

The Messenger.

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WILMINGTON, N. C.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1898.

RELIGIOUS EDITORIALS FOR SUNDAY

"If thou wouldst free thyself from doubt, Find God within, and work without."

"Liberal thought" in matters pertaining to religion may be like "conservatism" in politics or affairs generally. It may be in the one case so very liberal as to destroy the fundamentals of true religion and piety, as in politics the "conservatism" may be so broad as to amount to a positive negation of what is right and necessary. Some religionists are so very "liberal" they would open wide the doors of the Church to all manner of belief, and cannot distinguish between the false and the true. There is a right and a wrong, but ordinarily the middle ground is the safe and proper ground. While it may be really obnoxious to criticism to be so very "liberal" it is also equally offensive to be too extreme. When we see a Boston Unitarian organ congratulating itself on the spread of "liberal thought" among the Protestant churches, we are suspicious as we are in the "devil quotes scripture," or infidelity or paganism talk of Bible truth and the way of life. Not that an Unitarian is wicked and deceitful like his Satanic majesty, or an infidel in the manner of Bob Ingersoll, but the rejoicing in "liberal thought" may be to so broaden the doors that modern pagans or rejecters of Christ as Divine may be readily recognized as orthodox and sound to the core. So broad is "liberal thought" that the Christian Register sees, or imagines it sees, that with evident satisfaction and pleasure, it asks:

"Where are the men in any enlightened community who really believe that any just and friendly neighbor is in danger of eternal doom for not belonging to the right kind of church? Where, indeed, are the women any longer who lie at night praying for the conversion of good Unitarian or Universalist husbands? The Unitarian 'leaven' is the conviction that the good life may doubtless be lived, and is actually lived, apart from any particular scheme of doctrine. * * * This leaven is all abroad in the world. The essential teaching of the Unitarian churches has not concerned itself with the metaphysical issue of the Trinity or the new criticism of the Bible or with the nature of Jesus."

"Christ is a good, wise, great man, sent on a special mission, as Moses and other Biblical characters were, but He is purely, essentially man and not God. That is Unitarianism as to the Saviour. It is no more Christian than any other modern religion that denies the Divinity of Jesus. The strange thing with 'liberal thought' is that it thinks what Jesus never thought and says what the Christ never said. He believed and said that He was Divine. The Unitarian Solomon knows more than the Master knew. Hear ye Him. He said He was 'equal' with God. 'In the beginning'—before worlds were made—'was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God.' We would emphasize 'was' God and 'with' God. 'All things were made by Him'—'all things,' not a 'part' were made not by some other being, but 'by Him.' Listen: 'Without Him was not any thing made that was made.' 'Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill Him, because He said also that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.' 'He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God.' 'I and My Father are one.' * * * that ye may know and believe that the Father is in me, and I in Him.' 'Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God.' 'For in Him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.'"

There are some passages in Paul's second letter to Timothy, in the second chapter, to which we would refer briefly. It is set forth how God is faithful, both in rewards and punishments. The apostle primarily states the duties enjoined upon the ministry, but what applies to them in part also applies to the disciples, to the people who sit in the pews. The "faithful men" of the pulpits—truly converted and consecrated men, of real piety and "good soldiers of Jesus Christ," are to enforce, to expound, to read the Scriptures, and to devote themselves to this most important work "not entangling themselves with the affairs of this life." But the men of the pews are also to "endure hardness" and "to strive for masteries" in order that they with the ministers who are faithful, and true may at last be "crowned." Men are slow to read, to study God's unerring,

sure word of truth. They neglect the Christian Scriptures, and forget the best of tidings or would forget if they did so. hear them from the pulpit. The human heart is naturally deceitful and sinful and will not love spiritual things or seek the chief mercies of God that a one can make men happy and blessed forevermore. The Holy Bible lies dust-covered, unread, and but for the preaching of the Word men would never hear, be persuaded, and live. But among men "who are sufficient for these things?" A man to preach the truths of God should understand them both in theory and practice. He should be intellectually equipped by study as well as by Christian experience. He should know whereof he speaks. He should above all things "be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus." He should know the Scriptures thoroughly well and have an experimental knowledge of the same, illumined by the Holy Spirit and "strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might." If he is not "indeed with the power from on high," and is not intellectually qualified by study he may "not endure hardness" as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. He may shrink under trial from duty and yield to difficulties. He will not be "crowned" except he strive lawfully. Perseverance, fidelity, zeal, consecration, wisdom, horse-sense, learning in the Scriptures of Inspiration are essentials not to be spurned or neglected. The pew has great and solemn duties also, and we be to the man who does not perform them up "to the measure of his ability." "If we deny Him, He also will deny us." God will forever fulfill His part of the contract. "It is a faithful saying, For if we are dead with Him, we shall also live with Him." He will reward and He will punish according to His promise. God cannot and will not "deny Himself." The blessed Saviour told His disciples and us, that "whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before My Father which is in Heaven." Remember that this is not all of life to live, and that when this poor, little, unsatisfying life is ended that after it all, after death itself, there is "the judgment." See Hebrews 9:27. God "abideth faithful." Let men "strive lawfully" and faithfully for the higher, the larger life, that they may be "crowned" in the upper and better Kingdom. After writing that we saw a clipping we had taken recently from a religious exchange. The celebrated and very gifted and most marvellous preacher, Rev. Frederick W. Robertson, of the English Established Church, who died in his very prime, less than 40 years of age, said more quotable, admirable things than any preacher of the last half century. He said this, and it is pertinent to a part of the above:

