

manhood. This is the deepest sort of criminality.

We need to get back to the elemental truth which the Psalmist set to the music of his harp. He lived much out under the open heavens and communed with nature's God; and this truth was revealed to him: "The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein." Many of us do not grasp this truth of God's ownership so clearly today. We are self-willed, and this carries with it the desire for self-possession. We like to claim our independence. We are prone to ask whose business is it if we wish to go a certain way, or make a certain use of our powers. If it proves unwise, are not we the sufferers; and, if it proves pleasing and desirable, have we not the right to its enjoyment? So we argue in our blindness, and sometimes fancy that the point is proved. But what is there about us that we originated of ourselves? Have we strength in our strong right arm to till the soil and extract from mother earth the riches that are stored in her fertility? Whence came that strength? Have we intelligence and skill to gather about us wealth and comfort? Who endowed us with that intelligence? Who determined that we should have powers beyond those of the beast of the field, or the fowl of the air? Did we originate these things for ourselves? Truth compels us to look up to God and say: "It is Thou that made us, and not we ourselves?"

No, there is not an emotion that stirs the soul with joy or with pain that we can claim to have begotten of ourselves. We sweep back in imagination very easily to the time when self did not exist. Memory has only a few years over which to roam and gather up its treasures. Within the range of this memory are perhaps father and mother, and about them gather the most sacred things that memory holds; and back of these are other fathers and mothers, and on back of these still others. But it is no difficult thing to get back to the point where there were no fathers and mothers back in the dim unknown. Whence came the first man? This is the inevitable question, and the only satisfying answer that has ever come to the human heart is—God. He has fashioned us according to His own will, and determined the bounds of our privileges and possibilities. It is to the credit of His infinite goodness that He created us in His own image, that He endowed us with God-like powers and made it possible for us to be partakers of His joy. We have no assurance that the angels have this high privilege. If they do, it has not been revealed to us. There was something about the creation and redemption of man that they "desired to look into," and could not. Just what it was we do not know; but there is evidence in the inspired Word that in man God reached the climax of His creative work. He has put within us powers of soul that can scale the heights where God dwells, and share with Him the ineffable bliss of unmingled and triumphant life. What this means we do not know in its fulness yet; but the fact that God has so created us that such possibilities are within our reach certainly obligates us to leave at His disposal all these unusual powers. We are not our own; we belong to God. The tap root of the whole question of stewardship fixes itself in that fundamental truth. Our personality is His.

Have You Enlisted for College?

We do not apologize for the large space that we have given to this question for the past several weeks. We are at a crucial time just now, and we feel that we can render our young people, the Church, the State, no better service than to induce our young people to take advantage of every opportunity for the best possible training

to meet the issues that must be met now and in the immediate future. It seems to us that no thoughtful man can be indifferent to the manner in which the world's life will shape itself within the next five years. While the world is in flux is the time to set its currents to moving in the right direction. When once these currents gather momentum in a determined direction, it will be too late then to fashion the future. It will have been already fashioned. We are in the midst of the time that must give character to the future for at least many years to come. What will that character be?

The answer to this question must not be left to chance. The current of the world's life must not be allowed to drift as it will—the drift always moves to a lower level. God has given to us intelligence and conscience, and these divine gifts are for use; but their highest use calls for training and culture. This training and culture, too, must be of the right sort. We do not desire the "kultur" of German rationalism that has thrown the world into this seething caldron that is trying men's souls today. But this cannot be offset by ignorance and undeveloped powers. This throws a tremendous responsibility upon the school and the college at this crisis. It is for them so to train the youth that is thrown within their walls that righteousness and justice and love shall be the dominating elements of their character. Our institutions cannot do this without taking Christ into co-partnership with them in a very real sense. The Christian religion must be the foundation upon which the new world structure shall be built, and those who are to do the building—most especially those who are to be leaders in this building—must be brought to know Christ in the most intimate and experimental way. The school into whose hands the youth are turned at this critical time have an important part to perform in this work, and it cannot be too insistently demanded that they enthrone Christ in their life and teaching.

