

The Methodist Advance.

W. M. ROBEY, Editor.

"That they go forward."—MOSES. "Press toward the mark."—PAUL.

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ADVERTISING RATES.

Table with 4 columns: Rate, 1 m., 3 m., 6 m. and 12 m. for various ad sizes.

Liberal discounts to large advertisers and on yearly contracts. It is desirable that yearly advertisements be changed quarterly.

POISONED BY TOBACCO.

A case of poisoning by nicotine occurred lately in Paris. The victim, a man in the prime of life, had been cleaning his pipe with a clasp-knife...

Boys, never, never use tobacco! It not only poisons the body, but leads to company and practices which have been the ruin of many a man's soul.

GOOD HUMOR.

Good humor is rightly reckoned a most valuable aid to happy home life. An equally good and useful faculty is a sense of humor, or the capacity to have a little fun along with the humdrum cares and works of life.

As ciphers added one by one in an endless row to the left hand of a unit are of no value, but on the right hand rapidly multiply its power, so, although good works are of no avail to make a man a Christian, yet a Christian's good works are both pleasing to God and profitable to men.—Arnott.

The best sermons or the worst, are not those that are preached in our churches, or from the pulpit. They are the sermon lives. And the street, the counting house, the office, the shop, the parlor and the kitchen. And men and women listen to them, who never hear any other. Let us be careful how we preach.

SIBERIAN HAY-MAKERS.

Far away in the most northern part of Siberia a traveler named Pallas found a race of the smallest hay-makers in the world. Some of them live singly and some in families, and they dwell either in houses which they make for themselves in the trunks of old trees, or in villages, as we may call them, made in the clefts of the rocks...

AN ENCHANTED CAVE.

There is a world of wonders yet to be discovered in the South Western country. New Mexico and Arizona abound in natural curiosities, which will furnish any an interesting newspaper and illustrated article. In New Mexico is a great turquoise mine...

LET ME PRAY FIRST.

A sweet and intelligent little girl was passing quietly through the streets of a certain town a short time since, when she came to a spot where several idle boys were amusing themselves by the dangerous practice of throwing stones. Not observing her, one of the boys, by accident, threw a stone toward her, and struck her a cruel blow in the eye.

INSANITY AND DIOCY.

Somewhat first exhilarates a man, and then renders him temporarily insane and ill. We all know that most temporary and acute insanities have a strong tendency to become chronic. A man who is insane for a day is liable to become insane for a week, or a year, or a life time.

SUNDAY WORK.

I had worked for my employer seven years, when upon a certain Saturday night in paying me off he said, "John, I want you to be on hand to-morrow morning, to push forward that machinery, for it is to go to South America by a given time."

OUR CARE TAKER.

"Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you."—1 Peter v. 7. Many times you have heard your minister, say it was easy for children to be Christians. Although you knew they believed what they said, you wondered if they had not forgotten when they were children, or whether they had as many cares and troubles as you, so you said, silently: "It may be easy for ministers or deacons to be good, but very hard work for girls or boys."

THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH.

To secure the proper observance of the Sabbath, we must look to other agencies than human law. We must teach men to love the Sabbath, as the land of Eden, and the prophetic type of heaven, embodying a relic of the peace of the one and a promise of the rest of the other.

SEEING IN A FOG.

A friend of ours last March, sailing down the coast, came on deck one morning to find the air pervaded by a fog so thick as to shut off the vision for even a few yards from the steamer. He had been aware during the night of a peculiar vigilance and activity on board, and ascertained that the fog had lasted since the previous evening.

ONE LIFE.

Among the worldly and profane, and in classical literature in all times, human life is confounded with the present existence, but in the Scriptures it is clearly distinguished therefrom—tacitly and by implication in some instances, in others by express terms. This is the case, both in the Old and New Testament, but particularly in the New.

ADDICTION.

There is probably no task upon which so much labor has been expended as upon that of thrusting the supernatural out of human life. We count not only the books that have been written, the eloquence, satire, sarcasm, sneering denunciation that have been spoken; we must also count the steady struggle of a vast body of men who do not "like to retain God in their thoughts."

OUR VIRTUES AND THE UNSEEN WORLD.

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THE POWER AND WEAKNESS OF THE CHURCH.

If the truth of God is the instrument of power, and the human part of the work is simply its manifestation, then the strength of the church must be weakened whenever the gospel is subordinated to human themes.

THE CHURCH DISPENSES ESSAYS.

If the church dispenses essays upon history, antiquities, philosophy, politics, science, upon Darwin and Huxley; or, if, instead of manifesting the word of God, it reflects the light of the secular press; if it dispenses to the children, instead of bread, stoned gathered from the world's thoroughfares, or poison collected from the fields of rationalistic speculation—then surely it will be no marvel if the church, instead of exorcising demons, sinks into imbecility, while evil spirits sport at her side and haunt her very altars.

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