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OUR PRINCIPLES: The Lord Jesus Christ is the only Head of the Church. The same Christian, to the exclusion of all party or sectarian names, is the Holy Bible, or the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, a sufficient rule of faith and practice.

er against one who himself wished to become infallible. Again, as in the tenth century, so far from infallibility being the most heinous crime, it was the most honorable. In the fifteenth century, their infallibility was curbed by the church, and so on through the centuries, the popes have been first infallible and then fallible.

WANT AND SUPPLY. There is in the human heart an instinctive consciousness of spiritual need, a faculty and function that cannot be filled or satisfied by any animal or intellectual fruition. The soul is too great in its nature, too broad in its outlook to be satisfied with the things of earth.

Let every man sweep clear before his own door—then the walk-ways of life would be clear indeed. The South American Churchman well says: The Church is blinded by worldly influences, and ministers find it much more agreeable to hammer away at the sins of the ancient Egyptians, four thousand years ago, or the immoralities of Paris, four thousand miles away, than to expose the wickedness at their own doors.

Here is where infidelity fails, for it leaves man without any refuge. The infidel is without God, and without hope in the world. A Congregational minister conducted a weekly Bible class. An infidel, a conceited tongue fellow, told his chums that he would attend and find out what sort of mettle was in the Dominie. So one evening they all attended the class.

or offered an earnest, touching and affectionate prayer. "I close," he said to the infidel, "how you pray." "I cannot pray, I cannot pray. I have no God to pray to; no Saviour to call upon." "Let me go," cried the infidel, and rushed out of the house under great excitement. This is where infidelity leaves a man with all his conscious spiritual wants unmet; but in Christ the believer finds peace; comfort and hope. Standing on the verge of time the aged christian can sing:

O death! the poor man's dearest friend, The kindest and the best! Welcome the hour my aged limbs Are laid with thee at rest! The great reality fear the blow, From pomp and pleasure torn; But Oh! a bliss'd relief to those That weary laden mourn!

Our Exchanges.

Let every man sweep clear before his own door—then the walk-ways of life would be clear indeed. The South American Churchman well says: The Church is blinded by worldly influences, and ministers find it much more agreeable to hammer away at the sins of the ancient Egyptians, four thousand years ago, or the immoralities of Paris, four thousand miles away, than to expose the wickedness at their own doors.

Let everything be done decently and in order" was the admonition of one who was inspired. We think everything means everything, and that takes in the singing in our churches of which is not done decently nor in order. The Baltimore Baptist says:

Take the matter of singing. It is an unspeakable important part of successful revival exercises. Not to arrange for the singing or to leave it in the hands of frivolous or careless people or to fail to provide hymns for the congregation or to let some toothless and tuning-fork crank undertake to run the singing—this is worse than unfortunat. It is criminal, and often fatal. We have known several meetings to fail because of the character of the singing. We state this with deliberation. We do not say that the meeting was hurt by the singing, but that it was killed by it. In very many cases we have seen the Lord's work, if not thwarted, at least badly crippled by the singing or by the lack of it, or by the bad quality of it. It is very important to arrange beforehand for the singing, and then see that it is faithfully carried out.

The day is at hand when we must have reform in some ideas now held in educational circles. The Nation well says:

The intercollegiate games bring the college world down to the level of the professional gambler. It is incontestable that students whose minds are constantly filled with the thought of intercollegiate rivalry at sports, follow with the greatest zest the course of the professional matches all over the country, turn to them first in the morning paper, make them the staple of their conversation. This is bad enough, but unavoidably they catch the tone of these vulgar performances, they practice or are on their guard against "trickery connived by public opinion," and above all, they fall easily into habits of betting on the result. The ill-feeling thus engendered, the charges of foul play, unfair umpiring, spying, concealment, lying, are disgustingly visible on the grounds or in the echoes of the college press. No man ever felt elevated by witnessing such encounters, and their degrading influence speaks both to the eye and to the understanding.

The Methodist Protestant is in favor of a kind of Anti-Poverty Society, which he thinks would be very good. The best anti-poverty society would be one that should teach the elements of economy to thriftless people. More than half the miseries of penury are

the direct result of mismanagement. Until people can be taught that there are one hundred cents in a dollar and that each cent has a specific value, and that work is the law of living which we cannot shirk, the experience of the philanthropist will be repeated that it is impossible to effectively help by simply giving.

Real faith means some things; it sees things as clearly, even more so than do the natural eyes. The Independent pointedly says: The things not seen by the eye of sense, and seen only by that of faith, are the things that were most real to Paul. He was in this sense a spiritual realist. Such every Christian ought to be. Having God's Word in his possession, and believing it upon the authority of its Source, he ought to live the life he now lives in the flesh by the faith of the Son of God. His soul by faith should rise into the spirit realm, and behold the great realities that God has placed there in His Word.

