool to do mischief;
But the man of understanding hath
wisdom.

The fear of the wicked shall come
upon him;

But the desire of the righteous shall
be granted.

As the whirlwind passeth by, so the
wicked is no more;

But the righteous hath an everlasting
foundation.

*As vinegar to the teeth, and as
smoke to the eyes,

So is the sluggard to them that send
him.

*The fear of the LORD prolongeth
life;

But the years of the wicked shall be
shortened.

The hope of the righteous shall be
gladness,

But the expectation of the wicked
shall come to nothing.

*The way of God is strength to the
honest;

But destruction for those who do
evil.

The righteous shall never be moved;
But the wicked shall not dwell in the
land.

The mouth of the righteous man
yieldeth wisdom;

But the perverse tongue shall be cut
off.

The lips of the righteous know what
is acceptable;

But the mouth of the wicked what is
perverse.

CHAPTER XI.

Of honesty, humility and kindness.

*FALSE scales are an abomination
to the LORD;

But a perfect weight is his delight.

*When pride cometh, then cometh
shame,

But with the humble is wisdom.

*The honesty of the upright shall
guide them;

But the perverseness of deceivers
shall destroy them.

*Riches do not profit in the day of
wrath;

But righteousness delivereth from
death.

*The righteousness of the good man
maketh his way plain;

But the wicked falleth through his
wickedness.

*The righteousness of the upright de-
livereth them;

But deceivers are caught in their
own mischief.

When the wicked man dieth, his hope
cometh to an end;

Yea, the expectation of the unjust cometh to an end.	The perverse in heart are the abomination of the LORD ;
The righteous man is delivered from trouble,	But the upright in their way are his delight.
And the wicked cometh into it in his stead.	My hand upon it ! the wicked shall not go unpunished,
By his mouth the vile man destroyeth his neighbor ;	But the posterity of the righteous shall be delivered.
But by the knowledge of the righteous are men delivered.	As a jewel of gold in a swine's snout,
When it goeth well with the righteous, the city rejoiceth ;	So is a beautiful woman who is without discretion.
And when the wicked perish, there is shouting.	The desire of the righteous is only good ;
By the blessing of the upright the city is exalted ;	But the expectation of the wicked is wrath.
But it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked.	*There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth ;
*He who despiseth his neighbor is void of sense ;	And there is that withholdeth more than is right, yet he cometh to want.
A man of understanding holdeth his peace.	*The liberal man shall be enriched,
*He who goeth about as a tale-bearer revealeth secret's ;	And he that watereth shall himself be watered.
But he who is of a faithful spirit concealeth a matter.	Him that keepeth back corn the people curse ;
Where there is no counsel, the people fall ;	But blessing shall be upon the head of him that selleth it.
But in a multitude of counsellors there is safety.	He who earnestly seeketh good, seeketh favor ;
He that is surety for another shall smart for it ;	But he that seeketh mischief, it shall come upon him.
But he that hateth suretyship is sure.	*He who trusteth in his riches shall fall ;
A graceful woman obtaineth honor,	But the righteous shall flourish as a leaf.
Even as strong men obtain riches.	He that troubleth his household shall inherit wind ,
*The merciful man doeth good to his own soul,	And the fool shall be the servant of the wise.
But he that is cruel, troubleth his own flesh.	*The fruit of a righteous man is a tree of life ;
*The wicked earneth deceitful wages ;	And the wise man winneth souls.
But he who soweth righteousness shall have a sure reward.	*Behold, the righteous man is requited on earth ;
*As righteousness tendeth to life,	Much more the wicked man and the sinner !
So he who pursueth evil pursueth it to his death.	

CHAPTER XII.

Against wickedness and falsehood.

HE who loveth correction loveth knowledge ;
 But he who hateth rebuke remaineth stupid.
 The good man obtaineth favor from the LORD ;
 But the man of wicked devices he condemneth.
 *A man shall not be established by wickedness ;
 But the root of the righteous shall not be moved.
 A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband ;
 But she who causeth shame is as rottenness in his bones.
 The purposes of the righteous are just ;
 The designs of the wicked are deceitful.
 The words of the wicked lie in wait for men's blood ;
 But the mouth of the upright delivereth them.
 The wicked are overthrown, and are no more ;
 But the house of the righteous shall stand.
 A man will be praised according to his wisdom ;
 But he that is of a perverse heart shall be despised.
 Better is he that demeaneth himself, and hath a servant,
 Than he that exalteth himself, and hath no bread.
 *The righteous man careth for the life of his beast ;
 But the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.
 The wicked man longeth after the prey of evil-doers ;

But the root of the righteous yieldeth fruit.
 In the transgression of the lips is a dangerous snare ;
 But the righteous man shall escape from trouble.
 *By the fruit of a man's mouth he shall be filled with good,
 And the reward of a man's hands shall be rendered unto him.
 *The way of the fool is right in his own eyes ;
 But he that hearkeneth to counsel is wise.
 *A fool's wrath is instantly known ;
 But he that hideth insult is wise.
 *He that uttereth truth showeth righteousness,
 But a false witness showeth forth deceit.
 There is who babbleth like the piercing of a sword ;
 But the tongue of the wise is health.
 *The lip of truth shall be established forever ;
 But the tongue of falsehood, but for a moment.
 Deceit is in the heart of those who contrive evil ;
 But to the counsellors of peace shall be joy.
 No evil shall happen to the righteous ;
 But the wicked shall be filled with evil.
 *False lips are the abomination of the LORD ;
 But they who deal truly are his delight.
 A prudent man concealeth his knowledge ;
 But the heart of fools proclaimeth their foolishness.
 *The hand of the diligent shall bear rule ;
 But the slothful shall be under tribute.

*Care in the heart of a man boweth it down ;
 But a kind word maketh it glad.
 *The righteous showeth the way to his neighbor ;
 But the way of the wicked leadeth them astray.
 The slothful man shall not roast his game ;
 But a precious treasure to any man is his industry.
 *In the path of righteousness is life,
 And in her pathway there is no death.

CHAPTER XIII.

Against pride and vain talk.

A wise son listeneth to the instruction of his father.
 But a scoffer listeneth not to rebuke.
 By the fruit of a man's mouth he shall eat good ;
 But the appetite of transgressors shall be sated with violence.
 *He who keepeth his mouth keepeth his life ;
 But destruction shall be to him who openeth wide his lips,
 The soul of the sluggard desireth, and hath nothing,
 But the soul of the diligent is fully satisfied.
 *A righteous man hateth words of falsehood ;
 But a wicked man causeth disgrace and shame.
 Righteousness preserveth him who is upright in his way ;
 But wickedness overthroweth the sinner.
 One man showeth himself rich, yet hath nothing ;
 Another showeth himself poor, yet hath great riches.
 A man's wealth is the ransom of his life ;

But the poor man heareth no threatenings.
 The light of the righteous shall rejoice ;
 But the lamp of the wicked shall be put out.
 *By pride cometh only contention ;
 But with the well-advised is wisdom.
 *Wealth gotten in haste will be lessened ;
 But that gathered by the hands of labor will increase.
 *Hope deferred maketh the heart sick ;
 But the desire accomplished is a tree of life.
 *He that despiseth the word shall be destroyed ;
 But he who revereth the commandment shall be rewarded.
 The instruction of the wise is a fountain of life ;
 By it men escape from the snares of death.
 A good understanding winneth favor ;
 But the way of transgressors is rugged.
 Every prudent man acteth with knowledge ;
 But a fool spreadeth abroad folly.
 A wicked messenger falleth into trouble ;
 But a faithful ambassador is health.
 Poverty and shame for him who rejecteth instruction ;
 But he that regardeth reproof shall come to honor.
 The desire accomplished is sweet to the soul ;
 But it is hateful to fools to depart from evil.
 *He who walketh with wise men shall be wise ;
 But the companion of fools shall be destroyed.

