Charles K-
a story for children
original manuscript
In early life I had a young friend whom I very much admired. He was a year older than I, very careful in his dress and always particular about his dress. We first met at the academy on He when I was fifteen and he sixteen. At first I was deceived by him rather too much of a boy to suit his taste but her nature soon struck up a peculiar friendship which has lasted these many years, even to the present time, with scarcely a jar. I never a complete break.

Now quickly friendships, like interludes between the sexes, are initiated. Opposites in characteristics find the easiest adjustment. The impulse lies to the equal and deliberate. The generation + unless seeks to mate with the preceding. Charles H— was just the young man.
I needed for a correction. He just filled into my needs, and I soon found him as a brother. There was nothing very extraordinary in our Academy life beyond the ordinary work interspersed with the usual fun and frolicks. After a time we separated. Church became a mercenary, and I went into the army. We kept up correspondence.

While I was stationed at ALS Fort Brooke, I became very much interested in contemplating the lives of Christians both those named about me and those of which I read. I began, too, to read the Bible a study more than ever before. Letters from friends who were far away from me and the promptings of unusual longings within me pressed me more and more to make my outward life conform to the teachings of Scriptures.

At last a new joy burst upon me and a new hope took possession of my heart.

Now natural it is, especially for a young
person, longing to impart his joy to others when
he think, he may teach with sympathy.
And really that time of year the truth is
for good seed.
I desired to impart to my friend my new
found joy, to tell him how it came abroad
and to urge him to seek for it. Write
this object in view, I wrote. And this
religion, taking the promises of the
Saviour, to apply, those which made
a petition in his name seem to be
heard and answered. I urged my request
with all my might by: And God wouId
bless my letter, and God would bless him
and show him the way of truth.

Charles has been educated in quite another
school of Christian philosophy with myself.
On many points of doctrine we had always
disagreed. He had agreed to differ. But now
my letter came to him like a torrent,
from which he instinctively sought shelter.
He wrote me frankly, that the things
which were engraved in my dissatisfaction
to him. If I would write him about
my meditations and ideas among the
Indians we would enjoy the correspondence, but that religious matter were better left
to one's own quiet meditation. The less
said or written on these subjects by him the
better. Such was the substance of his
reply. Of course I did as he wished and
occasionally wrote on other and more indifferent
topics. But as I loved him I earnestly
desired that he might see these the
most important matters, the very
subjects of life, death, &c. &c. thereafter
in the same light as I did. I continued
to ask my brother to look at
The Vision of Divine Mercy.

After a few months my longing
for him became almost unbearable.
At last, trusting to the influence
of our old friendship to prevent
a rupture, I resolved to venture
another letter. So I wrote
again telling him how much
I desired for his encouragement
how constantly I had prayed
for it.
Judge of my astonishment when at
The expiration of some three or four weeks I received the following beautiful answer.

"Friend Oliver: Your letter of April 17th came duly to hand. Though you have neglected to write me for a long time still judging from your letter you have had your time well occupied.

I have not forgotten you but on the contrary have wished many things him you soon have to talk with me. I commenced attending the morning prayer meetings this spring and my mind & heart became interested in the subject of religion. The more I thought of the matter the more convinced I became that this life is but a preparation for the life to come and that it was my duty to live differently. Thus I was young strong and well with many more blessings than lots of men am enjoying. In this full enjoyment..."
of all these things I feel and did pray all to God to pardon my numerous sins, giving up all to Jesus to take from me my stubborn heart and say from this time forward I will do as near as I could what would be pleasing in his sight. I feel happier than ever before in my life and now I think I have work to do for them ever. It seems like commencing anew, but I can only work by the cheering presence of my God who is ever near me. He will give me strength, steadily move forward in the Christian course. Other, it is very pleasant to gather my family about me morning and evening and quietly sit down to read a chapter in the Bible and then, with all kneeling, to pray to God to keep me upright from morning till my rising again, and feeling sure that He will do so—that all who come
in weakness and sincerity we will in no wise cast out. Oliver pray for me and mine and I will tell you more when I see you.

Very truly yours

Charles K

This good letter indicated a complete revolution in my friend. His life was indeed changed. He soon employed himself actively in special Christian work, becoming the superintendent of a fine Sunday school. He was afterward called to suffer family affliction and unlooked for sciences of fortune; but though all he has always given evidence of his strong meekness forth in his God. It is true that other instrumentally from mine brought my friends to the Christians hope and joy, yet I have felt that God did hear my morning prayer for his overthrow. And I am glad.