

THE CHRISTIAN SUN.

IN ESSENTIALS, UNITY;

IN NON-ESSENTIALS, LIBERTY;

IN ALL THINGS, CHARITY.

Volume XXXIII.

SUFFOLK, VA., FRIDAY JUNE 18, 1880.

Number 25.

Poetry.

RESIGNATION.

BY HENRY B. HAYS.

Lord I humbly own to Thee,
That my heart is prone to sin,
Yet I would from sin be free—
Washed and every whit made clean.
Dear Lord I feel thy chastening rod,
Laid quite heavily on me,
May I know it is my God,
For my good chasteish me!
That the dross of base desire,
That doth lurk or dwell within,
Be consumed, so as by fire,
And my heart made pure and clean.
Through the watches of the night,
Slowly pass the hours away,
How I long for morning light—
For the dawn of opening day.
But the morn brings no relief,
To the sufferings which I bear,
Yet I would no plaintive cry,
E'er should reach my Father's ear.
Thus resigned from day to day,
Till relief to me be given,
Restored to health, or called away
To my blessed home in heaven.

Selections.

HERE AND THERE.

—At a recent missionary anniversary it was said: "In my travels around the world I saw not one single near heathen temple. All the pagan worship I saw was in old, dilapidated temples."
—Cautive consideration for the feelings of other people if you would not have your own injured. Those who complain most of ill-usage are those who abuse themselves and others the oftener.
—Corea, with its population of twelve or fifteen million, which has been closed to the world two thousand years, has opened one of its ports to Japan, and a native church of Japan has arranged to send the gospel there.
—Lord Lawrence gives this testimony to the labors of missionaries: "They have done more to benefit India than all other agencies combined." Sir Bartle Frere says: "They are working changes more extraordinary than anything ever witnessed in modern Europe."
—One hundred and forty-eight million copies of the Bible, translated into two hundred and twenty-six different languages and dialects, and distributed in different parts of the world, constitute one of the achievements of foreign missions within the last hundred years.
—On Friday, June 20, Queen Victoria will have reigned forty-two years—a period longer than any English queen since Elizabeth. Since she ascended the throne there have been eight Prime Ministers, and there have taken place many notable events in connection with the English people.
—There are 65,000 churches, 84,000 ministers, with a church membership of 11,500,000, in the United States.—To maintain them it costs less than \$48,000,000. There are in our country 230,000 places where liquors are sold, requiring the services of 550,000 persons; selling \$740,000,000 worth of liquors.
—Sir John Goss, the English organist and composer of sacred music, died at his home in England, on the 11th of May. He composed many of the finest chants and anthems now sung in the Episcopal church, and received the honor of knighthood for composing a Te Deum and the anthem "The Lord is my Strength." Among his later works are "Wilderness," and "O Saviour of the World."
—A very wise young man says: "I believe every thing is ordered. If I am to be saved I shall be saved, and if I am to be lost I shall be lost; it is no use for me to try to do anything about it." But when he fell into the river the other day it never occurred to him to call to those who hang him a rope, "If I am to be drowned I shall be drowned, and if I am to reach shore I shall reach shore; I won't trouble myself to touch the rope."
—Miss Louisa Alcott has no regular study, and is said to be indifferent to her surroundings when at work. She uses whatever pen, ink or paper is nearest, composes rapidly, and writes in a free, back-sloping hand, never copying her MS., and rarely going back to make alterations. She does not take kindly to being lionized by visitors, and when she sees them coming, slips quietly out of the back door, as Hawthorne used to do.

THE PASTOR'S INFLUENCE IN WORLDLY THINGS.

BY REV. ASA BULLARD.

The lives of Oberlin and Neff give some striking examples of the influence a pastor may exert among his people in regard to worldly things. It will be remembered that their influence was seen in almost everything in their respective fields of labor. The roads and fences, the dwellings and grounds of the people; the very dress and general appearance and manners of the children, all showed that the suggestions and advice of their religious teachers had been heeded.