*Evil pursueth sinners,
But the righteous is rewarded with good.
 The good man leaveth his substance to his children's children ;
 But the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just.
 Much food cometh of the tillage of the poor ;
 But wealth is wasted by want of judgement.
 *He that spareth the rod hateth his son ;
 But he who loveth him chasteneth him early.
 The righteous man eateth to the satisfying of his desire ;
 But the stomach of the wicked suffereth want.

CHAPTER XIV.

The conceit of the wicked.

***T**HE wise woman buildeth her house ;
 But the foolish teareth it down with her hands.
 *He who walketh in uprightness feareth the LORD ;
 But he who is perverse in his ways despiseth him.
 In the mouth of the foolish pride is a scourge ;
 But the lips of the wise preserve them.
 Where there are no oxen, the crib is clean ;
 But there is great increase by the strength of the ox.
 A faithful witness doth not lie ;
 But a false witness poureth forth lies.
 *The scoffer seeketh wisdom, and findeth it not ;
 But knowledge is easy to the man of understanding.

Go from the presence of a foolish man ;
 For thou wilt not perceive in him the lips of knowledge.
 The wisdom of the prudent is in giving heed to his way ;
 But the folly of fools is deceit.
 Fools make a mock at sin ;
 But among the upright there is good will.
 *The heart knoweth its own bitterness,
 And a stranger cannot intermeddle with its joy.
 The house of the wicked shall be destroyed ;
 But the tent of the upright shall flourish.
 *There is a way which seemeth right to a man,
 But its end is the way to death.
 Even in laughter the heart is sorrowful,
 And the end of mirth is heaviness.
 The perverse in heart shall be filled with his own ways ;
 And from himself shall the good man be satisfied.
 The simple man believeth every word ;
 But the prudent looketh well to his steps.
 The wise man feareth, and departeth from evil ;
 But the fool is haughty and confident.
 *He who is soon angry will act foolishly ;
 And the man of wicked devices will be hated.
 The simple inherit folly ;
 But the prudent are crowned with knowledge.
 The evil bow before the good ;
 Yea, the wicked at the gates of the righteous.

The poor is disliked even by his own neighbor;

But the rich hath many friends.

*He who despiseth his neighbor sinneth;

But happy is he who hath mercy on the poor.

*Do not they who devise evil fail of their end?

But they who devise good meet with kindness and truth.

*In all labor there is profit;

But the talk of the lips tendeth only to want.

Riches are a crown to the wise;

But the promotion of fools is folly.

A true witness saveth lives;

But a deceitful witness poureth forth lies.

In the fear of the LORD is strong confidence;

Yea, to his children he will be a refuge.

*The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life;

By it men escape from the snares of death.

In the multitude of people is the king's glory;

But in the want of people is the destruction of a prince.

*He who is slow to anger is of great understanding;

But he who is of a hasty spirit setteth folly on high.

*A quiet heart is the life of the flesh;

But envy is rottenness to the bones.

*He who oppresseth the poor defieth his Maker;

But he who hath mercy on the poor honoreth him.

*By his wickedness the wicked is thrust down;

But the righteous hath hope even in death.

Wisdom resteth quietly in the heart of the wise;

But that which is within fools is made known.

*Righteousness exalteth a people;

But the reproach of nations is sin.

The king's favor is toward a wise servant;

But his wrath is against him that causeth shame.

CHAPTER XV.

The pleasure of knowledge. Self-possession. Contentment. Humility.

*A soft answer turneth away wrath; But hard words stir up anger.

*The tongue of the wise maketh knowledge pleasing;

But the mouth of fools poureth forth folly.

*The eyes of the LORD are in every place;

They behold the evil and the good.

*A mild tongue is a tree of life;

But perverseness therein is a wound in the spirit.

The fool despiseth the correction of his father;

But he that regardeth reproof is prudent.

In the house of the righteous is much wealth;

But in the revenues of the wicked there is trouble.

The lips of the wise spread abroad knowledge;

But the heart of the foolish is not sound.

The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD;

But the prayer of the righteous is his delight.

The way of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD;

But he loveth him who followeth after righteousness.	Without counsel, plans come to nought;
Sore chastisement shall be to him that forsaketh the way;	But with a multitude of counsellors they are established.
He that hateth reproof shall die.	*A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth;
The underworld, yea, the region of death, is before the LORD;	And a word in due season, how good it is!
How much more the hearts of the sons of men!	*The path of life is upward for the wise,
The scoffer loveth not his reprover;	So that he turneth away from the underworld beneath.
He will not go to the wise.	*The LORD destroyeth the house of the proud;
*A joyous heart maketh a bright countenance;	But he will establish the border of the widow.
But by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.	*The thoughts of a wicked man are hateful to God;
The heart of the man of understanding seeketh knowledge;	But the pure speak pleasant words.
But the mouth of fools feedeth on folly.	He who is greedy of gain troubleth his own house;
*The days of the afflicted are all evil;	But he who hateth bribes shall live.
But he that hath a cheerful heart hath a continual feast.	*The heart of the righteous studieth how to answer;
*Better is a little, with the fear of the LORD,	But the mouth of the wicked poureth out evil things.
Than much treasure, and trouble therewith.	The LORD is far from the wicked;
*Better is a dinner of herbs, where there is love,	But he heareth the prayer of the righteous.
Than a fatted ox, and hatred therewith.	The light of the eyes rejoiceth the heart,
*The passionate man stirreth up strife;	And good tidings make the bones fat.
But he who is slow to anger appeaseth strife.	The ear that hearkeneth to the reproof of life
*The way of the slothful is as a hedge of thorns;	Shall dwell among the wise.
But the way of the righteous is a paved road.	He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own life;
*A wise son maketh a glad father;	But he that hearkeneth to rebuke getteth understanding.
But a foolish man despiseth his mother.	*The fear of the LORD guideth to wisdom,
Folly is joy to him who lacketh wisdom;	And before honor is humility.
But the man of understanding walketh uprightly.	

CHAPTER XVI.

Trust in God. Meekness. Politeness.
Self-mastery.

THE plans of the heart belong to man ;

But the answer of the tongue is from the LORD.