"I think the strictness of self-examination for ministerial fitness in contained in that solemn, searching question of our Lord, thrice repeated, 'Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou Me more than these?' It is not a minister's wisdom, but his conviction, which imparts itself to others. Nothing gives life but life. Real flame alone kindles other flame. 'This was the power of the apostles. We believe, and therefore speak.' Firm faith in what they spoke, that was the basis of the apostles' strength; but in us there is one thing wanting—we only half believe."

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SALMAGUNDI.

Messrs. B. F. Johnson & Co., the book publishing company in Richmond, Va., is doing a considerable business. They are sending out a dozen or so educational works that can not fail to prove beneficial and stimulating to the south. This publishing of a southern series has been progressing for several years, and the books have been widely distributed in the several states of southland. Some years ago we directed attention to two of their books—Mrs. Lee's larger "History of the United States," and Miss Manly's "Southern Literature." The "Advanced School History of the United States" by Mrs. Susan Pendleton Lee, is widely used and generally praised. Even a Boston paper had favorable words for it. Southern teachers and editors have given very cordial indorsement. It is a well bound octavo of 612 pages, price \$1 and very cheap, and well printed in clear, large type. While true to the south it is true to facts and not unfriendly to the north or to the American Union. Miss Louise Manly had added "Questions and Summaries for Reviews and Essays." The work is for schools, but it is an excellent work for the households. Mrs. Lee writes entertainingly, clearly and with taste and judgment. The schools in North Carolina will be the better by introducing it instead of using other histories that are not written in fairness, but are hostile and false.

Mrs. Lee has a second work, "A Brief History of the United States," which is neatly bound, contains 416 pages, and like the large work, is illustrated. It is the very work for the younger classes in United States history. There is also a Summary for essays and reviews. Price 75 cents.

It is the duty of southern boards of education and southern principals of schools to introduce good educational books by southern authors. It is right every way. It is just to all that this should be done.

Mrs. Lee has prepared still another useful volume—"Primary School History of the United States." It, too, is well illustrated, well printed, on good paper, and well bound. It contains 246 pages and will answer excellently for the younger students in their country's remarkable and romantic history that is so well calculated to capture the youthful mind and hold it through the years. It contains the best outlines

in a simple, pleasing style. Let us be introduced in southern schools. The "Southern Literature" was published three or four years ago. It is a southern woman, Miss Louise Manly, of South Carolina, who is dead, from the North Carolina family of that name. It is "a comprehensive review, with copious extracts and criticisms, from 1597 to 1895. It is for school readers as well as schools. It contains 'a full list of southern authors published, The Messenger notes it favorably and it is deserving of introduction into all southern schools. It has been well received in the north and meets a demand not here supplied. It may be said without exaggeration that it is well prepared, has much variety, is in excellent style and is a text book to be warmly recommended. Every southern school should put it in the curriculum. The Times-Herald says of it: 'It is a powerful array as to what this section of the Union has achieved. It is impartial as it is patriotic.' It is printed on excellent paper and at \$1, is astonishingly low."

Miss Gilder, one of the editors of the New York Critic, says she prefers "Middlemarch" to any of George Eliot's novels. That judgment was questioned, we doubt not, by the highest grade of English critics. "Sam Bede," "Silas Marner," and "The Floss" will stand a better chance in the chief critical court as works of true genius and real art. Miss Gilder admires Carlyle's volumes edited by Froude, and says they are "wonderful books with all their faults, faults that made them no less wonderful." It is pleasant to agree with her in this. To love Carlyle may be the result of cultivation, but it brings its own exceeding great reward. We have never been in any mental mood that we could not enjoy Carlyle's writings generally and Macaulay's essays. There are hardly two celebrated writers more unlike than these two great writers. In their special domain they have but few rivals.