The following will interest those who like to think of such things. It is from the Presbyterian Observer: Prince Alexander, who formerly gave the Czar of Russia considerable trouble, now appears upon the scene as an obstacle to Bismarck's schemes. The German Chancellor opposes his contemplated marriage with Princess Victoria, daughter of Emperor Frederick, and threatens to resign his office if the marriage is sanctioned. The cold-hearted and practical statesman has no sympathy with love-matches, especially when they stand in the way of his political plans. He asked and secured of the Reichstag 700,000 men and 300,000,000 marks to carry out his foreign policy, and now to see it compromised or menaced by a sentimental affair is not to his liking and he decidedly objects to the matter. The Emperor Frederick is in a quandary. If he approves of the marriage he offends his chief minister and runs counter to influential parties; if he postpones the alliance he antagonizes family interests. It looks as if the man of iron will was making the occasion a test question as to his supremacy. He can bring his sovereign to terms he will be master of the situation as in the past; if he fails, he will, by his resignation, place him in a position where he will be put to a great disadvantage. The struggle is really deeper than appears upon the surface, and means who shall govern, Bismarck or the Empress Victoria, whom he dislikes and who has great influence over her husband. The German Premier does not believe in petticoat government. Nor does he favor anything English. Royalty evidently has its troubles as well as plebeianism. Trials belong to all ranks.

GOD'S CHILDREN IN DARK HOURS.

BY THEODORE L. CUYLER, D. D.

No human life is all sunshine, and over smooth water. Some of the noblest characters in Bible history were men who traveled to Heaven through dark nights and in the teeth of many a "bizzard." Abraham was the "Friend of God," rich and prosperous; yet it was a faith-trying journey, enveloped in painful mystery, which he made to Mount Moriah with his beloved son marked for the sacrifice. Joseph was led through deep pit and dark prison to the Premiership of Egypt. Daniel praised God in a lion's den, and Jeremiah, the sorrowful Dante of Hebrew literature, looking up to the stars of the divine promises from the depths of a dungeon. The catalog of Paul's trials embraces almost everything that human nature can live through. And time would fail us to recount all those heroes of faith described in the epic of the eleventh chapter of the Hebrews.

As it was in those days, so it is in our days. The very best people, those who love God, and whom God loves, are not always happy. Our heavenly Father never promises unbroken sunshine to any of his children. That might be an appeal to our selfishness—a bribe to serve God for the immediate happiness it would insure. No opportunity would be afforded to test the capacity of faith in hard weather if its voyages were only over placid seas. Clipper-ships are not tested at the wharves—but out in the hurricane blast as it is to believe, yet it is a Bible-truth that whom God loves, he chastens and scourges; and he does it just because he loves them. Chemists never throw gravel-stones into their crucibles; it is only the ores which contain gold or silver, which are subjected to the red-hot furnace. Old as this truth is, we have to make a fresh application of it every time that we are called to face afflictions.

(1) Some Christian lives are shadowed by a naturally desponding temperament. Brother Hopeful looks at almost everything through a rose-colored glass; but poor Brother Fearing carries a "slog of Despond" in his mind nearly all the way to the Celestial city, and can only sing bass. He is a man of a choice spirit over the

learning hard lessons and working out difficult problems in God's school I would have had no less written of girls of this age; and keep the strong staff of faith well in hand. Trust your Guide in the dark. You are safer with him in the midnight than without him in the noon-day. He will not suffer any soul to stumble. Why you have been brought into such dark hours, you know not now, but you will know hereafter; for part of the sweet discoveries of Heaven will be to find out the mysteries of earth. Push on cheerfully, for if sorrow camp with us, overnight, joy cometh in the morning. It is not a great way to Heaven, at the farthest, and then will burst upon our eyes the exceeding and eternal weight of glory.—Independent.

DENOMINATIONAL NEWS.

Rev. T. V. Moore and wife have received a donation of \$84, from the church at Charleston Four Corners, N. Y., and \$50, from Carlisle church, N. Y.,—\$134 in all. Bro. Moore is soon to resign his pastorate at these churches.

The Christian church at Mill Creek, Ohio, has been blessed with a revival. Rev. W. A. Dobyens pastor says, "Thus far we have had twenty-two accessions."

Rev. C. W. Hoffer says, "I am now holding the grandest meeting of my life" (at Versailles, Ohio). "I have received into the church within the last two weeks, ninety-four members. Pray for us."

Rev. S. D. Bennett reports the Christian church at Miami, Ohio, enjoying a gracious revival. Twenty were added to the church.

Twenty-four accessions are reported to Fort Recovery Christian church, Ohio, by Rev. S. W. Bennett, pastor. The members of sister churches cooperated.

Rev. O. S. Greene has been greatly blessed in his labors at the Beaver Creek Chapel, Ohio, which is a new organization. Thirty-eight persons were added, and the new church which has built a good house, numbers fifty-three members.

Rev. J. B. Fenner has just closed a protracted meeting at New Palestine church, Ohio, with twenty-seven additions. Bro. Fenner has received a "pounding" from this church.

The Clarksburg Christian church, Ross county, Ohio, has been greatly prospered, through the missionary labors of Rev. O. L. Winget, of Williamport. Fifty two were received to fellowship.

Rev. W. H. Orr reports three additions to the Christian church at Veversburg, Ind.

