

The Christian Sun.

In Essentials—Unity, in Non-Essentials—Liberty, in All Things—Charity.

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EDITORIAL COMMENT.

The Stay-at-Homes. This is the opening of school season. The stations are thronged, the baggage rooms are full, the trains crowded. The boys and girls, God bless them, are getting off to school. What a merry, jolly, happy—and then homesick—company of them.

Have you thought much of this host? They are worth considering. They are interesting to look upon, and absorbing to think about. These boys and girls are getting ready to solve the world's problems, going off to arm and equip themselves to fight life's battles, and to bear life's burdens. They do not look it now, but they will come to that. They are preparing to think—and thought rules the world, and gives to nature her increase. From these boys going to college now, we will select our future lawyers, doctors, preachers, legislators, and leaders of every type and profession. From these girls we will select our school teachers, stenographers, book keepers, sweethearts, wives and mothers. They are going now a merry throng to learn and enlarge their powers, acumen and ability, that they may carry into their hundred walks of life and avenues of influence more culture, refinement, ability, worth, and weight of character. God guide them.

Multiply each throng that is going by twenty that are not going, that can go, that can arm themselves, but do not care to, and you have the tragedy of the manhood and the young womanhood of our day. I am thinking of the hundreds who are staying at home, not because of unfitness; not because of inability; not because of mental dullness or financial press, but because they do not want to—haven't the ambition for the present, nor the concern for the future. God pity them. They prefer "a good time" now to all that a cultured and enlightened manhood and womanhood could give them in the future. Here is the real tragedy of

our Southern society at this day—the unnumbered throng who might if they cared; but who do not care, and so live out their lives in obscurity, drollery, stupidity and uselessness. God pity them—the ones who stay at home to have "a good time," because they have not the care, the ambition, the stoutness of heart and purpose to learn at all hazards and be somebody or die trying. They need the world's sympathy for they constitute the world's real tragedy.

When Conscience Calls. When one's conscience is fully aroused, what is it one will not sacrifice for peace? Sleepless nights, tear stained pillows, aching hearts, despairing moods, what will one not give to banish these? And, mark the words, in the light that the conscience has, it never errs. It is as true as the needle to the pole, in the light and evidence that it has. Light many often be wanting, and is, but conscience bites and stings and spurs, or caresses and fondles and approves in light of the evidence it has. Here is a striking case in point: Prince Carl Zer Lowenstein, of Austria has taken the vows of a Dominican monk. This prince was a baron, a count, a duke, a prince in Germany and Austria, had the right to sit in the parliaments of six kingdoms, had \$4,000,000 in gold and nearly \$40,000,000 in securities, with thousands of acres of the best lands in Europe, with rich mines of copper, coal and iron, with six castles and many elegant residences. All these the multimillionaire Prince gives up, lays aside—to retire to solitude and become a monk. He wanted to enter the church in his youthful days—he is seventy four now—but his father would not let him.

But the call of church and conscience was too much for him—and after many obstinate and persistent years he yields.

The call of conscience is deep and loud and long. How important it is that we enlighten, with the best at hand and in reach, the conscience with which we are endowed.

Once a Gambler—Now? Edwin Noyes Hills is, at an early date, to issue a book. It will be interesting. I shall want to read it. Who is Hills? That

is pertinent. He is the only surviving member of a famous gang of four American robbers who, in 1873, committed a million pound forgery on the Bank of England, was apprehended, and sent to the chain gang for life. Served twenty years, was released, returned to America, shattered in health and reputation, gave his heart to God, was redeemed, and has gone back to England to engage in an anti-gambling campaign for it was the gambling craze that drove him to crime and ruin. He is to speak now to untold meetings of anti-gambling societies in London, his campaign being endorsed by the leading clergy of all churches, by bankers, business men, physicians, merchants and all sorts who have heard him. He is seventy three, but is vigorous in his work of reaching men and leading them to honesty and sobriety. His book, soon to be issued, will tell the story of his crime, his servitude, his redemption and his desire to save men. Nothing but the religion of the Lord Jesus can reach, and then make over again in his old age, a wretch and a man like that.

Belief In God Universal. Men may not know what God is, His nature and attributes; but it has been long agreed that all nations of men believe that He is—has being, existence. It is a conception, often crude, common to the human mind. Dr. Thomas Lewis lecturing recently on "The Old Congo Kingdom" said "I have satisfied myself, after twenty five years among them, that at the bottom of African fetishism there is the fundamental belief in the existence of God and in the reality of the human soul. No missionary has yet, to my knowledge, been compelled to introduce the name of God into any Bantu languages."

The human heart, when honest with itself, feels and realizes that God is, and that the immortal soul, in its flight and longings, needs Him.

David voiced, not an individual, but a universal sentiment when he cried "As the hart panteth after the water-brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God."

Blessed are the pure in heart.