Augustine Birrell is an entertaining, clever English critic; two of his volumes have had much sale in this country, "Obiter Dicta." Not long ago he wrote in Chambers' (Edinburgh) Journal, of Mark Antony's speech in Shakespeare's noble play of "Julius Caesar," and says he took the account in "Plutarch's Lives" of the orator of Antony, and then "turned this in something we call his mind, and the outcome was the 'most marvellous speech ever put by poet in the mouth of man.'" This reminds us of what the late Judge Robert B. Gilliam, of Oxford, said to us about 1850—that the greatest speech in all the world ancient or modern, was Shakespeare's speech put into Mark Antony's mouth. Judge Gilliam was not only an able jurist, but widely read in some parts of literature. This remark came to us when young to give close study to that speech, which we have pursued ever since. It is simply incomparable. There is no speech to be mentioned with it in the same year, not even those of Demosthenes or Pericles or Edmond Burke. It is the most ingenious, the most artistic, the most effective, the most direct, the noblest of all speeches. Mr. Bagehot, the eminent English authority both in political economy and letters, said of Shakespeare at this wonderful observation, that "he walked down a street he knew what was in it." He despoiled largely of his made his pifflings immortal. It is easily above all men in genius that ever walked among the children of men. It is a pity that every young man at twenty does not begin to read, to save Sunday, the writings of this Shakespeare, to quote Coleridge's saying. A life time thus devoted could bring to an ingenious and capable mind more intellectual pleasures and satisfaction than could be derived from the study of any other dozen authors. The more he would read the more he would understand and the profounder the pleasure. We would rather have Shakespeare than all the works of all the other uninspired authors of earth.

It is to be hoped that the literature to meet will steer clear of extravagance and needless appropriations. The eyes of the people will be used, and will watch closely any extravagance in the use of the public moneys. Some of the newspapers are demanding a razeing of salaries. We think this should be approached with caution. There is such a thing as intelligent, wise economy, and there is a thing that runs "penny-wise and pound foolish." Do not seek to splurge or starve on the one hand, or to splurge and waste on the other. The middle way is almost always the wise and safe way. The democratic platform adopted had this:

AVOID SCANDAL AND EXTRAVAGANCE.

"We denounce the scandal, extravagance, incompetency and corruption of the present republican state administration."

Well taken, for the scandals were conspicuous for depravity and dishonesty. The extravagance was quite needless and wasteful, while corruption ate like a cancer and blurred the record. Avoid you would a chancel house the fault and pollutions of the black radicalism. The people expect and demand good government. They voted for it, and for it, won it. Do not disappoint them Messrs. Legislators. Pass only good and needed laws that will stand the test of time. Angry words vanish when Starch is used.

test and will not require an extra session or called session to amend or abolish them. Make haste slowly. Bad laws blast and offend. Wise laws protect and bless. Let all corruption be shut out—everything that is remotely kin to it or concerns it. Spurn all jobbery. To retain the confidence of the people and have a permanent hold upon elections, wisdom, integrity, practical judgment and true patriotism must be asserted from the beginning of the session to the close. Let there be no trading for selfish ends or rewards. The old, often quoted but perpetually admirable and wise advice of Cardinal Wolsey in "Henry the Eighth" will ever remain the best of advice to all politicians and legislators:

"Be just and fear not: Let all the ends thou aimst at be thy country's, Thy God's and truth's."

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LESSONS FROM EUROPEAN EXPERIENCE

Mr. W. A. Ireland has a paper in The Atlantic Monthly for December entitled "European Experience in Tropical Colonies." It becomes of practical interest because of the reaching out, revolutionary policy threatening the United States by reason of the late war with Spain. Our government went to war to liberate Cuba, and give it freedom and independence, a government of its own. Now the plan of the majority perhaps is to annex all the many islands belonging to Spain. We refer to this because Mr. Ireland's paper throws some light upon "Tropical Experiences" of the nations. Many lessons to instruct could be drawn from the past. The Colonial history of the nations might be important in its teachings to the United States. Mr. Ireland gives two illustrative facts that are both suggestion and commentary. They bring up a matter that might provoke large discussion, while furnishing a commentary upon national exploiting without first counting the cost. Mr. Ireland sums up in this wise: "We find that Holland has succeeded in Java, where the population is composed of Malaysians, and forced labor has been exacted; that she has failed in Surinam, where the population is largely negro, and where no compulsory labor has been used; that England has failed wherever the population is composed of negroes and has attained a moderate success only where East Indian laborers form a considerable proportion of the population, and a contract-labor system is in force; finally, that wherever, in those colonies which have been dealt with, any considerable industries exist, the East Indian indentured immigrant is found doing the work. "Any attempt to govern the tropical possessions of the United States on democratic principles is doomed to certain failure. It has been clearly shown that without forced labor, or at least some form of indentured labor, large industries cannot be developed in tropical colonies."