*All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes ;

But the LORD weigheth the spirit.

*Commit thy doings to the LORD,
And thy purposes shall be established.
The LORD hath ordained every thing for its end ;

Yea, even the wicked for the day of evil.

*Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD ;

My hand upon it ! he shall not be unpunished.

*Through kindness and truth iniquity is purged ;

And through the fear of the LORD men depart from evil.

*When a man's ways please the LORD,
He maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.

*Better is a little with righteousness,
Than great revenues without right.

*The heart of man deviseth his way,
But the LORD establisheth his steps.

A just balance and scales are the appointment of the LORD ;

All the weights of the bag are his work.

The doing of wickedness is abomination to kings ;

For by righteousness is the throne established.

Righteous lips are the delight of kings ;

And they love him who speaketh right things.

wrath of a king is a messenger of death ;

But a wise man will pacify it.

*How much better is it to get wisdom than gold !

Yea, to get understanding is rather to be chosen than silver.

It is the highway of the upright that leadeth away from evil ;

He that taketh heed to his way preserveth his life.

*Pride goeth before destruction,
And a haughty spirit before a fall.

*Better is it to be of a humble spirit with the lowly,

Than to share the spoil with the proud.

He who giveth heed to the word shall find good ;

And he who trusteth in the LORD,
happy is he !

The wise in heart shall be called intelligent,

And sweetness of the lips increaseth learning.

*Understanding is a wellspring of life to him that hath it.

And the chastisement of fools is their folly.

The heart of the wise man instructeth his mouth,

And addeth learning to his lips.

*Pleasant words are like a honey-comb, —

Sweet to the taste, and health to the bones.

The hunger of a laborer laboreth for him ;

For his mouth urgeth him on.

A worthless man diggeth mischief,

And on his lips there is, as it were, a burning fire.

*A deceitful man stirreth up strife,
And a whisperer separateth friends.

A man of violence enticeth his neighbor,

And leadeth him into a way which is not good.

He who shutteth his eyes to devise fraud,—

He who compresseth his lips, hath accomplished mischief!

*The hoary head is a crown of glory,
If it be found in the way of righteousness.

*He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty;

And he who ruleth his spirit, than he that taketh a city.

CHAPTER XVII.

Against strife and mockery. The evil of folly.

***BETTER** is a dry morsel, and quietness therewith,
Than a house full of feasting with strife.

A prudent servant shall rule over a son who causeth shame;

Yea, with brothers he shall share the inheritance.

*The refining pot is for silver, and the furnace for gold;

But the LORD trieth hearts.
A wicked man giveth heed to evil lips;

And a liar giveth ear to a mischievous tongue.

*Whoso mocketh the poor reproacheth his Maker;

He that is glad at calamities shall not go unpunished.

*Children's children are the crown of the aged,

And their fathers the glory of sons.
Excellent speech becometh not the base;

How much less lying lips the noble!

*He who covereth an offence seeketh love;

But he who recurrereth to a matter removeth a friend.

*A reproof will penetrate deeper into a wise man

Than a hundred stripes into a fool.

An evil man seeketh only rebellion;
Therefore shall a cruel messenger be sent against him.

*Let a man meet a bear robbed of her whelps,

Rather than a fool in his folly.

*Whoso returneth evil for good,
Evil shall not depart from his house.
The beginning of strife is as when one letteth out water;

Therefore leave off contention before it rolleth onward.

He that justifieth the wicked,
And he that condemneth the just,
Both alike are an abomination to the LORD.

Why should a price be in the hand of a fool

To get wisdom, seeing he hath no sense?

*A friend loveth at all times;
And a brother is born for adversity.
A man who lacketh understanding striketh hands,

And becometh surety in the presence of his friend.

He who loveth strife loveth transgression;

He who raiseth high his gate seeketh ruin.

He that is of a deceitful heart shall find no good;

And he that hath a double tongue shall fall into mischief.

*A merry heart doeth good like a medicine;

But a broken spirit drieth up the bones.

The wicked man taketh a gift out of the bosom,

To pervert the ways of judgment.
 Wisdom is before the face of him
 that hath understanding ;
 But the eyes of a fool are in the ends
 of the earth.
 Moreover, to punish the righteous is
 not good,
 Nor smite the noble for their upright-
 ness.
 *He that spareth his words is imbued
 with knowledge ;
 And he that is of a cool spirit is a
 man of understanding.
 *Even a fool, when he is silent, is
 accounted wise ;
 He that shutteth his lips is a man of
 understanding.

CHAPTER XVIII.

Against rash talk, tale-bearing. Of true
 friendship.

H who separateth himself seeketh
 his own desire ;
 Against all sound discretion he rush-
 eth on.
 The fool hath no delight in under-
 standing,
 But rather in revealing his own mind.
 When the wicked cometh, then com-
 eth also contempt ;
 And with baseness, shame.
 The words of a man's mouth are as
 deep waters,
 And the wellspring of wisdom is an
 overflowing brook.
 It is not good to be partial to the
 wicked,
 So as to overthrow the righteous in
 judgment.
 The lips of a fool enter into strife,
 And his mouth calleth for blows.
 *A fool's mouth is his destruction,
 And his lips are a snare for his life.
 The words of a tale-bearer are like
 sweet morsels ;

For they go down to the innermost
 parts of the body.
 *Moreover, he that is slothful in his
 work
 Is brother to him that is a great
 waster.
 The name of the LORD is a strong
 tower ;
 The righteous runneth to it, and is
 safe.
 The rich man's wealth is his strong
 city,
 And as a high wall, in his own con-
 ceit.
 *Before destruction the heart of a
 man is haughty,
 And before honor is humility.
 *He who answereth a matter before
 he hath heard it,
 It is folly and shame to him.
 *The spirit of a man will sustain his
 infirmity ;
 But a broken spirit who can raise
 up ?
 The heart of the intelligent will ac-
 quire knowledge,
 And the ear of the wise will seek
 knowledge.
 A gift maketh room for a man,
 And bringeth him into the presence
 of the great.
 He that is first in his pleadings seem-
 eth just ;
 But his opponent cometh, and the
 matter is searched.
 A brother offended is harder to be
 won than a strong city ;
 Yea, their contentions are like the
 bars of a castle.
 *Death and life are in the power of
 the tongue ;
 They that love it shall eat its fruit.
 He that findeth a wife findeth a bless-
 ing,
 And obtaineth favor from the LORD.

The poor useth entreaties ;
 But the rich answereth roughly.
 *A man of many friends will show
 himself false ;
 Yet there is a friend who sticketh
 closer than a brother.

CHAPTER XIX.

Of integrity. The evil of poverty. Idleness.
 Correction.

***B**BETTER is the poor man who
 walketh in his integrity,
 Than he who is of false lips and a
 fool.

Also without knowledge a soul is not
 good,
 And he that hasteneth with his feet
 goeth wrong.

*The folly of man perverteth his way,
 And then his heart fretteth against
 the LORD.

Wealth maketh many friends ;
 But the poor is separated from his
 neighbor.