We have been writing particularly with reference to our young men, but the need for the Christian training of our young women is none the less imperative. The necessities of the battle front have thrown the men somewhat forward at this time, but the call for cultured and trained Christian young women was never so imperative as it is now. Woman's part in giving tone and character to the life of the rising generation is a most important one. Even in the very thick of the fight in these stormy times of war, she is finding a necessary place to fill, and that place is growing larger all the time. She will continue to make the home, and the home will continue to determine the type of life that we will find in every field of human activity; but her work is no longer by any means confined to the home. She is making her way into practically every field of endeavor in which men engage, and her efficiency is not one whit behind them. But all this calls upon her to qualify herself for the larger tasks that she is assuming.

Now is the time, therefore, of all times to crowd our colleges both for men and for women with eager students. The world needs a generation of trained and consecrated workers in this crucial period when the world's life is in a state of flux. It is needed that the future may be made secure against the forces of evil, and that our Christ shall be the centre of the forces that fashion it anew.

The Church is the one divine institution in this world. She is the Lamb's bride, and He watches over her with a peculiar jealousy. And yet this bride has a large human element in her and she sometimes flirts too much with the world. A number of times in history she has gone aside from her central purpose and become soiled with the garments of the flesh. She has

flirted with political power, and in doing so has been temporarily shorn of her spiritual strength. She has sometimes sought to use the powers of the world, and it has not infrequently happened in such cases that the powers of the world have used her. It seems to us that there is a multitude of things trying to use the Church today. They clothe themselves with plausible reasons in appealing for her influence, and sometimes they grow brazen enough to affirm that they are the chief thing for which the Church should concern herself, if she would maintain her hold upon the people. In all of this there is much peril, and there is only one safety. The Church must never cease to put the supreme emphasis upon the one thing of saving men from sin and hell. Whenever other issues are allowed to cloud this one, then the Church is in imminent peril.

Advocate Stock--Washington District

Rev. C. L. Read, presiding elder of the Washington District, wishes us to announce that the following charges on his district have paid in full the amount apportioned them for the purchase of the Advocate stock:

Wilson, Farmville, Rocky Mt.—First Church, Rocky Mt.—Marvin, Stantonsburg, Elm City, Bethel, Fremont, Swan Quarter Circuit (credit of 12.00). The total amount to date \$324.50. We shall be glad to add to this list as rapidly as the money is sent in and reported to us.

Mostly Personal.

Rev. L. L. Smith asks us to announce that his postoffice is Timberlake, N. C., instead of Rougemont as formerly.

Mrs. J. H. McCoy, wife of Bishop J. H. McCoy, recently underwent an operation for appendicitis. At last report she was doing well.

Rev. W. A. Stanbury, pastor of our Church at Wilson, held a special service for the young people of his congregation on the morning of September 8th.

Rev. R. C. Beaman, D. D., of Lumberton, has been visiting in New Bern recently. His son, Mr. J. Southgate Beaman, of Henderson, accompanied him.

Rev. and Mrs. W. R. Royall and little son, Richard, who have been spending some time in the mountains, have returned to Sanford, where Brother Royall is pastor of our Church.

From the Coaster we learn that Rev. J. C. Wooten, presiding elder of the Durham District, and Rev. W. C. Martin, pastor at West Durham, spent two days in Morehead City last week.

The National Committee on the Churches and the Moral Aims of the War are planning a speaking tour of the country this fall. They will be assisted in this campaign by Chaplain Daniel Couve who comes as a representative of the French Protestant Committee of Paris.

Rev. J. W. Hoyle, Jr., who has had charge of the work at Lodge Street and at Barefoot's Chapel, has been drafted into the army. He left on August 8, and has been stationed at Camp Wadsworth. He has been ordered overseas, and his address is at this time unknown.—The Wilson Methodist.

A special from Oxford to the Greensboro Daily News of August 30th says: "The revival services in the Oxford Methodist Church for the past ten days have been well attended. Rev. R. M. Courtney, of Hickory, is assisting Rev. R. H. Willis, and he has preached some strong sermons."

In its issue of August 8th the New York Christian Advocate noted the fact that the various institutions of higher learning for men under the control of the Methodist Episcopal Church had 10,775 representatives in the army and navy of the United States. The list of institutions was not complete and the number is, of course, constantly increasing.