

# THE CHRISTIAN SUN.

IN ESSENTIALS, UNITY;

IN NON-ESSENTIALS, LIBERTY;

IN ALL THINGS, CHARITY.

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## Poetry.

### IMAGINATION'S SUNNY ISLE.

BY H. W. BELLAMY.

There is an isle of beauty bright,  
Imagination shows,  
Where golden flowers wave in peace,  
And pleasure's fountain flows.

In dreams of visionary bliss,  
We launch our barks from shore,  
And with a heart all full of hope,  
We bend upon the oar.

Fair sunlight gleams upon the waves—  
The heaven smiles above,  
And o'er the waters glides our keel,  
Impelled by gales of love.

All calm and tranquil is the sea—  
There broods no tempest nigh;  
Not e'en a cloud of vapor floats  
Through morrow's cerulean sky.

On, on we glide with flying sail,  
The tempting port to gain,  
Forgetting that our bark is launched  
Upon a sickle main.

That ere we reach the haven fair,  
Dark storms may gather o'er,  
And wreck our vessels far away  
From fancy's golden shore.

Oh, who in disappointments hour,  
For all have felt the sting,  
Hath not in sadness grieved that he  
Had soared on airy wing.

Beyond the bounds where prudence marks  
With feet of golden tread  
To find, too late, that all his hopes  
Like morning mist have fled?

Frail beings on a changing tide,  
With hearts more fickle still,  
In vain with transitory bliss  
We strive our souls to fill.

Though often wrecked; by phantom's mocked,  
We still their charms pursue;  
No sooner our delusion's gone,  
Than folly finds a new.

## Selections.

### CREAM OF THE PRESS.

It is stated that the four electric lights which now illuminate the reading-room of the British Museum at evening have each a power equal to 5,000 candles, and yet cost only a shilling an hour.

The Lord takes up none but the forsaken, makes none healthy but the sick, gives sight to none but the blind, makes none alive but the dead, sanctifies none but sinners; and to all he is precious.—Luther.

Luther's wedding ring, it appears, is on exhibition at the jewellers, Herr Kothe, at Dusseldorf. The ring, which bears the inscription, "Dr. Martino Luther Catherina von Bora, 13 June, 1525," is a work of considerable art. On it is represented the Passion of our Lord, the cross and the body of Jesus forming the middle, surrounded by all the chief tools of the carpenter's craft, a small ruby sparkling recalling the holy blood.

The Rev. R. Jamieson, an aged clergyman at Ship Harbor, Nova Scotia, gives an account of his life work. He says: "I have been nearly forty years a missionary on the Eastern shore of the county of Halifax, and at first my travels extended far into the county of Gynsborough, eastward. I have lately been instrumental, with God's blessing, in finishing my eight church in this extensive mission, where scarcely one place of worship was to be found when I took charge of it. I am now well worn out by age and labor; but am thankful that I have been instrumental in having erected eight churches along the long neglected coast of the Eastern shore of Nova Scotia."

If one wants to get a clear idea of the unconscious influence he exerts upon others, he may profitably stop to think of the effect which the lives of others have upon his own. Nobody is so destitute of friends or so egotistic in his own judgment of his powers as to fall to be materially influenced, every day of his life, by somebody, be it wife, or friend, or pastor, or writer. And we are constantly tempted to copy accidents rather than essentials, eccentricities instead of sterling qualities, sins and not virtues. If we do all this, somebody weaker or younger than we is doing precisely the same thing in the imitation of our own actions, great and small. Who that has ever taught children has not been amused to see their little copyings of one's own peculiarities of dress, or manner, or speech? But grown people as well as children copy greater things than these, and we have something better to do than to laugh, when we see our odd caricatures of our appearance or words in the social world in which we live. No one has a right to put into his own life that which he is not willing to see infinitely reduplicated in the lives of others.—S. S. Times.

### LETTER FROM PALESTINE.

A False Plea—The Jews of Jerusalem in Poverty—Scarcity of Water—A Productive Soil—Cheap Labor—Advantages, &c.

"The Jews regaining their Land," is the title of a paragraph, going the rounds of Philadelphia and other papers, to the effect that "owing to the Jewish immigration the population of Palestine has more than doubled during the past ten years."

