

## Sunday Reading.

## Deferred Articles.

FOR THE NORTH-CAROLINA WHIG.  
THOUGHTS ON PRAYER AS A DUTY.

Truly to eternity, do you ever pray? or are you of that prayerless sect who think it almost, if not quite, a useless means of grace? Vain imagination! All our spiritual blessings are given in answer to fervent prayer to the Giver of all good. Hearken to the Saviour! He teaches that if we ask the Father in his name that he (the Father) will give them unto us. Our Heavenly Father never fails in change of heart upon us. Although he by his word, and "spurts," and "Gospel," and "Promises," calls and woos, exorts and admonishes, yet it does not follow, as a legitimate consequence, from all those manifestations of his will to have us saved; that we have nothing to do in the matter. If we desire a change of heart we must apply the beautiful balm to the moral disease. If we would have God to hear us we must call. If we desire to find him, we must diligently seek for him. If we wish to have the door of mercy open to us, we must knock. These are the reasonable requirements of him who hath said, "Seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you."

Suppose we do not understand why it is made our duty to pray, shall we refuse because there has not been a palpable reason appended to the command? As an humble, faithful subject, we should not stoop to reason whether it is objective or subjective in its nature and application. It is not for us to say whether God can bless us just as consistently without prayer or not. To cavil thus with a plain duty is downright presumption, and cannot be otherwise than fatal to God.

It is the prerogative of our Creator to command; as his dependent creatures it is our duty to obey. How inconsistently we act! A good soldier never calls in question the authority or right of his general to command. He would die in the discharge of the duty imposed on him. Instead of daring the presumption to demand a reason why he was ordered to discharge such a duty, he would promptly obey.

Must we, then, in spiritual matters, know the reason why we are commanded to pray? We, who have hoped to avert the fame of the dutiful soldier, refuse to obey God, because we cannot have a reason, or a cause, for every effect stamped by infinite wisdom upon our finite minds! But we refuse, and then flatter ourselves that God will not hold us accountable (as a merciful Being) for the non-performance of a duty we could not see the reasonableness of!

Such a subterfuge will fail to avert the storm in the day of final judgment. Soon Heaven's darling conduct nothing more or less than a species of philosophical religiosity, properly termed refined infidelity.

Farwiser yet, no doubt, there is hidden from our understanding in nature a thousand causes for as many manifest effects. Why do we not follow out with our Maker for causing us to see "all through a glass darkly" at these things?

These things are overlooked in our eager haste to strain our vision to the point where we measure the deep things of eternity can be seen, or if not to be, and in our vanity we often imagine we have solved a problem before unknown to the moral part of the world. God has said in the researches of man, as he did to the wide waste of waters, "Hitherto shalt thou come, and no further." If we wish to be contented and happy—to have a clear conscience toward God and man, we must take Christ, the Patriarch, the Prophets, the Apostles, and every other pious Christian that ever breathed the pure spiritual atmosphere of Heaven, for our teachers. They prayed to God as a duty, and as a necessity. "Let us pray" faithfully, honestly and fervently, and then, when the dial points us to the termination of our earthly existence, we will, if God permit, be able to say, "Thanks be unto God who giveth us as the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

**ENTHUSIASM IN RELIGION.**  
We need more of it; a hundred fold more than we have. Enthusiasm in science, in trade, in politics, we have plenty of, and all that is done for the advance of business and learning is done by enthusiastic men.

The word needs to be guarded, but the present reader knows that enthusiasm is not fanaticism. The grandest subject in the universe of God takes full possession of the soul, ought to fill it with intense emotion. It shall profit a man nothing to gain the whole world and lose his own soul; and if we praise him who pursues business with so much industry and tact as to gain a million before he dies, shall we not much more admire the enthusiasm of him who gains heaven?

The world is to be saved. We ought to be earnest about saving it. Our friends, children, neighbors, the beaten and the perishing. We can do something to save them. If they were on a ship wrecked of shore, or in a burning house, we would be enthusiastic to deliver them from death. May we not be enthusiastic in delivering them from hell?

