SOME OUTDOOR PRAYERS

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Some Outdoor Prayers by George A. Miller

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GEORGE A. MILLER

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George A! Miller

"HE WENT UP INTO A MOUNTAIN APART TO PRAY"

ijniv. Of California

NEW YORK
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PUBLISHERS

Two persals guard the hidden ways To the bluesed life of lowe-filled days, The Door of Prayer, and Gate of Praise.

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SAVE us, O Lord, from Sunday faces and the Churchly tone! May we live every day so well that all the days may be alike good before Thee! Help us to live so naturally that it may be as easy to speak of Thee on the street or in the shop as at church! Most of all, may our homes be our sacred and always used altars of worship and praise! May our lives, like the garment of Jesus, be without seam or difference of texture throughout that we may have but one face and voice and that our best!

GIVE us, O Lord, the wisdom to know just when to invade another's personality for Thee. No human skill can avail for this task most delicate and most divine. May we know when we stand on hallowed thresholds; and when the hearts of our friends are open to thy word, may we never hesitate to enter with the

salutation of peace. Let us never mistake thy guiding impulse and may we have the courage to follow into any place where Thou dost go before us!

SAVE us, O Lord, from the ecclesisstical atmosphere! Give us an out-of-doors flavor in our religion that may put the oxygen of spiritual normality into our souls' blood and charge us with the vigor and vitality of the clean and good universe about us.

SAVE us, O Lord, from mindwandering in prayer! With a thousand voices the world clamors in our ears! The din of the street and the clatter of affairs comes through the closed door, and just when we try to shut out all but Thee, our thoughts slip back into the worn channels again. Help us to make the prayer channel so deep that it may never run dry; so broad that we may unconsciously slip into it in the midst of the day's business, and so long that we may follow it always!

GOD bless the children and help us to be more like the Kingdom of Heaven ourselves! May we not be too childish to become child-like! Give us larger patience with the youngsters who fail to act like old people! Help us to understand the timid hunger after truth, the fearing struggle for self-expression! And may we not forget that we were children once ourselves and that we may not have improved much since!

HELP us, O Lord, to get out of the struggle, character! Help us that amid the cross currents and contrary winds and adverse things we may find our real selves and become seasoned vessels! Teach us how to get out of every hard experience a new note for life's song, another spire for the heart's cathedral, one more candle for the soul's aitar! May every strange visitation open a new door into a field else unknown, and all life be richer and brighter and stronger because of the unexpected and the unexplained! Give to us the fruits of experience — a more exalted purpose, a deeper foundation in reality, a wider range of human sympathy, a higher potentiality of motive power! Make our lives to be more human and more divine!

W E thank Thee, O God, that as we climb higher the path becomes plainer, and the mountain of truth lifts its summit ever more glorious before us. We look back on the mists in the valley and the tangled trail below us, and the great plan begins to unfold. May we count it all joy when

the way is steep, if it lead to clearer visions and better knowing of Thy ways and Thyself.

BE very near us, Lord, in the hour of new resolves, and make us to know that it is not what we intend to do so much as what the life within impels us to do, that determines our conduct. Give us then the new nature in Christ Jesus, that in any case to which we come, we may be constrained to do what he would have us to do. And since we never know what reaction some new situation may call forth, help us to keep very close to Thee every day.

DELIVER us, O Lord, from our hobbies! Preserve us from our fads and protect us from our fancies! Save us from the great idea that springs upon us from the path and takes us captive unawares! When