As a resident since 1867 of this country I can positively deny this statement. Many Jews, it is true, have come to live in Jerusalem (not in other places), or rather to lay their bones in the valley of Jehosaphat during the past decade, but it is utterly false to declare that the population of Palestine has been doubled by such immigration. The population of this land was reckoned 1,200,000 ten years ago, and to maintain it has doubled, would give us an influx of 1,200,000 Jews! The truth is that about 5,000 Jews have come to this land during the past ten years, and is the origin of much exaggeration. Of these 5,000 a large number have died, but others may have taken their places leaving the number about the same. Nearly all these Jews live in poverty, and make appeals from time to time to their wealthy brethren in Europe and America for means to maintain themselves and their families. The immigration is a vast paper influx who expect to live in idleness upon the hard earnings of their relatives abroad. Some are eventually disgusted at the penny which the rabbin strict rule often enforces, and return again to the countries whence they came. I helped, a few weeks ago, a poor American Jew to return to New York, and Consul Wilson at Jerusalem has given assistance to hundreds. An attempt is being made to found an agricultural colony on the plain of Sharon near Jaffa. Its success is mediocre, as the young Jews disdain work so long as they can live upon charity. At the head of this colony is a man who professed Christianity ten years ago in London and was sent to take care of an English model farm near Jaffa. Here he fell away from Christianity and returned to Judaism, and after keeping an Arab coffee shop, was eventually made the superintendent of the agricultural Jewish colony. The ignorance of such a man would alone suffice to condemn it.

A number of new houses have indeed been built outside the walls of Jerusalem by both Jews and Christians, following the example of the Russian and Protestant missions who first began to do so. These houses being built over cisterns of rain water are for the most part nests of typhus and malarial fevers, and instead of contributing to the health of the city have materially added to the prevalent insalubrity of Jerusalem. In the city itself the soil is so saturated with the impurities of past generations that any disturbance of the ground for building purposes invariably engenders malignant fevers. Captain Warren and his corps of assistants while making explorations, suffered terribly from this cause.

The scarcity of water is another source of evil at Jerusalem, and although an abundant supply could be brought from the ancient pools of Solomon, yet all efforts to repair or rebuild the aqueduct are thwarted by the fanaticism of the modern rulers of Palestine. The land of Palestine is extremely productive and new colonies planted here as they are in the Western States of our land there is no reason to doubt their success. The Rev. Charles Neil, once incumbent of Christ Church, Jerusalem, gives the following reasons why farming should be profitable in Palestine.

1. Labor is extremely cheap—The wages of ordinary laborers are—men \$1.25 to \$1.50 a week; women 75c. a week; boys and girls 50 cents. These are considered good wages, and amply sufficient to enable them to live.

2. The plow is extremely light—A man can carry it over his shoulder and walk miles with it to his home. Two diminutive oxen, or one mule, are amply sufficient to draw it.

3. There is no expenditure whatever for manure—no artificial dressing, or any requiring carting is ever employed. That deposited by the beasts as they graze over the fields, and the ashes of whatever is afterwards left to burn, appear to be all the manures rich Syrian arable lands have ever needed or received.

4. Horses, asses, oxen and farm stock generally are very cheap—Horses cost from \$40 to \$50. Mules \$60 to \$75. Camels \$40 to \$150. Asses from \$15 to \$30. Oxen from \$30 to

\$75. Full grown sheep from \$2 to \$4, and goats still less.

5. The keep of animals is very trifling—Their food consists principally of barley and chopped straw. Four horses can be kept at an annual cost of \$150. For oxen very rich oil cake is abundant, but for the most part of the year they live and work on little else beside chopped straw. This is explained by the fact that animals like their masters, require only the lightest and simplest food in a hot country.

6. Harvest can be gathered in without injury from wet—Rain is never known at harvest time. The weather in May is warm and dry, and remains so until the next October.

7. There is no need of stacking the crops—All the sheaves are carried on the backs of camels or asses to an open floor, some smooth rock surface in the middle of the fields, and are threshed, winnowed, &c., in the open air, at leisure, in the course of three or four months of uniformly hot weather, during which no drop of rain falls.

