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RALEIGH CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.

## EDITORIAL.

### THE BROKEN WORD.

Talk of happiness; the world is sad enough. Without your woes. No path is wholly rough. Look for the places that are smooth and clear. And speak of those to rest the weary ear. Of earth, so hurt by one continuous strain. Of human discontent and grief and pain.

Talk of faith; the world is better off without Your morbid ignorance and uttered doubt. If you have any faith in God or man or self, Say so, if not, push back upon the shelf. Of silence all your thoughts till faith shall come: No one will grieve because your lips are dumb.

Talk health; the dreary, never-ending tale Of mortal maladies is worn and stale. You cannot charm or interest or please By harping on that minor chord, disease. Say you are well, or all is well with you. And God shall hear your words and make them true.

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

WHEN reason speaks, prejudice always closes its ears.

WE need men who, in accepting responsibility, shrink from it.

LAST year the women of America gave \$3,446,400 to the cause of higher education.

FOR a number of years Gov. Hoge Tyler was the Superintendent at a Methodist Sunday school.

"HE that loseth his life shall find it." In these words Christ tells us that the law of all true life is not that of the survival of the fittest," but the sacrifice of the fittest.

ABRAHAM went forward not knowing where he was going. Christ went forward from shadows knowing that he was going into deeper shadows.

METHODISM started in Richmond in 1899 with one church of 28 members. In this city there are now fifteen Methodist churches with a membership of 6,458.

WE are truly glad that very little has been said about the incident in which Joseph Parker is reported to have used on a recent occasion in London some words which are used by the lowest thugs. We are glad, because we do not believe that such words were used by Dr. Parker. It is another case of newspaper gossip in which Mr. White has become Mr. Black without change of color.

"THE EPWORTH LEAGUE," you say, "is a hard thing to keep up. 'In the morning it flourisheth, and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down and withereth.' Its sustention saps the energy of the nervous pastor who has a hard time between the watering-pot and grubbing-hoe." Well, you ought not to wonder and to doubt. We risk the assertion that in the early days it was more difficult to keep up the Sunday school, and that even now it is as difficult to keep up the prayer-meeting. "Be not weary in well-doing.

### "MY PEOPLE WOULD NOT STAND IT."

Several weeks before Henry Ward Beecher died, he was visited by Dr. L. W. Munhall, who, at the time, was conducting evangelistic services in Brooklyn Tabernacle. Mr. Beecher, holding Dr. Munhall's hand in a firm grasp, said: "I understand that you are having a great work and blessing at the Tabernacle. I wish we could have you in Plymouth church for a campaign. I would like to see an old-fashioned Holy Ghost revival in this church before I go hence. But I suppose it cannot be; my people would not stand it." While he uttered these words, tears ran down his face.

"My people would not stand it." Many times have these words been uttered in sadness by preachers carrying in their hearts the awful burden of cold and almost lifeless churches. With these words the curtain is drawn over the beautiful pictures of divine grace, and the soul learns to look at the golden candlestick among whose branches there is no warming illuminating Christ. "My people will not stand it." This is the motto of the dying church.

Why should people object to the Holy Ghost? He comes to quicken dead hearts, to kindle the dull eyes, to loosen the dumb tongues, to cause the tears to flow, to put music and momentum into the spiritual currents, to break the bonds of formality, to forge the golden links of brotherly love, and to fasten the shining chain to the throne of God. Then why object to the presence of the Holy Spirit? He is on earth to point humanity to Jesus, just as Jesus was on earth to point humanity to the Father. He is the conveyor of the merits of the shed blood to human hearts. He is the foundation of all spiritual life. Then why object to his presence?

God speed the day when no congregation will be ashamed to welcome the Heavenly Guest, when no shepherd of the flock shall have occasion to say, "My sheep will not stand it," when an "old-fashioned Holy Ghost revival" will receive in every church the welcome which the ark received when after its wanderings it found a resting place among the chosen people.

### BE SURE OF THE TREASURE.

You heard the preacher preach a sermon from the text, "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels." You pronounced it an excellent sermon. You received much comfort from it. At the close your mental comment was, "I am not so bad after all. After all we have the treasures in earthen vessels." You began at once to transfer open sins to the "infirmity column." The outbreak of temper took on a rosy hue. The sudden falling into temptation was not such a great moral descent after all. Really, those iniquities were not so flagrant. Thus you argue, and Satan has a complacent smirk on his face. He has subsidized the pulpit and quoted Scripture more successfully than in the wilderness.

Now, my narcotized hearer, you have forgotten that you have no right to use that text as a salve for your lacerated moral and spiritual nature unless you have a "treasure" in the "earthen vessel." There cannot be much of a treasure there when your thoughts are evil, your feelings malevolent, your service scant, your life marked with those things which the good Book condemns. When you think of earthen vessels, see if a sure enough treasure from the store house of the skies is there.