A false witness shall not be un-
 punished,
 And he that speaketh lies shall not
 escape.

Many are they who caress the noble,
 And every one is the friend of him
 who giveth gifts.

All the brethren of the poor man hate
 him ;

How much more do his friends go far
 from him !

He pursueth them with words, but
 they are gone !

*He that getteth wisdom loveth him-
 self ;

He that keepeth understanding shall
 find good.

Luxury is not seemly for a fool ;
 Much less should a servant have rule
 over princes.

*A man of understanding is slow to
 anger ;

Yea, it is his glory to pass over an
 offence.

Houses and riches are an inheritance
 from fathers ;

But a prudent wife is from the LORD.

*Slothfulness casteth into a deep
 sleep,

And the idle person shall suffer
 hunger.

He that keepeth the commandment
 keepeth his life ;

But he that is careless of his way
 shall die.

*He who hath pity on the poor lend-
 eth to the LORD,

And his good deed he will pay him
 again.

Chasten thy son because there is
 hope,

But let not thy soul desire to slay
 him.

A man of great wrath will suffer
 punishment ;

For if thou deliver him, yet must thou
 do it again.

Listen to counsel and receive in-
 struction,

That thou mayst be wise in thy latter
 years.

*Many are the devices in the heart of
 a man ;

But the purpose of the LORD, that
 shall stand.

*The charm of a man is his kindness ;
 And better is a poor man than a liar.

The fear of the LORD tendeth to life,
 And he that hath it shall abide satis-
 fied ;

He shall not be visited with evil.

The slothful man dippeth his hand
 into the dish :

He doth not bring it back even to his
 mouth.

Strike the scoffer, and the simple will
 become prudent ;

Reprove a man of understanding, and he will discern knowledge.

The son that causeth shame and disgrace doeth violence to his father, And chaseth away his mother.

Cease, my son, to listen to such instruction

That causeth thee to wander from the words of knowledge!

A worthless witness scoffeth at justice, And the mouth of the wicked swalloweth down iniquity.

*Punishments are prepared for scoffers,

And stripes for the back of fools.

CHAPTER XX.

Against intemperance, idleness, self-deception, slander, and irreverence.

*WINE is a mocker, strong drink a brawler,

And he that reeleth with it is not wise.

*It is an honor to a man to cease from strife;

But every fool rusheth into it.

*The sluggard will not plough by reason of the cold;

Therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing.

*A design in the heart of a man is like deep waters;

But a man of understanding draweth it out.

*Many will proclaim their own kindness;

But a faithful man who can find?

The righteous man walketh in his integrity;

Blessed are his children after him.

*Who can say, "I have kept my heart clean;

I am free from my sin?"

*Divers weights and divers measures, Both of them are an abomination to the LORD.

*Even in childhood one maketh himself known by his doings,

Whether his actions will be pure and right.

*The ear that heareth, and the eye that seeth,—

The LORD made them both.

*Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty;

Open thine eyes, and thou shalt be satisfied with bread.

"Bad! Bad!" saith the buyer;

But when he has gone his way, then he boasteth.

There is gold and abundance of pearls;

But the lips of knowledge are a precious vase.

*The bread of falsehood is sweet to a man;

But afterwards his mouth is filled with gravel.

Every purpose is established by counsel;

Therefore with good advice make war.

*He who goeth about as a tale-bearer revealeth secrets;

Therefore associate not with him who keepeth open his lips.

*Whoso curseth his father or his mother,

His lamp shall be put out in midnight darkness.

*A possession may be gotten hastily in the beginning,

But in the end it will not be blessed.

*Say not thou, "I will repay evil;"

Wait on the LORD, and he will help thee.

A man's steps are from the LORD;

How, then, can one understand his way?

*It is a snare to a man to utter a vow rashly,

And after vows to consider.

A wise king winnoweth out the
wicked,
And bringeth the threshing-wheel
over them.

The spirit of man is the lamp of the
LORD,
Searching the innermost parts of his
body.

Mercy and truth preserve the king:
Yea, his throne is upheld by mercy.
The glory of young men is their
strength,
And the beauty of old men is the gray
head.

Wounding stripes are the remedy for
a bad man ;
Yea, stripes which reach to the inner
chambers of the body.

CHAPTER XXI.

The providence of God. Charity. Prudence.

AS streams of water,
So is the heart of the king in the
hand of the LORD ;

He turneth it whithersoever he will.
*All the ways of a man are right in
his own eyes ;

But the LORD weigheth the heart.

*To do justice and equity
Is more acceptable to the LORD than
sacrifice.

The lofty look, the proud heart,
The lamp of the wicked, is ruin.

*The plans of the diligent tend only
to plenty ;

But the hasty hasteneth only to want.
The getting of treasures by a false
tongue

Is the fleeting breath of them that
seek death.

The violence of the wicked shall sweep
them away,

Because they refuse to do justice.

The way of a man laden with guilt is
exceedingly crooked ;

But as for the pure it is straight.

Better is it to dwell in a corner of
the housetop

Than with a brawling woman in a
large house.

The soul of the wicked longeth to do
evil ;

His neighbor findeth no compassion
in his eyes.

When the scoffer is punished, the
simple is made wise ;

When the wise man is taught, he re-
ceiveth knowledge.

*Whoso stoppeth his ears at the cry
of the poor,

He also shall cry aloud, but shall not
be heard.

To do justice is joy to the righteous ;
But destruction is for them that do
iniquity.

A man who wandereth from the way
of discretion

Shall rest in the assembly of the
dead.

*He that loveth pleasure will be a
poor man ;

He that loveth wine and oil will not
be rich.

The wicked shall be a ransom for the
righteous ;

And in the room of the upright shall
be the transgressor.

*It is better to dwell in a desert land
Than with a contentious and fretful
woman.

Precious treasure and oil are in the
dwelling of the wise ;

But the foolish man swalloweth them
up.

*He who followeth after righteous-
ness and mercy

Shall find life, prosperity, and honor.

A wise man scaleth the city of the
mighty,

And bringeth down the strength in
which it trusted.

*Whoso keepeth his mouth and his
tongue

Keepeth his soul from trouble.

The proud and haughty,—scoffer is
his name;

He acteth with haughty arrogance.

*The desire of the sluggard will de-
stroy him;

For his hands refuse to labor.

*The covetous man coveteth all the
day long;

But the righteous man giveth, and
doth not withhold.

The sacrifice of the wicked is an abom-
ination;

How much more when he bringeth it
with an evil design!

A false witness shall perish;

But a man that hearkeneth shall
speak forever.

The wicked man hardeneth his face:

But the upright directeth his way.

There is no wisdom nor understand-
ing,

Nor counsel against the LORD.

The horse is prepared for the day of
battle;

But victory is from the LORD.

CHAPTER XXII.

True wealth.

*A good name is rather to be chosen
than great riches;

And better is good-will than silver
and gold.

*The rich and the poor meet together:

The LORD is the Maker of them all.