8. No farm buildings of any kind are required except roughest and simplest cattle sheds, and no hedges, ditches, walls or enclosures of any kind around the fields—The only store houses needed are underground cisterns. These are alluded to in Jeremiah xli.—8. The lands are virtually undrained, and one farm or one field marked off from another only by large rough stones placed here and there along the boundary line.

9. The total amount of taxes is only a tithe of each year's produce.

10. The great fertility of ordinary arable lands—the heavy lands in some parts yield an hundred fold; at Sibaon for instance, and to the South of Gaza in that region where it still retains the character it bore when Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year and hundred fold" (Genesis xxvii.—12).

11. The still greater fertility of irrigated lands—These bear four crops a year, and yield the combined products of England and Italy.

12. The immense productiveness of fruit trees—The olive, vine, fig, apricot and mulberry in the high lands are excellent examples of wealth that must once have been derived from this source. The vine which is carelessly left to trail along the ground, seems in some parts, as in the neighborhood of Hebron to turn into one huge mass of grapes.

In the hot plains, oranges of very many kinds, lemon, citron, banana and prickly pear, (grown extensively as a hedge round the garden,) yield most abundantly.

I can corroborate from personal observation the truth of the foregoing description, and were it not for the prevalence of typhus and malarial fevers, and virulent ophthalmia, during the heated term, European immigration on a large scale would be a valuable means of regenerating this ancient land.

So long, however, as the Ottoman rule prevails, so long will disease reign in filthy towns and villages and this fair land be doomed to decay, and one must ever look forward to the day when God will purge it as by fire, and drive the infidel forever away.—J. B. Hay in Southern Churchman.

### HOW TO GROW BEAUTIFUL.

Everybody loves to see a beautiful face; almost everybody would be glad to have one. There is a power in personal beauty—a power which is not unworthy of noble desire. In a woman this desire is likely to be stronger than in a man; for she is in a certain sense more dependent than man, for both happiness and usefulness, on the power to attract attention, and to secure love and admiration. So superior a woman as "Fanny Forrester" Judson confessed to a youthful longing for personal beauty because of the possibilities for her future involved in it; and many a peer of hers would not be ashamed to admit a similar craving, for a like substantial reason.

From the days of Sarah and Rebecca, the beauty of a woman's face has been recognized as one of her chief possessions. The purest and highest art has in all ages not only given prominence to womanly beauty but it has received some of its noblest inspirations therefrom. And even now, here is the whole British reputation of two or three personal beauties, while pictures of these objects of admiration are multiplied on this side of the Atlantic. What wonder then that personal beauty is more than ever a coveted possession and that ways of being or of seeming

beautiful are a study of surpassing interest to many? Although it cannot be truthfully said to woman:

What is your sex's earliest, latest care,—  
Your heart's supreme ambition? To be fair;—  
It is true that most women would like to be beautiful, and that they have a right to this desire. Hence it is that how to grow beautiful is a proper subject of thoughtful consideration.

To begin with, there is no greater mistake than in supposing that personal beauty is wholly dependent on complexion, feature, and form. There may be faultless regularity of feature exceeding delicacy and clearness of complexion, and the highest gracefulness of form, without any real attractiveness to the eye. These all may be so marred by a disagreeable expression in the face, or by affectation or awkwardness in manner and movement, or be so insipid from an expressionless lack of life, as to win admiration from no one. The wax figure style of prettiness is not for a moment to be compared with a soul-filled expression of the artist's thought on his canvas, or in his marble; nor does it have any such hold on even the grosser and uncultivated observer. "What makes an eye beautiful?" says William Hunt. "Not the eye itself, although there are intrinsic forms which we acknowledge to be beautiful. It is the regard, the soul, and, in part, what surrounds the eye. Not the 'liquid look.' A snail has that." On the other hand, some who are called most attractive, "fascinating," in their personal appearance, are those whose features are irregular, whose complexion is anything but perfect, and who had, at the start, no special grace of form and figure. Their power is in their expression, in the light which illumines their complexion and features, and which gives a grace to their bearing and movement. Certainly, if one must choose between the two, expression is far more than complexion and feature, in giving beauty to the human face. And since expression can be intelligently obtained and improved, while the other elements of beauty cannot be, it is obviously the cultivation of expression to which attention should be directed in the striving to grow beautiful.