The example of these godly men, in these respects, is worthy of the consideration of all ministers.

The pastor, in most cases, is supposed to be a man of general intelligence and of more or less scientific knowledge. The people naturally look up to him as able, from his superior opportunities, to instruct them not only on religious subjects but in regard to most matters in which they are interested.

If a pastor has given attention to the various branches of business in which his people are engaged, so that he can, as he meets them, give them the results of scientific teaching in reference to their employments, as farmers, manufacturers, mechanics, etc., it will give great influence to his religious instructions.

Some illustrations connected with this subject may not be out of place. Several years ago the cemetery, or "burying ground," as it was called, in one of our New England villages, was in a state of most utter neglect. There was scarcely a pasture or spot in town more unsightly. It was covered with stones, and overgrown with bushes, so that the monuments of the dead were hardly visible at a short distance.

The wife of one of the pastors died. He obtained a lot in this unsightly field, where he buried his dead. Soon after he had the sacred spot enclosed with a neat iron fence, the ground cleared of brush, graded and enriched, the grave nicely sodded and the lot filled with choice shrubs and flowering plants. It was a gem of beauty in the midst of an uninviting waste—an oasis in the desert.

The effect of this act of that pastor was that the town soon chose a committee and appropriated money for the renovation of the cemetery. In a short time that unsightly field became one of the most attractive spots in the village and an ornament to the place.

A newly settled pastor, who had been trained in early life upon a farm, and had acquired a taste as well as some knowledge of agriculture and horticulture, obtained a little homestead with surrounding grounds, on which he could find his needed exercise and also gratify his love of fruits and flowers.

To improve the appearance and productiveness of his ground, he replaced an old wall at the lower end, with a tasteful bank wall, first digging a trench a foot or two deep, throwing the rich loam back upon his grounds, and then filling the trench with cobble stones to serve for drainage.

This improvement soon caught the attention of his people. They saw the utility as well as the beauty, of it, and bank walls at once became the order of the day all over the parish.

Think you this attention of that pastor to worldly things lessened his power and influence in his work as a minister of gospel? Far otherwise. With a new and deeper interest they listened to his instructions. Every farmer and every owner of a garden spot felt that the man who could thus stimulate and aid them in their worldly interests, could aid them in matters pertaining to the life to come; and that they ought to heed his instructions.

After a pastorate of some fifteen years, that pastor was settled in another parish. In one of his visits among his people, he noticed a small pasture not far from his residence. It was very rough and covered with stones, while the fields on either side showed evidence of having produced large burdens of grass and grain. He said to himself, "The soil in this rough pasture is the same as that in these fine fields. With proper clearing and culture it would be just like them. I want a little lot in which to raise hay and oats for my horse and cow. I'll buy that pasture."

He purchased the land for what it was valued by the owner—a small sum—had the stones dug out and converted into his favorite bank wall; and the land plowed and leveled. In a year or two abundant har-

vests of grass and grain rewarded his labor. As a result of this wise forecast of the pastor, many a rough and almost useless field in the parish, was soon made attractive and fruitful.

This influence of the pastor, in regard to worldly things, is, of course, comparatively unimportant, except as it helps to increase his influence as a religious teacher and guide. The pastor who is able, by his example, or in his associations with his people, to enter into all their various daily toils, to show an interest in them and sympathize with them in these toils, and especially if he can give them any instruction or advice—growing out of his greater advantages for study, or from his early training and subsequent experiments, that will make their labors more easy or productive—will win their confidence and increase the power of his influence over them in spiritual things.

The pastor, too, who enters into all the cares and duties of the parents, and shows an interest in the children of his parish, in their studies and their amusements, and who in quiet and unobtrusive ways seeks to improve their appearance and manners, and among their general conduct at home and among their associates, will gain great power over them for good. The simple, touching act of the little girl speaks volumes on this subject: she ran out from among her playmates and up the steps of the home of a minister, and kissed the name on the doorplate, saying, "I love that man; he loves little children!"