The prudent man seeth the evil, and
hideth himself;

But the simple rush on, and are
punished.

*By humility and the fear of the
LORD

Are riches and honor and life.

Thorns and snares are in the way of
the deceitful;

He that will preserve his life will be
far from them.

*Train up a child in the way, he
should go,

And when he is old, he will not de-
part from it.

The rich ruleth over the poor,
And the borrower is servant to the
lender.

*He who soweth iniquity shall reap
calamity,

And the rod of his punishment is
prepared.

*He who hath a bountiful eye shall
be blessed,

Because he giveth of his bread to the
poor.

Cast out the scoffer, and contention
will go out;

Yea, strife and reproach will cease.

*He who loveth purity of heart,

Grace is upon his lips, and the king
will be his friend.

The eyes of the LORD watch over
knowledge;

But he overthroweth the words of the
treacherous.

*The slothful man saith, "There is a
lion without;

I shall be slain in the streets."

Folly is bound to the heart of a
child;

But the rod of correction will drive it
far from him.

*He that oppresseth the poor to in-
crease his wealth,

Shall surely come to want.

Exhortations.

Incline thine ear, and hear the words
of the wise,

And give heed to my instruction!

For it will be a pleasant thing, if thou
keep them in thy bosom,
When they are altogether established
upon thy lips.
That thy trust may be in the LORD,
I have this day given to thee instruc-
tion, yea, to thee.
Behold, I have written to thee excel-
lent things
Concerning counsel and knowledge ;
That I may make thee know rec-
titude, and words of truth,
That thou mayest bring back words of
truth to them that send thee.
Rob not a poor man, because he is
poor,
Nor crush thou the destitute at the
gate ;
For the LORD will maintain their
cause,
And spoil their spoilers of life.
Make no friendship with a passionate
man,
Nor be the companion of a man prone
to wrath ;
Lest thou learn his ways,
And take to thyself a snare.
Be not thou one of those who strike
hands, —
Of those who are sureties for debts.
When thou hast nothing to pay,
Why should thy bed be taken from
under thee ?
Remove not the ancient landmark,
Which thy fathers have set up.
*See thou a man diligent in his
business ?
He shall stand before kings ;
He shall not serve obscure men.

CHAPTER XXIII.

The company of the mighty and the miser.
The curse of drunkenness.

WHEN thou sittest with a ruler,
Consider well what is before thee ;

For thou wilt put a knife to thy
throat,
If thou art a man given to appetite !
Long not for his dainties,
For they are deceitful meat.
Toil not to become rich ;
Cease from this, thy wisdom.
Wilt thou let thine eyes fly toward
them? They are gone !
For riches truly make to themselves
wings ;
They fly away like the eagle toward
heaven.
Eat not the bread of him that hath
an evil eye,
And long not for his dainties ;
For as he thinketh in his heart, so
is he.
“Eat and drink !” saith he to thee ;
But his heart is not with thee.
The morsel, which thou hast eaten.
thou shalt vomit up ;
And thou wilt lose thy sweet words.
Speak not in the ears of a fool ;
For he will despise the wisdom of thy
words.
Remove not the ancient landmark,
And enter not into the fields of the
fatherless !
For their avenger is mighty ;
He will maintain their cause against
thee.
*Withhold not correction from a
child ;
If thou beat him with the rod, he will
not die.
Beat him thyself with the rod,
And thou shalt rescue him from the
underworld.

My son, if thy heart be wise,
My heart shall rejoice, even mine ;
Yea, my reins shall exult,
When thy lips speak right things.
Let not thy heart envy sinners,

But continue thou in the fear of the
 LORD all the day long ;
 For surely there shall be a reward,
 And thy hope shall not be cut off.
 Hear thou, my son, and be wise ;
 And guide thy heart in the way !
 *Be not thou among winebibbers,
 And riotous eaters of flesh ;
 *For the drunkard and the glutton
 shall come to poverty,
 And drowsiness will clothe a man with
 rags.
 Harken to thy father,
 And despise not thy mother when she
 is old.
 Buy the truth, and sell it not ;
 Yea, wisdom and instruction and un-
 derstanding.
 The father of a righteous man shall
 greatly rejoice ;
 Yea, he who hath a wise child shall
 have joy in him.
 Who hath woe ? Who hath sorrow ?
 Who contentions ? Who anxiety ?
 Who wounds without cause ?
 Who dimness of eyes ?
 They that tarry long at the wine ;
 They that go in to seek mixed drink.
 Look not thou upon the wine, when it
 is red,
 When it sparkleth in the cup,
 When it goeth down smoothly.
 At the last it biteth like a serpent,
 And stingeth like an adder.
 Thine eyes will behold strange things,
 And thy mouth will utter perverse
 words.
 Thou wilt be as if lying in the midst
 of the sea,
 Or as if lying upon the top of a mast.
 (Saying)—They have stricken me, I
 suffered no pain !
 They have beaten me,—I felt it not !
 When I awake I will seek it yet again.

CHAPTER XXIV.

Exhortations and warnings.

BE not thou envious of wicked men,
 And desire not to be with them !
 For their heart studieth destruction,
 And their lips speak mischief.
 *Through wisdom is a house builded,
 And by understanding is it estab-
 lished ;
 *Yea, by knowledge are the chambers
 filled
 With all precious and goodly sub-
 stance.
 *The wise man is strong ;
 Yea, the man of knowledge increaseth
 might.
 For by wise counsel shalt thou make
 war,
 And by the multitude of counsellors
 cometh success.
 Wisdom is too high for the fool ;
 He openeth not his mouth at the
 gate.
 He that deviseth to do evil,
 Shall be called mischief-master.
 The purpose of folly is sin ;
 And a scoffer is an abomination to
 men.
 If thou faint in the day of trouble,
 Thy strength is small.
 Deliver thou those who are dragged
 to death,
 And those who totter to the slaughter,
 —O keep them back !
 If thou sayst, "Behold, we knew it
 not !"
 Doth not he that weigheth the heart
 observe it ?
 Yea, he that keepeth thy soul know-
 eth it,
 And he will render to every man ac-
 cording to his works.
 Eat honey, my son, for it is good,

the honeycomb, which is sweet
to thy taste ;
So learn thou wisdom for thy soul !
When thou hast found it, there shall
be a reward,
And thy expectation shall not be cut
off.
Plot not, O wicked man ! against the
habitation of the righteous ;
Spoil not his resting-place !
For a righteous man falleth seven
times, and riseth up again,
But the wicked are overthrown by
calamity.
*Rejoice not, when thine enemy
falleth,
And let not thy heart be glad, when
he stumbleth ;
Lest the LORD see, and it displease
him.
Fret not thyself on account of evil
men,
Neither be thou envious of the
wicked :
For there shall be no future to the
evil man ;
The lamp of the wicked shall be put
out.
My son, fear thou the LORD and the
king ;
And mingle not with them that are
given to change !
For their calamity shall rise suddenly,
And their ruin, coming from them
both, in a moment.