Then you have forgotten the words following the statement that we have this treasure in earthen vessels. They are, "that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us." This means that we are not to break these vessels and let the treasure spill out as when we lose our temper, use ugly words, shirk duty, and burn incense to the world and Satan. There is to be an excellency of divine power in keeping the treasure intact in weak perishable vessels.

### A PROTEST FROM AN UNEXPECTED SOURCE.

The notion is prevalent in some quarters that the Protestant Episcopal Church is a city of refuge for all expatriated and persecuted heretics. That this notion had a legitimate birth no intelligent person can doubt. Yet we are not so sure that the day has not dawned which will witness the closing of the gates of the aforementioned city. Much has been said of Bishop Potter's notice that on the 14th day of May he would ordain Rev. Dr. Briggs as Presbyter at St. Peter's Church, Westchester. Dr. Briggs, as is well known, is the man who grew so wise in Biblical knowledge that the Presbyterian Church, of which he was a minister, felt that it could dispense not only with such wisdom but the prophet himself. Dr. Briggs felt that he knew where to go. Were not the gates open?

But would you believe it? The rector of St. Peter's has protested against the reception of the wise Doctor. He closes his protest with these words: "For some two hundred years this venerable parish has stood by the Holy Scriptures, as this Church hath received the same." I have no right to involve its record. Lastly, Reverend Father in God, until he has renounced his errors, I solemnly protest against Charles Augustus Briggs, Doctor in Divinity, being ordained anywhere by our Bishop to the priesthood of the Catholic Church."

We would be glad to look on this protesting rector. We would go as far to see him as to see the President.

### LIGHT ON A POINT OF HISTORY.

It has been known by a few persons for years that, at the time of John Wilkes Booth's death, there were found on his body private papers proving that his motive in assassinating Lincoln was of a private nature. It is a significant fact that the United States Government never allowed the publication of Booth's diary. Only those who knew the contents of that diary knew why the diary was suppressed.

The reason has been made public through the publication of some private papers of Dr. Foote, a worthy physician of Warrenton, who recently died. In these papers it is learned that Booth had a very dear friend by the name of Beall, who was a prisoner in Fort Columbus. Booth plead for the life of his friend, and received the promise from the President that Beall would be respited or pardoned. That night the unfortunate prisoner was executed by the order of the President. The execution took place within thirty yards of the window of the cell in which Dr. Foote was imprisoned. Booth went to New York the next day, and began to make his plans for the assassination of Lincoln and Seward.

The above information, which is contained in the April number of the *Wake Forest Student*, is interesting in that it throws light on the real animus of Booth in the perpetration of a crime which astounded two hemispheres.

THE report of the Comptroller of Currency shows that the National Banks in our State are in a most healthy condition. This fact speaks eloquently for the prosperity of the State. This year there are 29 National Banks. Last year there were 27. Loans and discounts last year were \$6,744,843, as against \$7,630,013 this year. The capital stock paid in has grown from \$2,671,000 to \$2,907,300. The average reserve fund now held is 27.55 per cent.

WHILE we are sighing for life's gardens it would well for us to remember that it was a garden which Christ entered when he went to his betrayal.

DO NOT despise the day of small things, nor be content with small things.

### Course of Events.

MUCH is being said about the Peace Conference at the Hague. Representatives from the United States are already on their way to the Conference, though it is difficult to see what this Government has to do in a meeting in which disarmament is to be discussed. It must be remembered that the United States, as compared with the other powers, has not what might be called an armament. The Conference will meet, and it will be like "marching up the hill and down again." The whole thing, in our opinion, will be a fiasco, pure and simple. It seems to us incredible that in the face of what has been going on in the domain of the Bear, that the Czar's manifesto should be seriously accepted. The partition of China is still going on.

THE Dreyfus case will not down. After his degradation and deportation to Devil's Island a little over four years ago, it was thought that the matter was closed. This, however, was a mistake. Dreyfus left behind him a true wife, a few faithful friends, and the irrepressible spirit of justice. The matter was not allowed to die. After a succession of criminalizations and recriminations, exposures, protests, and suicides, the question was submitted for reconsideration. This was made necessary by the power of outraged and indignant public opinion. The War Court, fortunately for justice, did not try the case. It was taken to the Civil Court—the Court of Cassation. The trial, for months, has dragged along. The outcome is yet to be seen. It is seen, however, that the strong arm of Army influence is being felt. This fact leads us to suppose that poor Dreyfus has little chance of vindication. Indeed, it is said that he has lost all interest in his case, and that it is necessary to watch him constantly lest he commit suicide. The Dreyfus affair has in it sufficient dynamite to cause an explosion which will change the whole international landscape. Let us hope that the French Government will be true to the interests of justice, and right.