What a reward is such an act for any amount of attention a pastor may give to the little ones of his charge.—*For Church and Home.*

SELFISHNESS AND RUDENESS AT THE TABLE.

Among the small things which, if unchecked, would prove life-long annoyances, none are more conspicuous or more disagreeable than the rude, boorish, selfish habits so frequently developed in the conduct of children at the table. Here, as in all that is connected with the early training and education of children, parents should realize that they will be held accountable in a large measure if those committed to their care and guidance grow up with careless and reprehensible table manners.

If parents commence in season it is not hard to teach any child old enough to be brought to the table (and that should be as soon as they can be taught to feed themselves, if only with a spoon, we think), to be quiet and wait patiently until the older ones are served, instead of allowing the child to call for his portion the moment it is seated, and, if delayed, demand something vociferously, emphasizing his wishes with loud screams and violent blows on the table and dishes. If this mode of gaining his own way is attempted, and the parent removes the little tyrant from the table for a short season of private admonition, the discipline will be found efficacious, and will not require repeating often. Of course, this will interrupt for a few moments the pleasant harmony which should be the crowning pleasure of each meal, but it will not recur often, and is a small price to pay for the comfort and honor of having our children become well-mannered, pleasant table companions.

Neither would we advocate bringing very young children to the table when one has company. That would not be courteous or respectful to guests. But when only the family are present we think the earlier children are taught to sit at the table with parents, brothers and sisters, and behave properly, the more surely will they secure good, refined table manners.

It is not difficult to teach a very young child to make its wants quietly known to the proper person and at the proper time. But what can be more uncomfortable and annoying than to sit at a table where the children, from the oldest to the youngest, are the dominant power, never waiting patiently for their turn to be helped, but calling loudly for what ever they desire; impatient if it is not brought to them on the instant? If attention is not given as soon as the words are out of his mouth, how unpleasant to see a child standing on the rounds of the chair, or reaching over other plates to help himself to whatever he desires! Parents can, with very little trouble to themselves, save their guests from witnessing such rudeness if they begin when every habit is yet unformed.

As soon as a child can speak he can be taught to ask for what he needs in a gentle, respectful manner, when requiring service of the nurses, or the waiter, as well as of his pa-

rents and superiors. "Please push my chair up closer." "Please give me some water." "Please pass the bread." And when the request is complied with, accept it and say, "Thank you." What hardship is there in requiring this from children just beginning to talk as well as from older lads and lassies! It will require but a very few repetitions of the lesson for the youngest to understand that it is the only way by which their wishes will be complied with; and it is surprising to see how soon this mode of calling attention to their wants becomes as easy and natural as breathing. Parents are culpable who do not give their children the advantage of such instruction and enforce it until they have no idea of asking in any other way.

And yet how many give no heed to this duty. How many hear their young charges calling impatiently or arrogantly, "Give me the butter, Jane." "Pass the bread this way." "Can't you hear, Jane? I've told you two or three times to give me some water." Or some may soften their imperious demands a little, by saying, "I'll take the bread, please; or, 'Hand me the salt, Jane, please; but the 'please' is too far off to be very pleasant. It seems an after thought.

Whispering, loud talking, abrupt calls for any article on the table, beginning to eat or calling to be helped the moment seated, before the oldest are served, is, in the highest degree, rude and vulgar, yet by far too common. Some natural feeling of restraint or diffidence may keep the young more quiet when at a friend's table, for part of the meal at least; but they can lay no claim to refinement or good manners if they use politeness only when among strangers—keep it laid away like a new garment, to be put on occasionally, and to be thrown off as speedily as possible because not being in habitual use it becomes irksome.

Many other habits creep in and find permanent lodgment if the parents are not watchful of their children's behavior at the table. Picking the teeth; handling the hair; carrying food to the mouth while leaning back in the chair; rocking or tilting the chair back and forth while eating; filling the mouth too full; eating rapidly and with much noise from the lips; sitting with elbows on the table—all these, and a multitude equally vulgar, can be met by a careful mother's vigilance before they have time to take deep root, but if neglected will stamp a child with coarseness and vulgarity no matter how exalted the station he was born into.—*Christian Union.*

CHRIST THE COMFORTER.