Good men and bad alike admire the expression of a face, rather than its features and complexion. It is not the pure-minded Addison alone who writes: "How faint and spiritless are the charms of a coquette, when compared with the real loveliness of Sophronia's innocence, piquet good humor, and truth: virtues which add a new softness to her sex, and even beautify her very!" Byron, gross lover of sensual attraction for their own sake, sings of her who "walks in beauty like the night of cloudless climes and starry skies."

And on that cheek, and o'er that brow,  
So soft, so calm, yet eloquent,  
The smiles that win, the tints that glow,  
But tell of days in goodness spent,  
A mind at peace with all below,  
A heart whose love is innocent.

It is the multitude of pure women who use the more harmless cosmetics for the beautifying of their complexion, only realized how much more they thereby lose in expression than they gain in complexion, and how surely those whose admiration they would win recognize this fact as they meet them at their homes, or pass them on the street, there would be less cosmetics used, even if there were no more attention paid to expression. It is a pity that a woman who has any delicacy of expression on her face should powder it out, or tint it off, in the aim to get a pretty white or red in her complexion, when that at the best has so little to do with personal beauty in the estimation of mere beauty lovers. There has been a great desire to know just what is the charm of the face of the best known of the English "professional beauties;" and to this end her pictures have been closely scrutinized, but to little purpose. One says, "It must be her fine features; yet I do not see that they are exceptionally regular." Another, says, "Probably it is her faultless complexion. That, of course, will not appear in her photographs." But an English newspaper writer suggests a better reason than either of these for an attractiveness not shown in a picture. He says that she has a remarkable winsomeness of expression, a pleasing smile for all, and an appearance of personal interest in every one to whom she says a word. However true this may be in her case, it certainly hits a truth as to a source of personal fascination of countenance and address.

To grow beautiful, then, one must improve in expression of countenance. And to improve in expression of

countenance one must improve in the spirit and character which are expressed. Man is so formed that the thoughts of his heart take quick shape in the expression of his face, the movements of his body, and the tones of his voice. All of us perceive in some faces which we meet, the workings of purity, and truthfulness, and kindness of heart, and sincerity of faith; and in others of deceitfulness, and lust, and sordid selfishness and we are attracted or repelled accordingly. And all of us have seen faces change for the better or the worse. We have seen handsome faces lose their beauty, or plain faces glow with new loveliness, through a corresponding change of character. We have seen faces grow grandly beautiful under the pressure of new responsibility and in the noble discharge of new duties. And we have noticed sadly the look of purity, truthfulness, reverence, tenderness pass from the countenance of those we once admired. Any of us, therefore, who would grow beautiful in face must have a care to grow beautiful in character. As George Herbert says of the growing beauty of the preacher of Christ as a widow through which the light of his Master shines: "But when Thou dost annual in glass Thy story, Making Thy life to shine within, The holy preachers, then the light and glory More reverend grows, and more doth win; Which else shows waterish, bleak, and thin. Or as Solomon says: "A man's wisdom maketh his face to shine."

In view of these truths it is evident that, in order to grow beautiful one must give more attention to thoughts and feelings at home, and by one's self, than to appearance and manners abroad and before others. Every indulgence in unwholesome thoughts or desires, or in unkind or covetous or repining feelings, mars one's countenance, and impairs one's beauty. All play of kindly feelings and of holy desires helps toward a beautiful face and a winsome manner. The Greeks, it is said, came "to rely in unhesitating faith on the esthetically beautiful for guidance into the essentially good." It is the teaching of Christianity, that we must rely on the essentially good for guidance to the esthetically beautiful. And most of all is it by a nearness to God, and by a growing likeness to Christ, that one's face can come to shine as an angel—like the face of Moses on the mount, or the face of Stephen in the hour of his martyrdom; that one can have "a face like a benediction," showing—

A sweet, attractive kind of grace,  
A full assurance given by looks,  
Continual comfort in a face—  
The lifelike gleam of Gospel looks.

—Sunday School Times.