It is a little peculiar that immediately after the newspapers had been filled with news to the effect that 100,000 men would have to go to the rescue of Gen. Otis before the war in the Philippines could be brought to a successful termination, came the news that the representatives of General Luna were asking General Otis for a cessation of hostilities until the Filipino Congress could be assembled. The latter piece of news was warmly welcomed. While the majority of the people of the United States, we believe, see that the present trouble in the Philippines could not have been avoided, and that every true interest demands that we meet the issue with the most heroic appliances, yet there is no true man who does not deprecate the whole trouble. The Filipino ambassadors, wanted time, they said for their Congress to assemble. Only this Congress could authorize them to surrender. The proposition was flatly declined by General Otis. He would be satisfied with nothing less than unconditional and immediate surrender. After several interviews, the ambassadors said that they represented Aguinaldo and not General Luna. No outcome has yet followed the protracted negotiations. It is thought by those best fitted for knowing the truth that the insurgents supported only by the island of Luzon, must surrender, and that Aguinaldo is seeking the best possible terms. Others however, say that Aguinaldo is not sincere, and that he is ever seeking to gain time and strengthen his forces. There has been very little fighting since Calumpit was taken by the American forces. San Tomas has been stormed and taken. High praise is being given to Colonel Funstan and his Kansans in charging the enemy across the Rio Grande in the face of a galling fire. This charge is one which will live in history.

### From Other Tripods.

#### "CHILDREN'S TEETH ARE SET ON EDGE."

[Baptist Standard.]

We once knew a man who boasted of his ability to take three straight drinks of liquor a day—never any more, never any less. The old man is living yet, but two of his sons died drunkards, and the third one is keeping a barroom. He sowed his "moderate drinking" and has reaped the ruin of his sons.

#### Spiritual Death Rate.

[Midland Methodist.]

The death rate from spiritual famine is appalling. The minimum will be reached when writers and publishers professing faith in Christ shall be found walking in his steps and challenging mercenary fears with the question: "What would Jesus do?"

#### Chronic Grumblers Incurable.

[Richmond Christian Advocate.]

In starting out to work for Christ, it is well to have a clear understanding as to the work one is not called to do. We are not called, for instance, to undertake the cure of a chronic grumbler. We can no more get him to cheer up than we can get him to shut up. This kind cometh not out but by a miracle, in which human instrumentality is at a discount.

#### Better Law-Makers.

[Arkansas Methodist.]

The people of our State approve the action by which a million dollars are given to build a new Capitol. Seventy thousand dollars invested in Christian schools will bring larger benefit. The State desires a better building for the use of her law-makers. We shall get them by strengthening Christian sentiment and Christian schools.

#### On Shouting Ground.

[Texas Christian Advocate.]

We once heard a Presbyterian thinker say that the outward demonstration of the Holy Ghost decreased in proportion to the increase of intellectuality. In the history of the Wesleyan movement there has doubtless been a great deal of mechanical shouting. Those who sigh for primitive days can well leave this out. There is a field of demonstrative emotion unoccupied by the Holy Spirit. Shouting is valid only when the Spirit dominates the whole realm of the soul's physical agencies. We must be on shouting ground.

#### Lord of Self—Master of Circumstances.

[Pacific Methodist Advocate.]

Lord of ourselves, we are master of our circumstances. The days grow long, and the nights even longer, when our hearts desire tarries; but the glad and glorious fulfillment dawns at last in an unclouded sky. "In the sweat of the brow" is God's ordinance, and a blessed one it is! "Take my yoke upon you" is the only road to rest and reward. Then the cross is transfigured into a crown, and the road to Mt. Calvary leads to Mt. Olivet. A difficult road—the *via dolorosa*—but the only one that leads to heaven.

#### A Rebuke! and a Concession.

[Western Christian Advocate.]

Palmetto leads, Galena follows. Georgia sets the pace, and Kansas keeps it. Race prejudice in the North has nothing to excuse it. It is pure, sheer depravity. The sins of border warfare exact a fearful retribution. Kansas may not escape. Her goodness and greatness are obscured by one such cowardly murder as that of Charles Williams. He was imprisoned on mere suspicion of having murdered his mistress. There was no evidence against him, except that he had loved her. But it gave a chance to play the fiend and "kill a nigger." And brave, manly men, fifty of them, broke into his prison, and because he did not applaud their declaration of purpose to lynch him, they shot him to death! Decorate them with the Palmetto badge: they belong to the same low, brutal crowd.