

# The Indian Advocate

Vol. XIV.

FEBRUARY, 1902.

No. 2

## WHICH SHALL IT BE?

Which shall it be, lads, which shall it be?

God or the devil, bond or free?

Will you boldly and cheerfully take your stand

With the chosen few, with the noble band

Who are steadfastly doing all they can

For God and the right and fallen man?

Or will you sink, debased and blind,

To herd with the ruck of humankind?

God, the devil, bond or free—

Which shall it be, lads, which shall it be?

Which shall it be? The home life sweet,

Gay with the patter of tiny feet:

Or the squalid tap-room, grimy and grim?

The drunkard's curse, or the children's hymn?

Wrecked lives, or the strength that never flags?

Peace and plenty, or ruin and rags?

Which shall it be, lads, which shall it be?

Which shall it be? Two paths lie here—

The right leads upward, the left, ah! where?

Others may give you counsel true,

But the choice, dear lads, is for you, for you!

And remember now in your boyhood's prime,

Is the turning point and the seeding time;

The sot's bent back, or the saint's bent knee?

Which shall it be, lads, which shall it be?

—*Sacred Heart Review.*