BY MARY DWINELL CHELLIS.

"My child! My child!" wailed the mother. "This morning so fair and so strong; this evening, crushed and crippled. I can not bear it. Why is this terrible calamity sent upon me! My boy! My darling boy!" "You must not grieve so," said a neighbor. "Think, Mrs. Bowen, it may not be so bad as you fear. Try to be calm, for your boy's sake. He will want you with him, and you can not help him bear his sufferings, unless you are calm and composed. We must all accept what comes to us."

"It is easy for you to talk," exclaimed the afflicted woman. Then chiding herself, she added: "I am so nearly wild, I am hardly responsible for what I say. It seems to me no sorrow was ever like my sorrow."

"But many have had far greater troubles than yours, and have borne them bravely. You must summon your fortitude, and make up your mind to accept the inevitable. Sorrow is the common lot of all."

"Don't! Don't!" cried the stricken mother. "I can not bear another word." The neighbor, finding her efforts at consolation unavailing, went home, wondering at such want of self-control. She had not been long gone, when a poor woman, who had sometimes worked in the kitchen when extra help was needed, came into the room where Mrs. Bowen was pacing the floor, and reaching out her hard, rough hands, said gently:

"The dear Lord knows all about your trouble. I've been praying for you, as I worked, and though it's not my place to come to you, I couldn't stay away. There's a meaning to what's happened, and the Lord knows it. He'll not send more than you can bear, if you trust Him. Many a time I've said that to myself, and then gone down on my knees, to ask Him to comfort my aching heart."

"I know you must have had troubles, but not like mine," was replied, with a sob. "Ah! Mrs. Bowen, it's never one that knows all another has to bear. I've a crippled boy at home, waiting for me, and once he was strong as your boy was this morning." "Do you leave him alone?" asked Mrs. Bowen, surprised into a moment's forgetfulness of herself. "All alone, only I know the dear Lord watches over him." "Oh, my boy! My boy! Why should his life be so crushed? I can not bear it." "The dear Lord helps those who ask Him." "Will He give me back my child, as he went from me this morning?" "He will give you patience and submission, and trust in His love." "But I can never be happy again. Never! Never! Are you ever happy?" "That I am. When I get home, and sit down by a warm fire, with my boy beside me I forget all my hard work and anxious thoughts. I have so much to be thankful for, my heart just runs over. You know Christ comes nearest to them that need Him most." "I don't know. How can it be? Tell me." "I can't tell how. I only know it is, because I have felt it." "Oh, that I could feel it!" "Ask Him to come to you and help you bear your troubles." "How! I am not like you. I am not a Christian." "But you can trust Him. Do, dear woman. There is nobody else." "Ask Him for me. He will hear you. Oh! ask Him for me." "I will," responded the humble Christian; and kneeling there, she prayed as one who craves some gift of priceless value, sure of its bestowal.

"You have helped me," said the mother, so recently afflicted, as they stood together for a moment after rising to pray for me every hour."

A flood of tears streamed down her cheeks, and she leaned upon her companion for support; while in some way she did not then question how strength came to her.

All advice to summon fortitude and accept the inevitable calmly, had been lost upon her. She had no resources of her own, upon which she could depend in this, her hour of need. She had been sent from the bedside of her boy, because of her extreme agitation, when she should have been brave and strong.

But now she was comforted. She had been made to realize that there is one who, having sorrowed as we sorrow, and suffered as we suffer, has compassion on our infirmities, and gives of his abounding grace and strength to all who will receive it. In this grace and strength she took up her burden; and if now it sometimes presses heavily, she knows where to look for help.—*Exchange.*

A touching incident occurred a few weeks ago at the distributing of prizes in the English School of Sciences and Arts at Keighley.

The Bishop of Manchester gave the prizes. To the pupils and most of the large audience, the bishop occupies the place of a father to his children; not only revered as a man of God, but as a liberal, practical thinker, one of the leaders of opinion in England in all matters which influence the elevation of humanity.

