

The Christian Sun.

BY J. O. ATKINSON.

IN ESSENTIALS, UNITY; IN NON-ESSENTIALS, LIBERTY; IN ALL THINGS, CHARITY.

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The Christian Sun

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CARDINAL PRINCIPLES.

1. The Lord Jesus is the only Head of the church.
2. The name Christian, to the exclusion of all party and sectarian names.
3. The Holy Bible, or the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, sufficient rule of faith and practice.
4. Christian character, or vital piety, the only test of fellowship or membership.
5. The right of private judgment, and the liberty of conscience, the privilege and duty of all.

CURRENT COMMENT.

The Hepburn Bill.

Dislodge whiskey from one stronghold and it soon finds another. It is indeed a wily foe of many feet. But temperance advocates are also active and little by little the enemy's ground is compassed.

There is now pending before the national Congress a bill in behalf of temperance that has the endorsement of justice, common sense, and absolute fairness. It is to the effect that each State shall have the right to control its own liquor trade, a right which the States have not heretofore enjoyed.

Here is a case, in point, for illustration. North Carolina now has an anti-jug law, which prevents the shipping of liquor into prohibition territory by holding that the place of delivery is the place of sale. This applies all over the State. But no State law can touch another State law, so it comes about that people outside this State may ship liquor into any part of our territory, those of other states being protected by the interstate Commerce Act. Roxboro, N. C., cannot ship whiskey into Durham, a prohibition town, but a town in any other State, say Richmond or Norfolk, Va., may ship to Durham. The Hepburn bill is for the purpose of remedying this evil. It is conservative and we believe ought to be made law. If the people of a State want prohibition and say so they ought to be allowed to have it, without in anywise being defeated in their aims by United States laws. We hope the Hepburn Bill will pass and there seems much promise of its passage.

The Mormons Again.

As investigation goes forward in the Senator Reed Smoot case at Washington many facts are being published that reveal an awful state of affairs as taught and practiced by the Mormons. President Smith testified that he had five wives and forty-two children, and of the seven apostles subpoenaed by the investigating committee, M. W. Merrill has eight wives, George Teasdale has now, and has had several (exact number unknown), and all the others two each. Apostle Taylor, probable successor to President Smith, is already a polygamist.

Further facts were brought out to the effect that while the Mormons have a law prohibiting polygamy they live in open violation of the law. Apostle Taylor, while on the

witness stand, testified that the law of the Mormon church was the law of God and that he himself as an Apostle was living in open violation of that law and to the law of his State.

Further testimony revealed the fact that the church completely dominates the State and politics in Utah. This was shown in that a few years since an Apostle by the name of Moses Thatcher ran for the United States Senate against the wish of the majority of the other Apostles. Orders went out that the Church must defeat Thatcher, and he was defeated.

As the investigation proceeds the awful doctrines of the Mormon church are being brought to light and show a deplorable state of affairs in the name of religion.

Another Lynching.

The lynching of a negro in Springfield, Ohio, last week attracted much attention and comment. Mob violence was at its worst. A negro shot and killed a white policeman, Sunday, 9th inst. An arrest followed and the negro was placed in jail to await trial. Monday a mob formed, broke into the jail, secured the prisoner, and after shooting him to death, swung his body to a telegraph pole in a main thoroughfare of the city where volley after volley was fired into his lifeless form. The mob still not satisfied, invaded the Levee, the negro district of the city, and after much shooting and many threats, applied the torch and whole blocks of the town went up in smoke. Thirteen companies of the State militia had to be called out before the rioting was checked.

Mob violence is dangerous any and everywhere. It is to be deplored in Ohio as much as in North Carolina. No one can tell to what limits it will go before it is suppressed. We have not known of a mob that showed more violence than the last. That such can occur anywhere in the United States is deplorable. That they occur as readily in the North as in the South has been frequently demonstrated, but it no where justifies them. We have courts that execute justice with tolerable equity and dispatch, and to these we all ought to submit.

From Alabama.

Since my last letter I have visited all my churches. My work is in fair condition, considering the severe winter we have had in the South.

A great many of my members have moved away from some of my churches, which made the prospect a little gloomy for a time, but we who are left behind are pressing on.

I am expecting to make a trip to Chilton county, Ala., in the near future. I feel anxious about our work in that county. Wish we had a strong man to place there. I also intend to make a visit to the State of Louisiana sometime this year if possible, in the interest of our church. We have some good members who have moved there from Alabama.

One brother writes that they will pay my expenses if I will come.

I see the need now as never before for more extensive work. We need men, and if we had men of the right kind the money would be forthcoming to meet the demands. It takes push and energy in the Lord's work as well as any other business, and the man who loves the church feels interested in her welfare, and the minister that loves his Holy calling can't rest until he has in some way answered the pressing calls that come from a hungry, starving world.

The people desire the gospel, the pure unadulterated gospel of the Son of God, and nothing else will suffice.

The next District meeting will be held at Christiana church embracing fifth Sunday in next July. We intend to protract our meeting here following the District meeting. We cordially invite all ministers to remain with us and assist us in the meeting. A program will appear later.

G. D. HUNT.

More Light Wanted.

BY REV. J. B. HOAG.