State University Notes

(Correspondence of The Messenger.) Chapel Hill, December 10.

Last night in Gerrard hall the University Dramatic Club gave their first performance for this season. They presented the two farce comedies "The Little Rebel," in one act, by Coyne and "Evening Dress" in two acts by William Dean Howells, both plays abound in ludicrous situations and amusing mix-ups. All the characters acted their parts perfectly and showed true Thespian art in the rendition. "The Little Rebel" is of love. The mother and daughter love the same man. Finally after much skillful trickery on the daughter's part and many most amusing occurrences the daughter marries her lover and throws her mother off on some one else. "Evening Dress" abounds in funny and peculiar situations. The husband who has just returned from a long journey and is exceedingly tired promises his wife to follow her to a musical; she telling him that a friend will call for him. When the friend comes, he begins to dress but after searching, he cannot find his dress suit. All the rest of the evening is spent in looking for his dress clothes and immediately the house is turned upside down. All to no purpose. It cannot be found. His wife finally returns, very much enraged, but finally has to acknowledge her own guilt in having hid the clothes. Explanations ensue and no harm results. Both plays are indeed amusing and they kept the audience convulsed from beginning to end.

While all the characters are by boys, yet Messrs. Carr, Harris and Gruber make very charming females and succeed in captivating the audience. Messrs. Woodard, and Lockett also played their parts very ably. During the Christmas holidays the club will show "In Tarboro, Goldsboro, Wilson and on the night of the 30th in the opera house, they will present these two plays in Wilmington. All the lectures concluded today and on Monday the final examination before the holidays begin. They will continue till the 22nd. The gymnasium has ceased having exercises until after Christmas. Dr. Hume is in attendance on the Baptist convention at Greenville. Professor Cobb is also away from the "hill". Dr. Hoge who has been here for the past week, left yesterday. He made a most excellent impression and all hated to see him leave. While here he has made many friends and has done much good with his excellent but short talks in the chapel and Young Men's Christian Association.

Dr. Alderman spoke in Raleigh Thursday night on "Egypt and the Nile." The Shakespeare Club held their last meeting on Wednesday night. Interesting papers were read by Dr. Hume, Mr. C. A. Shore, H. Anderson, and H. Watson. The meeting was very interesting.

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Judicial Sale of Land for Taxes.

WHEREAS AT THE SEPTEMBER

term, 1898, of the Superior Court of New Hanover County, it was among other things, ordered and adjudged by the Court, in a certain cause therein pending, wherein the City of Wilmington is plaintiff and Francis Brewster is defendant, that the plaintiff recover of the defendant the sum of \$87.36 with interest on the sum of \$87.36 and the costs of the action, and the said sum was declared to be a lien on the lands and premises hereinafter described. It was further ordered and adjudged by said Court that unless the said sum and costs should be paid by the 1st day of October, 1898, that the Sheriff of New Hanover County should sell the lands and premises hereinafter described, at public auction; and whereas, default has been made in the payment of said judgment, now, therefore, in obedience to said decree, the undersigned, the Sheriff of New Hanover County, will expose for sale at public auction, for cash, to the highest bidder, at the Court House door of New Hanover County, on Monday, the 16th day of January, 1899, at 12:30 o'clock p. m., on said day, the following described tracts, lots, or parcels of land, situated, lying and being in the City of Wilmington, N. C., and bounded and described as follows: Beginning at the eastern line of Twelfth street 185 feet from the southeastern intersection of Twelfth and Dawson streets and runs thence eastwardly and parallel with Dawson street 185 feet to Twelfth street, thence westwardly and parallel with Twelfth street 66 feet to the beginning. The same being W. 1/2 of lot 4, in Block 42, according to the official plan of the City of Wilmington. Second Tract—Beginning at the northern intersection of Queen and Twelfth streets and runs thence eastwardly along the line of Queen street 330 feet to Thirteenth street, thence northwardly along the western line of Thirteenth street 132 feet, thence westwardly and parallel with Queen street 165 feet to Twelfth street, thence southwardly 132 feet to the beginning. Same being all of lots 5 and 6, in Block 84, according to the official plan of said City. Third Tract—Beginning at the northern intersection of Thirteenth and Greenfield streets and runs thence eastwardly along the northern line of Greenfield street 220 feet to Twelfth street, thence northwardly along the line of Twelfth street 132 feet to the beginning. Same being all of lots 5 and 6, in Block 104, according to the plan of said City. WALTER G. MACRAE, Sheriff of New Hanover County. dec 11, law, till Jan 16.