### DIED THAT HE MIGHT LIVE.

In a dreadfully cold winter, many years ago, an army was dying from Moscow, a city in Russia. With this army there was a German prince and some German soldiers. One by one the marching soldiers fell down by the way and perished of cold and hunger. At length, at the end of one day, when only a mere handful of them were alive, the prince and a few common soldiers, and these were all nearly spent, came up to the remains of a hotel once built to shelter cattle, not ruined by storms, which had blown it all to pieces. But in the wild, snow-covered waste they did not despise it; even a prince was glad of a little shelter from the sleet and wind of the coming night which this tumbled down shed could afford. And there, hungry cold and weary, he and his men lay down to sleep. The men were rough, stern looking fellows, yet the sight of one so delicately brought up, used to comforts which they had never known, spent, heart and body, come to such want, glad to sleep in such a wretched place, touched them. The sight of him asleep, no bed, no covering, probably sleeping his last sleep, was more than they could stand. They took their own cloaks off, and laid them all on him, gently, one by one, lest they should awake him. He would be warm with these, perhaps he would live with these. Then they threw themselves down to sleep.

The night passed. The prince awoke. "Where am I?" was his first thought. "Am I at home, in bed? I am so warm!" and he turned over and raised himself up to look about. He was not at home. All around was snow, and all was silent save the wind, which whistled through the planks of the broken shed. Where were his men? He stood up and looked, when, lo! there they lay, huddled together to keep warm, yet not awake. He spoke, but they answered not. He advanced to touch them—they were dead! Without their cloaks, too! Where were their cloaks? Another glance towards where he had lain and all was plain. The prince burst into tears. His men were dead to save him alive. Now, was not the deed, these rough soldiers, dead, a noble deed? Their hearts were gracious hearts; they graciously took upon themselves the death another should have died.—Sunday Magazine.

## Farm and Fireside.

### TO PICKLE PORK.

In pickling pork the pieces should be so cut that they will lie flat in the tub; and each layer should be packed down closely. But before the sides are cut up it is a good plan to rub them over with a mixture of white sugar and salt, putting one third as much sugar as salt. Then place the piece in the tub, rind down and sprinkle each layer with the sugar and salt. When the tub is well filled, put a layer of salt over it so thick as to exclude the air, and cover it closely for ten days; then look at it, and if the brine is not formed enough to cover it, sprinkle in a little cold water. In three months the pork will be ready to cook, and it will keep good for two years at least, and the sugar will give it a finer flavor than salt-peter. In warm climates both sugar and salt-peter can be used as advantageously as in pickling beef. All housekeepers know that they can make corned beef more tender and better flavored by using a pickle of one pound of sugar to three pounds of salt and a teaspoonful of salt-peter.

**FARM BOOK KEEPING.**—Farmers generally are lacking in method and accuracy of information of their farm industries. A practical farmer writes to an eastern agricultural paper some valuable suggestions, as to one method of keeping farm accounts. He says: "Having provided a suitable blank book, upon the first page let there be drawn an accurate map of the farm, showing the several fields in their relative positions, giving length and breadth in rods, showing what particular crop was grown in each at date. Then, upon the left hand page, having ruled it for the purpose, make a complete and accurate inventory of the value of the farm, live stock, roots, grain, fodder, fruit farming implements, etc., which, footed up, will give the total amount of farming investment. To this should be added the value of provisions, groceries, fuel, etc., household furniture, shares of bank stock, bonds, bills receivable, accounts due, and cash on hand. From the sum deduct total debts, and the balance will be net worth. This, compared with the same or preceding year, will give net gain for year. The book should also contain other items, such as cash, farm and family accounts, memoranda accounts with stock and crops, betterments and deteriorations, accounts with individuals, agreements with hired help, summary of stock and crop details. And last, though not least, notes of mistakes and mismanagement; also of good resolves, etc.

**DOUBLE CROPPING.**—Mr. George Allen, planted three acres in oats in the fall. Cut them the following spring. Plowed in the stubble and planted the land, one-half in drilled corn the other half in drilled peas. The following September cut and cured the corn for forage, and pastured cows and hogs on the peas; after which, plowed the stubble under and sowed in oats and rye. In January the cows enjoyed two weeks green pasture; and early in March it was again ready for pasturing. With light manuring under this plan good crops can be made at very small expense.