Surrounded by the boys and their parents, the good bishop suddenly was led to speak of his own mother, and told the story of how she, "not a clever managing woman," had been left a widow with seven children; how her great love and trust in God had helped her to live, sacrificing not only luxury, but comfort, to make a home, bare of all but the most meagre necessities, bright and happy as that House Beautiful, whose chambers were called Peace, and from which could be seen the hills of heaven. Most of her children through her efforts rose to positions where they could help to make the world wiser and better. "She is now," said the bishop, with broken voice, "in my house, paralyzed, speechless and helpless; and when I looked at her sweet face this morning, I thanked God, who had given her to me. I owe to her all that I am."

SCOWLING is a kind of silent scolding. It shows that our souls need sweetening. For pity's sake, let us take a sad-iron, or a glad-iron, or a smoothing-tool of some sort, and straighten these creases out of our faces, before they become indelibly engraved thereon. Endeavor to wear a cheerful expression.

EVERY member of the Christian Church ought to be a reader of the SUN.

Farm and Fireside.

GARDEN AND ORCHARD.

The melon family are growing rapidly from the effect of the recent rains and warm days. We presume they have been worked and the insects destroyed. The watermelon bug often injures the crop to a serious extent by sucking the juices of the stem and leaves, sometimes descending in the ground along the stem. Attention to working, hand picking, the application of Scotch snuff to the leaves, with or without plaster, is the remedy to be used. While a mixture of salt, plaster and guano may be used with impunity on and around cabbage, destroying insects and promoting the growth of the plants, the tender foliage of the melon family is injured and the plant destroyed by this application. Melons, cucumbers, cymbings, squash and tomatoes are wonderfully and rapidly hastened in their growth by the application of Peruvian guano in a circle on the earth several inches distant from the root of the plant. For the early melon crop some of our most successful growers apply one-half the guano intended for the crop in this manner.

The weeds and grass in the young orchard, which we suppose was plowed when the ground was prepared for a crop, are now showing themselves. The cultivator or shovel plow, any surface cultivator giving a sufficient depth to make the soil loose and destroy the weeds, is better than the turn plow. Newly planted trees should by all means be hoe worked just as the farm crops, since they are in the same condition of any other farm crop whose hold of the soil is yet feeble.

Mulching young trees with straw, leaves, etc., to keep the soil moist is a most excellent substitute for cultivation, but when practicable a loose, porous soil around young trees is the best safeguard possible from the effects of injury in unpropitious dry or wet seasons.

The grapes are blooming and the vineyard requires tri-weekly attention, tying up the shoots for next year's bearing wood. Remove suckers from near the root, thin out the grapes, and pinch out the ends of the bearing bunches at the first or second leaf beyond the third bunch. All the feeble branches with only one or two bunches should be removed.

It is time to plant pole beans for the fall crop, corn for the table, land for turnips should be plowed, and if a crop of ruta-bagas is desired, the sooner they are planted after the first week in June, the better. We should anticipate the dry season in August and prepare for it.—*Rural Messenger.*

CULTURE OF ORCHARDS.

It is an indispensable requisite, in all young orchards, to keep the ground mellow and loose by cultivation; at least for the first few years, until the trees are well established. Indeed, of two adjoining orchards, one planted and kept in grass, and the other plowed for the first five years, there will be an incredible difference in favor of the latter. Not only will the trees show rich, dark, luxuriant foliage and clean smooth stems, while those neglected will have a starved and sickly look, but the size of the trees in the cultivated orchard will be triple that of the other at the end of this time, and a tree in one will be ready to bear abundant crops before the other has commenced yielding a peck of fruit. Fall-wood crops are the best for orchards—potatoes, vines, buckwheat, roots, Indian corn, and the like. An occasional crop of grass, or grain may be taken.

KEEPING MILK.