The spouses were enthusiastic. The Sawyer himself was filled with zeal. All the business who have been mighty in pulling down or building up have been enthusiastic. God grant that the slaves may rise and shake herself from the dust. It is time to be up and doing. Let us work while it is day.

**A BEAUTIFUL INCIDENT.**  
In the public school in Coates street above Twelfth, in Philadelphia, one day lately while the school was in session, a transom window fell out with a crash. By some means the cry of "fire" was raised, and a terrible panic ensued. The school rushed into the street shrieking in wild dismay. The alarm extended to the teachers also, one of whom, a young lady, actually jumped from the window. Among the human shapes of children, with whom the building was crowded, was one girl, among the best in the school, who though all the frightful scene maintained entire composure. The color, indeed, flushed her cheek. Her lips quivered. The tears stood in her eyes—but she moved not.

After order had been restored, and her companions had been brought back to their places the question was asked her how she came to sit still without apparent alarm when every body else was in such a fright. "My father," said she, "is a Bremen, and knows what to do in such a case, and he told me, if there was any danger of fire in the school, I must sit still." What a beautiful illustration of faith! My father told me so, and my father knew. That is the root of the matter—implicit, unshaking trust in our heavenly Father.

**CHURCHES BECOMING PERSONAL.**—The Washington States is informed that several copies of a religious tract were recently passed up at the Capitol, entitled "Are you saved?" They were distributed for the benefit of members just before the adjournment of Congress.

## Mecklenburg Bonds.

SEVEN PER CENT. PER ANNUM.  
THESE BONDS are undoubtedly the safest investment that can be made, and are preferable to any State Bonds.

The county cannot repossess. They bear seven per cent interest payable semi-annually, \$1000 for the denomination of \$1000, which will make more current and useful for domestic purposes.

The coupons will prove a convenient medium for paying county taxes.

The citizens of the county should possess them, as they are now offered to them. Proposals left at either Bank in Charlotte or with Captain John Walker will receive prompt attention.

W. H. GUION.  
Pr. W. C. & R. R. Co.  
Sept. 25, 1858.

**Wm. A. Owens,**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
CHARLOTTE, N.C.

WILL practice in the Courts of Mecklenburg  
and the surrounding counties.  
At office nearly opposite the Post Office.  
Dec. 16, 1858.

**PAPER  
COMMISSION WAREHOUSE,  
AND  
PRINTER'S DEPOT.**

For the sale of  
Writing, Printing, Envelope,  
AND  
COLORED PAPERS, CARDS,  
AND  
PRINTING MATERIALS  
OF ALL KINDS.

Agent for  
L. JOHNSON & CO., Type Founders,  
R. HOE & CO.,  
And other Printing Press makers.

**PRINTING INKS, OF BEST QUALITY,  
AT MANUFACTURER'S PRICES.**

**TO MERCHANTS.**

The Subscribers beg to call attention to his

**LARGE STOCK OF  
Writing & Wrapping Paper**

of all kinds, which he will sell very low

for cash, or short credit on large sums.

JOSEPH WALKER.  
120 Meeting St., Charlotte, N.C.  
Dec. 21, 1858.

4 o'clock P.M.

Meeting met according to adjournment. The Committee appointed at the morning session reported the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the act of the General Assembly of the State, entitled "An act to protect the interest of the State of North Carolina in the Cape Fear and Deep River Navigation Company," with a view to accept or reject the same, and whereas, before coming to any decision, the interests of all concerned demands the utmost care and deliberation, therefore,

Resolved, That a committee of nine be appointed by the chair, to whom shall be referred the said act and all matters bearing upon the authority or right of his general to command. He would die in the discharge of the duty imposed on him. Instead of daring the presumption to demand a reason why he was ordered to discharge such a duty, he would promptly obey.

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