The recent Herald Publishing Co., at Dayton, O., pleases me because it encourages native authorship. The publication of good books is a mine of wealth to any people. Dr. Summerbell led the way to writing some leading articles on our standard principles, and others are following to get up a volume. Dr. Summerbell will also comply with a request to give an article on Future Punishment, for which he is by nature and culture so well prepared. I have always had trouble about the future state, and have asked the Brother to consider certain questions I hereby propose, if they lie along his line of investigation. Some of these are as follows:

1. Is man mortal?
2. The relation of the death penalty against the first murderer, to future punishment?
3. Has the Lord ever exercised his power in destroying both soul and body?
5. What do the terms mean used in burning carcasses in the valley of Hinnom, such as "hell fire," "unquenchable fire," "worm that dieth not?"
5. Purgatory—underworld—or intermediate state?
6. Is everlasting destruction, the same as everlasting punishment?
7. Is death an end of things spoken of, or a parallel to life?
8. The difference in immortality and eternal life, if any?
9. Is the lake of fire and brimstone a figure of speech, or a reality?
10. Is the incident of the rich man and Lazarus a parable, or mystery?

Brethren of the Sun, Attention! All eyes to the Herald front to get more light; but don't feel shut out from having a word to say about it yourselves; and especially don't backslide if others are trying to get more light on this subject.

Wymore, Neb.

Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.

Salinas (Porto Rico) Letter.

This is the third letter we have written and as yet we do not know that either of the other two ever appeared in these columns. We are not complaining. We simply want to state that once each month we try to write a letter to The Sun. (And The Sun is glad to get and publish them just as soon as they arrive—Ed Sun).

That strenuousness of the people of New England about which Prof. Harper has been writing so interestingly is not to be found here in Porto Rico. He had no difficulty in making this writer believe that the cause for such strenuousness is due to New England's climate. There are people here who have come from New England but we find no such strenuousness as we have been led to believe possesses the people of that cold climate. Just the opposite is the case here. There is time for conversation, just a plenty of it. Try to get something done, and you will be greeted by the almost always ready reply "Tomorrow, Tomorrow." For a long time we tried to get our native worker located in the town of Santa Isabell, but this reply of "Tomorrow" and "Later" kept us waiting, but finally a house was vacated and rented, and we now have him located there with his mother who is also a Christian. He begins well and we believe will be successful.

We rejoice that our home mission work is making progress. This means larger success for our foreign work. Already the new church at Greensboro has a society at work, making special effort to help in securing funds for the building of the much needed church in the city of Ponce—an example worthy of imitation. No member of the Christian Church has cause to regret for the help given in the establishment of the churches in the cities we have recently entered. If there is regret it is because we did not enter them sooner. And we believe that if a church is built in Ponce and there is regret about it, it will be because it was not built sooner. We somehow feel that Porto Rico is so near home that it should be called a home mission point anyway. Were you to enter a service here you would find little foreign except the language. It is the same Lord, the same gospel, and the same spirit that we find in our home churches. We regard them in the same manner as we do our churches at home.

Not long ago we received a cut of the new Christian church at Sanford, N. C. It is beautiful and we are very thankful for it. We have it hanging on our wall, and it is interesting to all of our native callers. They want to know if we build all of our churches on a foundation resembling a Bible—as this cut leads them to suppose. We wish we had a cut of all our city churches to adorn our room. Such would help and inspire. But the cut that would give us greater inspiration than all others, and perhaps to the church at large, would be that of a Christian church in Porto Rico. We long to see it! How long must we wait?

T. E. WHITE.

Logic and Love.

BY REV. H. Y. RUSH.

Logic and love—it is well if our Sun correspondents can command both of these elements of an edifying article. Perhaps this is not possible to all. Great is the variety of newspaper writers. However, the most illiterate lover of Christ will put into his manuscript some redeeming quality. One brother's length, with its leanness of information, has some offset in his freshness and fluency. Another is labored in style, but orderly in statement and logical in argument. One writer dashes off much irrelevant scripture and thinks it a triumphant support of his opinion. Another, who is more exact in exegesis and more felicitous in logic, sunders the blade of misapplied texts at a stroke. A weak argument is sometimes persistently advanced, but is expressed in a brotherly spirit. A writer of opposite opinion combines scripture and logic, and then, with a trace of ire, lets down his brother's theory with a crash. Now, who of all these variously gifted writers for the Sun is preferred, and which of them all most wins the reader's heart? Perhaps the general reply, and the one nearest the truth, would be, "The brother who manifests most of the spirit of Christ—the brother of less logic and more love." Writers for the Sun, strive to give its readers a fair measure of both. I find some excellence in all that is said in this paper. For over forty years its contents have been delightful food for both my mind and heart. If meantime my life has grown as much better as the Sun has grown brighter, I shall not answer my Master's summons wholly empty handed.

West Milton, Ohio.

The Second International Missionary Conference of the Christians.

The first was held in Piqua, O., in Oct. 1901. The second will be held in the fall of 1904. Where shall it be held; in what state, conference, church?

The following eight persons have the matter of location, program and all arrangements to make: Rev. M. T. Morvill, Woodstock Vt., chairman; Rev. W. H. Denison, Troy, Ohio, secretary; Rev. J. O. Atkinson, Elon College, N. C.; Mrs. Geo. Worley, Covington, Ohio; Rev. P. A. Canada, New Bedford, Mass.; Rev. J. G. Bishop, Dayton, Ohio; Rev. W. G. Sargent, Toronto, Canada; Mrs. Ada O. Warbinton, Ind.

The committee will soon have a meeting and all churches desiring the conferences should verify the committee and give reasons why it should be held with them.

WARREN H. DENISON, Sec.
Troy, Ohio.

Revs. J. W. Holt, C. C. Peel, H. H. Butler, C. H. Rowland, and our local agents, Miss Cora Parker, of Nurneysville, Va., and Messrs. J. E. Corbitt, of Sunbury, N. C., and J. A. Johnson, Colosse, Va., have our sincere thanks for sending in renewals to The Sun the past week. We are offering several nice premiums for renewals and new subscribers now and many are taking advantage of the same.