There may be something more in the method of keeping milk than at first appears, in the less liability to souring in glass than in metal or wooden vessels. We know how sealative milk is to electrical conditions of the atmosphere, and that while glass is a very poor conductor of electricity, metal is a good conductor, better far than wood. As electricity is always present in the atmosphere to a greater or less extent, and has more or less of influence upon its more affirmative conductors, may it not be that the often unaccountable thickening or souring of milk is, in some measure, due to the action of that fluid through the metal vessels upon the lactical fluid in them?—*Boston Herald.*

THE body of our prayer is the sum of our duty; and we must ask of God whatsoever we need; we must labor for all that we ask.

ITEMS.

In almost all cases experience teaches that orchards are more certain to do well where the spot chosen is somewhat higher than the surrounding land.

AGRICULTURE is to be made an obligatory study in all elementary schools of France. This is a recent action of the Senate, and was adopted by a majority of 254 votes.

An English groom, who favors steaming food for horses, mentions as one of its advantages that any disagreeable smell in the grain or hay is likely to be removed by the process.

PROF. DANA says a cow will make about seventy pounds of manure a day, or twelve tons a year. This includes both solid and liquid, and is worth from one to three dollars a ton.

COPPERAS is the dread of rats. In every crevice or every hole where a rat treads scatter a few grains of copperas, and the result is a stampede of rats and mice. But look out for poison.

One hole in the fence will, by and by, cost ten times as much as it would to fix it at once. One diseased sheep will spoil a flock. One unruly animal will teach all others in company bad tricks.

THE honey crop of the United States is assuming large proportions. Its annual value is now estimated at \$8,800,000, and that of wax at \$6,000,000. Our exports of honey and wax are steadily increasing.

TO KEEP bugs off melon and squash vines, plant a tomato plant in each hill. By doing this the bugs did not bother them for me; while across the fence, where there were no tomatoes they were all killed by the bugs.

If the soil is full of angle worms, it is, also, doubtless lumpy and hard to pulverize when broken up with spade or plow. In this case draining is the principal remedy. An application of salt, also ashes or sand, for mechanical effect, will prove beneficial.

THE indestructible artificial flowers now imported retain form and color in spite of rain, snow and heat. The first use of the material of which they are made was in the stems, which are so flexible, and their popularity gave rise to the flowers.

SIZE OF FARMS.

In 1850, the average size of farms in the United States was 203 acres; in ten years the average size was four acres less, and at the late census a further reduction of 47 acres appeared, and farms averaged 153 acres. The decline between 1850 and 1870 was so general that the only exceptions in all the States and Territories were—an increase in California from 466 to 682 acres, from 94 to 133 in Massachusetts, and from 25 to 30 in Utah. Prior to 1850, land monopoly had some claim to existence in California; in ten years the average size of farms was diminished by a reduction of 4000 acres. In Texas the reduction was in the first decade from 942 to 591 acres, and in the second to 301 acres. The next census is expected to show a further decline. Minnesota had 157 farms in 1850, 18,181 in 1860, 46,500 in 1870, and now claims more than 68,000. There were 5,364 farms of more than 1000 acres in 1880; in 1870 there were only 3,720. In the same period the number from 500 to 1000 acres declined from 20,619 to 15,873, while all the classes of smaller farms increased, the ratio of increase getting larger as the scale of size descended.—*American Stockman.*

CLIMATE CONTROLS VARIETIES.

The varieties in tobacco are only the result of climatic influence, as there is but one species that has ever been cultivated. The different kinds soon lose their characteristics when planted continuously in any given locality. All varieties of seed leaf are, doubtless, from the original Connecticut seed leaf, which, in turn, is nothing more than the Havana of Cuba, acclimated in the Northern States. When these facts are known, it is evident that, in order to preserve the peculiar qualities of any variety, it is necessary to obtain seed frequently from its original locality.—*Western Tobacco Journal.*

GUINEA FOWLS are the most active destroyers of the Colorado beetle, a writer claiming that one Guinea hen will protect an acre of potatoes. They lay more eggs than other poultry, and their eggs are unequalled for cake and other culinary purposes.