These also are words of the wise.
It is not good to have respect of per-
sons in judgment.
He that saith to the wicked, "Thou
art righteous,"
Him shall the people curse ;
Nations shall abhor him.
But it shall be well with them that
punish him,

And the blessing of prosperity shall
come upon them.
Men kiss his lips, that giveth a right
answer.
Arrange thy work without,
And prepare it in thy field :
Afterward thou mayst build thy
house.
Be not a witness without cause against
thy neighbor,
And deceive not with thy lips.
*Say not, "As he hath done to me,
So will I do to him ;
I will render to the man according to
his doings."
*I passed by the field of the slothful,
And by the vineyard of the man void
of understanding,
*And, lo ! it was all overgrown with
thorns,
And the face thereof was covered with
nettles,
And the stone wall thereof was broken
down.
Then I saw, and considered it well ;
I looked upon it, and received in-
struction.
*"A little sleep, a little slumber !
A little folding of the hands to rest !"
*So shall poverty come upon thee like
a highwayman ;
Yea, want like an armed man.

CHAPTER XXV.

Other Proverbs.

THESE also are proverbs of Solo-
mon, which the men of Heze-
kiah, king of Judah, collected.
It is the glory of God to conceal a
thing ;
But it is the glory of kings to search
out a matter.
As the heavens for their height,
And as the earth for its depth,

- So is the heart of kings unsearchable !
 Take away the dross from the silver,
 And there will come forth a vessel for the founder ;
 Take away the wicked man from the presence of the king,
 And his throne will be established by righteousness.
 *Put not thyself forth in the presence of the king,
 Nor set thyself in the place of the great ;
 For better is it that one should say to thee,
 "Come up hither !"
 Than that he should put thee in a lower place,
 In the presence of the prince whom thine eyes behold.
 *Go not forth hastily to engage in a suit,
 Lest thou know not what to do in the end of it,
 When thine adversary hath put thee to shame.
 *Maintain thy cause with thine adversary,
 But reveal not another's secret ;
 Lest he that heareth it put thee to shame,
 And thy infamy depart not from thee.
 *A word spoken in season,
 Is like apples of gold in figured-work of silver.
 As a ring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold,
 So is a wise reprovee to an attentive ear.
 As the cold of snow in the time of harvest,
 So is a faithful messenger to them that send him ;
 For he refresheth the spirit of his masters.
- *As clouds and wind without rain,
 So is the man that boasteth falsely of giving.
 By long forbearing is a prince appeased ;
 And a soft tongue breaketh bones.
 Hast thou found honey ? eat what is sufficient for thee,
 Lest thou be surfeited with it, and vomit it up.
 *Let thy foot be seldom in the house of thy friend,
 Lest he be weary of thee and hate thee.
 *A battle hammer, and a sword, and a sharp arrow,
 Is the man who beareth false witness against his neighbor.
 As a broken tooth, and a wavering foot,
 So is trust in an unfaithful man in time of trouble.
 As he that taketh off a garment on a cold day,
 As vinegar upon nitre,
 So is he that singeth songs to a heavy heart.
 *If thine enemy be hungry, give him bread to eat ;
 And if he be thirsty, give him water to drink ;
 *For thou wilt heap coals of fire upon his head,
 And the LORD will reward thee.
 As the north wind bringeth forth rain,
 So a backbiting tongue maketh an angry countenance.
 As cold water to the thirsty,
 So is good news from a far country.
 As a troubled fountain, and as a corrupted spring,
 So is a righteous man falling before the wicked.
 *To eat much honey is not good ;

So the search of high things is weariness.

*As a city broken through and without a wall,

So is he that hath no rule over his spirit.

CHAPTER XXVI.

The evil of folly, idleness and deceitfulness.

*AS snow in summer, and as rain in harvest,

So honor is not becoming to a fool.

*As the sparrow wandereth, and the swallow flieth away,

So the curse without cause shall not come.

A whip for the horse, a bridle for the ass,

And a rod for the back of the fool.

Answer not a fool according to his folly,

Lest thou also become like to him.

Answer a fool according to his folly, Lest he be wise in his own conceit.

He cutteth off the feet, and drinketh damage,

Who sendeth a message by the hand of a fool.

The legs of a lame man hang loose ; So is it with a proverb in the mouth of fools.

As he who bindeth a stone in a sling, So is he that giveth honor to a fool.

As a thorn lifted up by the hand of a drunkard,

So is a proverb in the mouth of fools.

As an archer who woundeth every one,

So is he who hireth fools and hireth wayfarers.

*Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit ?

There is more hope of a fool than of him.

*The slothful man saith, "There is a lion in the way,

I shall be slain in the streets."

*As a door turneth upon its hinges, So doth the sluggard upon his bed.

*The sluggard dippeth his hand into the dish,

It grieveth him to bring it again to his mouth.

*The sluggard is wiser in his own conceit

Than seven men who can render a reason.

As one that taketh a dog by the ears, So is he who, passing by, is enraged

On account of the quarrel of another.

*As a madman

That casteth about darts, arrows, and death,

*So is the man who deceiveth his neighbor,

And saith, "Was I not in sport?"

*Where there is no wood, the fire goeth out ;

So, where there is no talebearer, contention ceaseth.

As coal is for heat, and as wood for fire,

So is a contentious man for kindling strife.

*As drossy silver spread over an earthen vessel,

So are warm lips and an evil heart.

The hater dissembleth with his lips, And layeth up deceit within him.

When he speaketh fair, believe him not !

For there are seven abominations in his heart.

His hatred is covered by deceit ; His wickedness shall be revealed in the great assembly.

*He that diggeth a pit shall fall therein ;

And he that rolleth a stone, it shall
return upon him.

*A lying tongue hateth those whom it
woundeth,

And a flattering mouth worketh ruin.

CHAPTER XXVII.

Against boasting. The value of friendship.

***BOAST** not thyself of to-morrow ;
For thou knowest not what a day
may bring forth !

*Let another man praise thee, and
not thine own mouth ;

A stranger, and not thine own lips.

*A stone is heavy and sand is
weighty ;

But a fool's wrath is heavier than
both.

Wrath is cruel, and anger overwhelm-
ing ;

But who is able to stand before jeal-
ousy ?

*Better is open rebuke
Than love that is hidden.

*Faithful are the wounds of a friend ;
But the kisses of an enemy are de-
ceitful.

He who is fed to the full loatheth the
honeycomb ;

But to the hungry any bitter thing is
sweet.

As a bird that wandereth from its
nest,

So is a man who wandereth from his
place.

Oil and perfume gladden the heart ;
Sweet also is one's friend by hearty
counsel.

*Thine own friend and thy father's
friend forsake not ;

And go not into thy brother's house in
the day of his calamity.

Better is a neighbor that is near,
than a brother far off.

Be wise, my son, and make my heart
glad,

That I may give an answer to him
that reproacheth me.

He who blesseth his neighbor with a
loud voice, rising early for it,

It shall be accounted to him as a
curse.

A continual dropping in a very rainy
day

And a quarrelsome wife are alike.