Sister Maggie Wallace reports two revivals. One in Adair county, Missouri. Eight additions at one place, and nine at the other.

Rev. J. T. Phillips has been assisting Rev. L. M. Shinkle the pastor in Capron, Ill. Twelve or fifteen conversions and six additions.

Rev. Joseph Barney has been holding a protracted meeting at Ray's Cove church, Penn., assisted by Rev. J. R. Logue. Result fourteen additions. Bro. Barney says Brush Creek Christian church, Penn., is building a house that will be an honor to the community.

A glorious work of grace is reported at Red Key Christian church, Jay county, Ind. A new church was organized with forty-four members, says Rev. Jno. A. Coons.

Rev. J. T. Phillips is still in the gospel field. He reports eight additions to Mellott Christian church, at Mellott, Ind., result of a protracted meeting in which he assisted.

Rev. Mrs. Adams Smith recently closed a meeting at Plattsburg, Ohio, with twenty-seven conversions.

learning hard lessons and working out difficult problems in God's school I would have had no less written of girls of this age; and keep the strong staff of faith well in hand. Trust your Guide in the dark. You are safer with him in the midnight than without him in the noon-day. He will not suffer any soul to stumble. Why you have been brought into such dark hours, you know not now, but you will know hereafter; for part of the sweet discoveries of Heaven will be to find out the mysteries of earth. Push on cheerfully, for if sorrow camp with us, overnight, joy cometh in the morning. It is not a great way to Heaven, at the farthest, and then will burst upon our eyes the exceeding and eternal weight of glory.—Independent.

Riches take wings, comforts vanish, hope withers away, but love stays with us.—Love is God.

It is easy to pick holes in other people's work, but far more profitable to do better work yourself.

Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.—Eph. i. 30.

If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me.—Luke 12. 23.

There is one class of people upon whom whiskey seems to have little or no effect—those who let it alone.

It is wonderful to note the number of men who see the value of a thing after it is beyond their reach.

Women admire strength without seeking to imitate it; men, gentleness, without bestowing it in return.

Many a man has had a very hard ground to cultivate, and it has only been through severe trials that he has raised even the smallest scrap of grace.

At a convention of non-Christian Japanese physicians, held in Yokohama a few months ago, Christian education was recommended as a means of diminishing disease.

The ostrich in the Arabian legend when told to carry a load, replied, "I cannot, I am a bird," and when told to fly, then answered, "I cannot, I am a camel."—Christian Index.

Religion is the royal daughter of heaven but her crown drops from her head when she stoops to profit by those crimes which it is her duty to denounce and her glory to subdue.—Bishop of Derby.

In Chicago I saw a marching body of 18,000 workmen, carrying a banner inscribed: "Our children pray for bread" and they marched straight to a picnic ground and drank 1,400 kegs of beer.

Nearly every man is surrounded by three circles of friends—those of the outer circle wishing him well; those in the next circle willing to help him; while close up to his heart are a few who would die for him. God pity him who has no friends!

Says the Interior, (Presbyterian): "If each member of the church would consider himself a special committee on inviting people to come to church and would see that they met with a hearty welcome when they came, they would be surprised to see what an inspiration it would be to their pastor."

The native American population do not propose to give up the Sabbath without a mighty struggle. Its blessed rest from worldly cares was handed down to them by their forefathers with the injunction to defend it at all hazards. They look upon the present effort to snatch it from them as they would upon a declaration of war for conquest from a foreign foe.—N. Y. Witness.

From all the paralyzing cant of an untold devotion; from all the God-defying hypocrisy of an unlit voice and a down-hanging arm; from all miserable mummery of a grand external ritual and a selfish, un-Christ-like daily life, good Lord, deliver us! The only thing that Christianity wants just now is Christians.—Canon Wilberforce.

I have measured a great many Roman coffins, and my average shows that the Roman could not have greatly exceeded five feet five inches. In taking measurement of ancient armor, I find that the English aristocracy have decidedly increased in average height within five hundred years. I measured twenty-five mummies in the in the British Museum as nearly as I could through the case, making estimate for wrapping, and I found the average height of males, sixty-one inches; females, fifty-five inches. The mummy of the celebrated Cleopatra measures about fifty-four inches, about the height of the present European girl of thirteen. The most ancient mummy of an Egyptian king yet discovered measured fifty-two inches.—Nature.

Rev. A. C. Covey, of Milan, N. Y., has accepted a call to the Beckerstown and Monaca pastorate, New Jersey.

Rev. T. V. Moore reports three additions to the Christian church at Charleston Four Corners, N. Y., and donation to himself and wife.

Bible Points.

Keep busy. Heartaches are seldom felt when the hands are busy.

No fountain so small that heaven can be imagined on its bosom.—Hawthorne.

Little duties are golden pins to fasten the mantle of God's love securely about us.

An ounce of generous promise will do more to make a man your friend than a pound of fault.

Human things must be known to be loved, but divine things must be loved to be known.—Pascal.

Riches take wings, comforts vanish, hope withers away, but love stays with us.—Love is God.

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