Judicial Sale of Land for Taxes.

WHEREAS AT THE SEPTEMBER

term, 1898, of the Superior Court of New Hanover County, it was among other things, ordered and adjudged by the Court, in a certain cause therein pending, wherein the City of Wilmington is plaintiff and Roger Moore is defendant, that the plaintiff recover of the defendant the sum of \$59.47, with interest on the sum of \$59.47 and the costs of the action, and the said sum was declared to be a lien on the lands and premises hereinafter described. It was further ordered and adjudged by said Court that unless the said sum and costs should be paid by the 1st day of December, 1898, that the Sheriff of New Hanover County should sell the lands and premises hereinafter described, at public auction; and whereas, default has been made in the payment of said judgment, now, therefore, in obedience to said decree, the undersigned, the Sheriff of New Hanover County, will expose for sale at public auction, for cash, to the highest bidder, at the Court House door of New Hanover County, on Monday, the 16th day of January, 1899, at 12:45 o'clock p. m., on said day, four undivided fifths of the following described tract, lot or parcel of land, situated, lying and being in the City of Wilmington, N. C., and bounded and described as follows: Beginning at a point in the eastern line of Front street 132 feet south of the southeastern intersection of Front and Ann streets and runs thence eastwardly and parallel with Ann street 330 feet to the western line of Second street, thence southwardly along the western line of Second street 96 feet, thence westwardly and parallel with Ann street 330 feet to the eastern line of Front street, thence northwardly along the eastern line of Front street 66 feet to the beginning point. Same being four undivided fifths of all of lot 3, in Block 118, in the City of Wilmington. WALTER G. MACRAE, Sheriff of New Hanover County. dec 11, law, till Jan 16.

Judicial Sale of Land for Taxes.

WHEREAS AT THE SEPTEMBER

term, 1898, of the Superior Court of New Hanover County, it was among other things, ordered and adjudged by the Court, in a certain cause therein pending, wherein the City of Wilmington is plaintiff and W. H. Carter, Jr., is defendant, that the plaintiff recover of the defendant the sum of \$7.89 and the costs of the action and the said sum was declared to be a lien on the lands and premises hereinafter described. It was further ordered and adjudged by said Court that unless the said sum and costs should be paid by the 1st day of October, 1898, that the Sheriff of New Hanover County should sell the lands and premises hereinafter described, at public auction; and whereas default has been made in the payment of said judgment, now, therefore, in obedience to said decree, the undersigned, the Sheriff of New Hanover County will expose for sale at public auction, for cash, to the highest bidder, at the Court House door of New Hanover County, on Monday, the 16th day of January, 1899, at 12:40 o'clock p. m., on said day, the following described tract, lot or parcel of land, situated, lying and being in the City of Wilmington, N. C., and bounded and described as follows: Beginning at a point in the western line of the southwestern intersection of Harnett and Eighth streets, and runs thence southwardly along the western line of Eighth street 33 feet, thence westwardly and parallel with Harnett street 82 1/2 feet, thence northwardly and parallel with Eighth street 23 feet, thence eastwardly and parallel with Harnett street 23 1/2 feet to the beginning. The said being part of lot 2 in Block 26, according to the official plan of the City of Wilmington. WALTER G. MACRAE, Sheriff of New Hanover County. dec 11, law, till Jan 16.



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CHAS. M. WHITLOCK

V. M. C. A. BUILDING. dec 8.

Commissioner's Sale.

NORTH CAROLINA, New Hanover County.

BY VIRTUE AND IN PURSUANCE

of a decree of the Superior Court in a certain special proceeding before the Clerk of the Superior Court of New Hanover County, wherein James Ivory and wife, Caroline Amelia Ivory, and Maria Jones were plaintiffs and C. W. Williams was defendant, the undersigned commissioner, duly appointed by said court, will on Monday, January 9th, A. D. 1899, at 12 o'clock M., sell at public auction for cash to the highest bidder, the following described tract, piece or parcel of land situated, lying and being in the City of Wilmington, County of New Hanover, and the state of North Carolina, and bounded and described as follows to wit: Beginning at a point in the eastern line of Anderson street one hundred and thirty-two (132) feet northwardly of the northern half of Lot 3, in Block No. 263, according to the official plan of the City of Wilmington, North Carolina. E. G. PARMELE, Commissioner. dec 7, 30d



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