He who restraineth her restraineth
the wind ;

And his right hand layeth hold of oi'.
Iron sharpeneth iron ;

So the countenance of a friend shar-
peneth a man.

He that watcheth the fig-tree shall
eat its fruit ;

So he that is careful for his master
shall come to honor.

*As in water face answereth to face,
So doth the heart of man to man.

*The realms of the dead are never
full ;

So the eyes of man are never satis-
fied.

The refining-pot is for silver, and the
furnace for gold ;

And a man is tried by that which he
praiseth.

*Though thou shouldst beat a fool in
a mortar,

Among bruised wheat, with a pestle,
Yet will not his folly depart from
him.

Be thou diligent to know the state of
thy flocks,

And look well to thy herds !

For riches last not for ever ;

Not even a crown endureth from
generation to generation.

The hay disappeareth, and the tender
grass showeth itself,

And the herbage of the mountains is gathered in.

The lambs are thy clothing,
And the goats the price of thy field.
There is goat's milk enough for thy food,
For the food of thy household,
And for the sustenance of thy maidens.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

The cowardice of wickedness. Conceit. The way of repentance.

*THE wicked flee when no one pursueth ;

But the righteous is as bold as a lion.
Through the transgression of a land many are its rulers ;

But through men of prudence and understanding the princes shall live long.

A poor man who oppresseth the needy
Is a sweeping rain which leaveth no food.

*They who forsake the law praise the wicked ;

But they who keep the law contend with them.

Wicked men understand not equity ;
But they who seek the LORD understand all things.

*Better is a poor man who walketh in uprightness,

Than he who is perverse in his ways, though he be rich.

*He that keepeth the law is a wise son ;

But he that is the companion of prodigals bringeth shame on his father.

He that increaseth his substance by usurious gain

Gathereth it for him who will pity the poor.

He that turneth away his ears from hearing the law

Even his prayers shall be an abomination.

He that causeth the righteous to go astray in an evil way,
Shall himself fall into his own pit ;
But the upright shall have good things in possession.

The rich man is wise in his own conceit ;

But the poor man, who hath understanding, will search him through.

*When the righteous rejoice, there is great glory ;

But when the wicked are exalted, men hide themselves.

*He that covereth his sins shall not prosper ;

But he that confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

Happy the man who feareth always !
But he who hardeneth his heart shall fall into mischief.

As a roaring lion and a hungry bear,
So is a wicked ruler over a needy people.

The prince who is weak in understanding is great in oppression ;

But he who hateth unjust gain shall prolong his days.

A man who is burdened with life-blood—

Let him flee to the pit ! let no man stay him !

He who walketh uprightly shall be safe ;

But he who is perverse in his ways shall fall at once.

*He who tilleth his land shall have bread enough ;

But he that followeth after worthless persons shall have poverty enough.

*A faithful man shall abound with blessings ;

But he that maketh haste to be rich shall not go unpunished.

To have respect to persons is not good;

Since for a piece of bread that man will transgress.

*He who hateth an evil eye hasteth after wealth,

And considereth not, that poverty will come upon him.

*He who rebuketh a man shall afterwards find favor—

More than he who flattereth with his tongue.

*Whoso stealeth from his father or his mother,

And saith, "It is no transgression," The same is the companion of a robber.

*He who is of a proud heart stirreth up strife;

But he that trusteth in the LORD shall be rich.

He who trusteth in his own understanding is a fool;

But he who walketh wisely shall be delivered.

*He who giveth to the poor shall not want;

But he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse.

When the wicked are exalted, men hide themselves;

But when they perish, the righteous increase.

CHAPTER XXIX.

HE who, being often reprov'd, hardeneth his neck,

Shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.

*When the righteous are powerful, the people rejoice;

But when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

A king by equity establisheth a land; But he who receiveth gifts overthroweth it.

*A man who flattereth his neighbor spreadeth a net for his feet.

In the transgression of a wicked man there is a snare;

But the righteous shall sing and rejoice.

*A righteous man careth for the cause of the poor;

But a wicked man regardeth it not to know it.

Scoffers kindle a city into a flame;

But wise men pacify wrath.

If a wise man reason with a foolish man,

Whether he rage or laugh, there will be no rest.

The bloodthirsty man hateth the upright;

But the righteous seek to preserve his life.

*A fool letteth all his anger come out; But a wise man keepeth it back.

*If a ruler listen to words of falsehood,

All his servants become wicked.

The poor man and the oppressor meet together:

The LORD giveth light to the eyes of them both.

The king that judgeth the poor with uprightness,

His throne shall be established for ever.

*The rod and reproof give wisdom;

But a child left to himself bringeth shame to his mother.

When the wicked are powerful, transgression increaseth;

But the righteous shall see their fall. Chastise thy son, and he will give thee rest;

Yea, he will give delight to thy soul.

Where there is no divine vision, the
people cast off restraint ;
But he that keepeth the law, happy
is he.

*Seest thou a man hasty in his words?
There is more hope of a fool than of
him.

An angry man stirreth up strife,
And a passionate man aboundeth in
transgression.

*A man's pride will bring him low ;
But he that is of a humble spirit shall
obtain honor.

He who shareth with a thief hateth
himself :

He heareth the curse, but maketh
no discovery.

The fear of man bringeth a snare ;
But whoso putteth his trust in the
LORD shall be safe.

Many are they who seek the ruler's
favor ;

But every man's judgment cometh
from the LORD.

As the unjust man is an abomination
to the righteous,

So the upright in his way is an abom-
ination to the wicked.

CHAPTER XXX.

The words of Agur.

THE words of Agur, the son of
Jakeh, even his prophecy ; the
inspired utterance of the man to
Ithiel, even to Ithiel and Ucal.

Truly I am more stupid than any
man ;

There is not in me the understanding
of a man.

I have not learned wisdom,
Nor have I gained the knowledge of
the Most Holy.

Who hath gone up into heaven and
come down ?

Who hath gathered the wind in his
fists ?

Who hath bound up the waters in a
garment ?

Who hath established all the ends of
the earth ?

What is his name, and what is his
son's name, if thou knowest ?

Every word of God is pure ;
A shield is he to them that put their
trust in him.

Add not to his words,
Lest he rebuke thee, and thou be
found a liar.

*Two things do I ask of thee ;
Withhold them not from me, before
I die !

*Remove far from me falsehood and
lies ;

Give me neither poverty nor riches ;
Feed me with the food which is need-
ful for me ;

Lest I be full, and deny thee,
And say, "Who is the LORD?"
Or lest I be poor, and steal,
And violate the name of my God.

*Talk not against a servant to his
master,
Lest he curse thee, and thou suffer
for it.

*There is a class of men that curse
their fathers,
And do not bless their mothers.

*There is a class who are pure in their
own eyes,
And yet are not washed from their
filthiness.

*There is a class,—O how lofty are
their eyes,
And how are there eyelids lifted up !
There is a class, whose teeth are
swords,

And their jaw-teeth knives,
To devour the poor from off the earth,

And the needy from among men.