**GROOMING AND CLEANING HORSES.**—Care is required in grooming and cleaning horses. No gathering of scurf, or waste of the skin, or dried perspiration should be permitted to collect beneath the coat. But this should not in every case be torn away with sharp curry combs. A tender skin is injured by rough currying. A moderately stiff brush, made with an uneven surface is sufficient in nearly every case. But labor must not be stinted in keeping horses clean.

**PLANS FOR THE YEAR.**—Every farmer should aim not only to improve his farm, but also himself. Intelligence, order and system, are necessary to farm successfully. Determine, therefore, upon a plan of operations for the year proportioned to your means and resources and resolutely adhere to it, with only such changes as necessity demands. If possible keep out of debt. Debt has been the ruin of thousands, and it may ruin you. Therefore pay as you go.

John W. Blount, twelve miles from Washington, N. C., picked 40 bales cotton of 400 lbs. each from 48 acres. He used only \$50 worth of fertilizers.—T. Topics.

### MAKING TIMBER DURABLE.

An easy and simple method of rendering timber unusually durable, if not practically indestructible, is of the greatest value to the agricultural community. Fence posts, sills of buildings and other timber exposed to influences which cause rapid decay, last but a few years under ordinary circumstances. It has long been known that lime is an effective preservative, acting in this way by coagulating the albumen in the cellular tissue of the timber. An easy method of preparing the timber has been applied practically by a French mining engineer. A pit was made in which the timber was placed; quick lime was scattered over it, and then slaked with water. After being exposed a few days to the action of the lime, the timber was removed and used as supports for the roof of a mine. Where unprepared timber lasted but two years, that prepared in this way has been in use for several years without the least appearance of decay. This method of preservation commends itself for its simplicity and cheapness for farm use.

### WINTERING CATTLE.

It is time the old, careless and cruel modes of putting cattle through the winter were abolished. Starving milk cows and young cattle is the most suicidal policy that a farmer can follow. A cow fairly wintered is fitted for the summer work, and will bring a strong calf and give milk and butter at a payable price for the extra feed and shelter she has had. Many a man keeps a class of good cows in such condition that they are of no value, that they afford no profit, because not run to their capacity. It would be more foolish for a thrasher to put on ten horses and a full force of men and then feed his machine one hundred bushels in the time it would thresh two hundred, than it is for a man to furnish his milk cows one ton of feed, while they have the capacity to digest, assimilate, and give returns for two tons. The principle is exactly the same.—Col. Scott.

It is evident that farmers may lift much of the great and onerous burden of labor from their shoulders by tilling smaller areas of land, and keeping it constantly under crop. One thing must succeed another immediately; the working and manure you give to one must be in part for another. It is the way to make the most of everything—labor, manure, and land. This is the grand secret of success. It will certainly cost more to take 50 barrels of corn from 20 acres of land than it will to get the same from 10 acres—the other 10 acres may be growing some other crop. We hope farmers will think well over their plans for the coming season, and do all they can to decrease the burden of labor by growing more and finer crops from smaller areas of land.—Rural Messenger.

**TO CURE HAMS.**—This recipe is fifty years old, and I think it is the best: To each 20 pounds of green meat make a mixture of one-fourth of a pound of brown sugar and a desert spoonful of ground saltpetre; rub this well by hand into the meat; then with coarse salt cover the bottom of a barrel, say, to half an inch; put in hams, and cover with half an inch of salt, and so on until the barrel is full; hams should remain in a cool place eight weeks; when salted well and dry them, and get some whole black pepper, which you must grind yourself, and pepper thoroughly; especially about the hock and bone; let the hams lay for two days; then smoke for eight weeks.—Exchange.

**SLEEP.**—Every human being, whether male or female, young or old, must have a certain amount of sleep, or undisturbed repose in every twenty-four hours; as a frequent disregard of this natural provision to regenerate the mental and physical systems when exhausted by daily labors, will certainly entail injurious consequences, by inviting disease and curtailing the duration of life.

The great burden of farmers heretofore has been the cultivation of too much land for their means—too much area for their laboring force and manure pile. Their work has not been thorough enough, nor have they made as much to the acre for their land as they might have made.

**RAINY DAYS.**—Rainy days may be employed in cleaning tools, implements, and machines, and putting them in good order for work when they will be wanted; in making coops for chickens, or any of the handy contrivances for saving labor.