*The eye that mocketh at a father,
And scorneth to obey a mother,
The ravens of the valley shall pick it
out,
And the young eagle shall eat it.

The words of Aluqua.

Aluqua's.
Two daughters : Give, Give.
Three there are insatiable ;
Four never sayin' enough ;
The nether-world and tyranny ;
The bosom of the earth, insatiable of
water ;
And fire, never saying enough.

These three things are too wonderful
for me :

The track of the eagle in the air,
The track of a serpent upon a rock,
The track of a ship in the midst of
the sea.

Under three things is the earth dis-
quieted ;

Yea, under four it cannot bear up:
Under a servant, when he becometh a
king,

And a fool, when he is filled with
bread ;

Under an odious woman, when she be-
cometh a wife,

And a handmaid, when she becometh
heir to her mistress.

There are four things which are
small upon the earth,

Yet are they wise, instructed in wis-
dom.

The ants are a people not strong,
Yet they prepare in the summer their
food.

The conies are a feeble people,
Yet do they make their houses in the
rocks.

The locusts have no king,

Yet do they all go forth in bands.
The lizard seizeth with its hands,
And is in king's palaces.

These three have a graceful step ;
Yea, four are graceful in their walk:
The lion, the hero among beasts,
Which turneth not back for any ;
The lion-girded war-horse, the he-
goat,

And a king who cannot be withstood.

If thou hast been foolish in lifting
thyself up,

And hast meditated evil,
Put thy hand on thy mouth !

For, as the pressing of milk bringeth
forth cheese,

And as the pressing of the nose
bringeth forth blood,

So the pressing of anger bringeth
forth strife.

CHAPTER XXXI.

Advice given to a king.

THE words given to King Lemuel;
the prophecy which his mother
taught him.

What, O my son ! and what, O son
of my affection !

Yea, what, O son of my vows ! [shall
I say to thee ?]

Give not thy strength to women,
Nor thy ways to that which destroyeth.
It is not for kings, O Lemuel !—

It is not for kings to drink wine,
Nor for princes to desire strong drink ;
Lest they drink, and forget the law,
And pervert the rights of any of the
afflicted.

Give strong drink to him that hath a
heavy heart ;

Let him drink and forget his poverty,
And remember his misery no more !

*Open thy mouth for the dumb,
In the cause of every orphan !

Open thy mouth, judge righteously,
And maintain the cause of the poor
and needy!

Character of a good wife.

Who can find a virtuous woman?
Her worth is far above pearls.
The heart of her husband trusteth in
her,

And he is in no want of gain.
She doeth him good, and not evil,
All the days of her life,
She seeketh wool and flax,
And worketh willingly with her hands.
She is like the merchants' ships;
She bringeth her food from afar.
She riseth while it is yet night,
And giveth food to her family,
And a task to her maidens.
She layeth a plan for a field, and
buyeth it;

With the fruit of her hands she
planteth a vineyard.

She girdeth her loins with strength,
And maketh strong her arms.
She perceiveth, how pleasant is her
gain.

And her lamp is not extinguished in
the night.

She putteth forth her hands to the
distaff,

And her hands take hold of the
spindle.

She spreadeth out her hand to the
poor,

Yea, she reacheth forth her hands to
the needy.

She hath no fear for her household
on account of the snow,
For all her household are clothed with
crimson.

She maketh for herself coverlets;
Her clothing is of fine linen and
purple.

Her husband is known in the gates,
When he sitteth with the elders of
the land.

She maketh linen garments and sel-
leth them,
And delivereth girdles to the mer-
chant.

Strength and honor are her clothing;
And she laugheth at the days to
come.

She openeth her mouth with wis-
dom,

And kind instruction is upon her
tongue.

She looketh well to the ways of her
household,

And eateth not the bread of idleness.
Her children rise up, and extol her;
Her husband, and praiseth her;

"Many daughters have done val-
iantly,

But thou excellest them all."

Grace is deceitful, and beauty vain;
But the woman that feareth the
LORD, she shall be praised.

Give ye her of the fruit of her
hands,

And let her works praise her in the
gates.

PROVERBIAL SAYINGS FROM ECCLESIASTES.

WISDOM excelleth folly,
 As far as light excelleth darkness.
 To every thing there is a season,
 And a time to every purpose under
 the heaven.
 The fool foldeth his hands and eateth
 his own flesh.
 Better is a handful with quietness,
 Than both hands full with toil and
 vexation of spirit.
 Two are better than one,
 For if they fall, the one will lift up
 his fellow.
 When thou vowest a vow to God de-
 lay not to pay it;
 Better is it that thou shouldst not
 vow,
 Than that thou shouldst vow, and
 not pay it.
 He that loveth silver will not be satis-
 fied with silver;
 Nor he, that loveth abundance, with
 increase.
 The sleep of a laboring man is sweet,
 Wh ther he eat little or much ;
 But the fullness of the rich will not
 suffer him to sleep.
 A good name is better than precious
 ointment.
 It is better to hear the rebuke of the
 wise,
 Than to hear the song of fools.
 For as the craeling of thorns under a
 pot,
 So is the laughter of the fool.

Better is the end of a thing than its
 beginning.
 Better is the patient in spirit than the
 proud in spirit.
 Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry;
 For anger resteth in the bosom of
 fools.
 Say not, "Why were the former days
 better than these?"
 For thou dost not inquire wisely con-
 cerning this.
 Wisdom is as good as an inheritance,
 Yea, more excellent is it for them
 that see the sun.
 For wisdom is a shelter, as money is
 a shelter;
 But the excellence of knowledge is,
 That wisdom preserves the life of its
 owner.
 Be not over-righteous, neither be to
 wise,
 Why shouldst thou wear thyself out?
 Wisdom giveth more strength to the
 wise,
 Than ten mighty men in a city.
 There is not a righteous man on earth,
 That doeth good and sinneth not.
 Take not heed to all words that are
 spoken,
 Lest thou hear thy servant curse thee.
 For thy heart also knoweth that thou
 thyself hast often cursed others.
 God hath made men upright;
 But they have sought out many de-
 vices.

Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do,
Do it with thy might.

The words of wise men are heard in
quiet,

More than the cry of him that ruleth
among fools.

Wisdom is better than weapons of
war;

But one sinner destroyeth much good.
Dead flies corrupt the scent of the
ointment ;

So doth a little folly him that is in
reputation for wisdom and honor.

By slothfulness the roof sinketh in,
And by idleness of hands the house
leaketh.

Cast thy bread upon the waters,
For thou wilt find it after many days.

He that observeth the wind will never
sow ;

And he that looketh to the clouds will
never reap.

In the morning sow thy seed,
And in the evening withhold not thy
hand;

For thou knowest not which shall
prosper, whether this or that;

Or whether both shall be alike good.
In the days of prosperity be joyful;

And in the days of adversity consider:
God hath set one by the side of the
other.

* * *

This is the end of the matter; fear
God and keep his commandments; for
this is the whole duty of man.

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