Witnesses in Maryland Courts Required Simply to Aff rm.

The Bible will be dispensed with hereafter in administering oaths generally in the United States District and Circuit Courts at Ealtimore, as has been the practice for some time in the state courts. An order to this effect was signed by United States Judge Morris.

The order states that when not spe--cially prescribed by the Constitution of the United States or an act of Congress, the form of oath in the United States Courts shall be the same as is prescribed by the laws of the State of Maryland (Acts of 1898, chapter 75).

Under the new practice the person making oath will hold up his right hand and in the presence of Almighty God solemnly promise or declare" to tell the truth, except in those cases wherein this form is not practicable or when it shall appear that some other mode is more binding upon the conscience of the person to be sworn.

Heretofore persons taking the oath have been required to kiss the Bible.

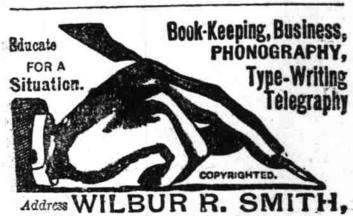
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HE greatest fault of all is to be conscious of no fault. Love flows over the lines of liking. Pisgah is always a hard hill to

climb. Brightest hopes dawn on darkest days.

When grain ripens by moonlight the soul will be saved by culture.

The greater a man's treasure the less he will complain of his taxes. Pride and ignorance are the babes

that help one another to get lost. The Christian who fears to be spent

for Christ is a candle unwilling to be It does not make heaven a fact to

call earth a fiction. Straight running makes better speed

than the swiftest circling. No amount of pruning ever made peaches grow on fence-posts.

The heavenly man does not need to write "Holiness" on his brow.

The vision of God gives right views of all things.

Proficiency needs no parade.

A parasite makes a poor partner. He works best who worries least.

A blessing abused becomes a bane. No perfection without pain. A hard heart is apt to be brittle.

Service is the first sign of freedom. Faith alone lifts the fog of the uture.

Endeavor counts for more than The more we look up the less we

need to look out for ourselves. The religion that does not reach

character does not rise with Christ. You cannot sop up the sins of the week with a solemn face on Sunday.

You cannot take God by one hand unless you take your brother by the

Remarkable Sheep.

A Kirkby Stephen correspondent telegraphs: "On Dec. 9 last Mr. Wm. Pratt, a well-known cattle dealer of Garsdale, had a large flock of sheep on Dent Fell, just above Hawes Junction. The sheep were gathered in just before the recent snowstorm, but one sheep escaped the dogs and got back on to the fells, where it was buried in the snow on the following day. On Tuesday last, twenty-two days afterward, the shepherds found the sheep in a crevasse. It had just thawed out of the snow, but was able to walk home, a distance of a mile and a half. The London Telegraph.

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same sheep was under the snow for ten days in the November storm. Mr. Pratt declares that he will never part with that animal as long as it lives."-

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THE SABBATH SCHOOL

INTERNATIONAL LESSON COMMENTS FOR APRIL 20.

Subject: Peter and Cornelius, Acts x., 34-48-Golden Text: Acts x., 34-Memory Verses, 42-44 - Commentary on the Day's Lesson.

34. "Opened his mouth." This suggests a regular discourse, as distinguished from a simple conversation. See Matt. 5: 2. 'I perceive." What had always been true, though through Jewish prejudice he had never before realized it. "That God." Who knoweth the hearts of men, and concerning whose decision there can be no discussion. "No respecter of persons." That is, He shows no favor to one above another on account of his outward condition of rank, wealth, poverty, nationality, race, color, education. His only test is what a person really is in moral character. All inust be saved in the same way, on the same conditions, subject to the same penalties if they refuse, and open to the same blessings if they repent and believe. Previous to his vision (vs. 9-16), Peter had be-lieved no one could be saved but they of the circumcision-Jews and proselytes. Contrary to his former opinion he now admits there is no favoritism with God. He does not esteem a Jew because he is a Jew, nor detest a Gentile because he is a Gentile. God has respect only for character and state, National and ecclesiastical distinctions are of no account.

35. "In every nation." Jew or Gentile. "That feareth Him." Not a slavish, or selfish, but a filial fear. Job. 28: 28; Prov. 9: 10; Psa. 2: 11; Eccl. 12: 13; Mal. 4: 2. "Worked righteousness." Abstains from all evil and does good. These two particulars include man's duty to God, and to his fellow-man. He keeps all the law. Cornelius was accepted because he measured up to the light given him. He watched, fasted, prayed and gave alms. He evidenced his sincerity by accepting Christ as soon as He was preached. "Is accepted." He was not accepted because of his good deeds. but because he had an honest heart, and

that led him to perform good deeds.

36. "The word." The message of the gospel. The record of the work of Jesus of Nazareth. "Unto Israel." The descendants of Jacob, the chosen people of God. To them it was first preached, and through them salvation came to the race. John 4: 22; Rom. 1: 16. "Preaching peace." Preaching the good tidings of salvation. This included the whole of gospel truth. 1. Peace with God. 2. Peace with men. 3. Peace of conscience. 4. Peace filling the soul. Rom. 14: 17. "By Jesus Christ." He is the author, giver and medium of peace. Luke 2: 14: John 14: 27; Eph. 2: 14; Col. 1: 20. "Lord of all." Peter here announces Christ's "universal lordship" over every man in every nation.

37. "That word—ye know." They were not unacquainted with this message of peace. It had been proclaimed through-out all Judea and Galilee, from the time John began to preach. Luke 4: 14, 37, 44; 9: 6; 23: 5. They in Caesarea had heard of its being preached to Israel by the preaching of Philip the evangelist.

33. "Anointed Jesus of Nazareth." This inaugurated Him into His office as the Apostle and High Priest of the Christian profession. Heb. 1: 9; 2: 1. According to the prophets the Messiah was to work miracles as proof of His Messiahship. "Holy Ghost and with power." This proclaimed Him to be the Christ (Luke 4: 18-21), and invested Him with the insignia of His Messianic office. When the Holy Ghost is mentioned a word is generally added to emphasize his adaptation to the special circumstances.

"We are witnesses." Because Peter and the other apostles had been with Jesus from the beginning of His ministe rial life. Luke 24: 48. They were not objects of superstitious reverence, but simply witnesses to the great historical facts on which the gospel is founded. "Land of the Jews." The countries of Judea,

Galilee and Perca. 40. "Raised up." According to the repeated predictions of the prophets and of Christ Himself. The resurrection of Christ was the seal of His Messiahship. 'Showed Him." See R. V. The evidences of the resurrection of Christ are indisputable. By many proofs it was made clear to those who saw Him that it was the same body, even though now glorified, which had been wounded on the cross.

41. "Witnesses chosen." Those selected for the purpose. 1 Cor. 15: 4-8. Had He shown Himself to all the people He might have had a second rejection. We have no evidence that Jesus showed Himself after His resurrection to any but His per-sonal followers. "Did cat," etc. See Luke 24: 42, 43.

"Commanded." He shows Cornelius his commission from Christ. Matt. 28: 19. "Preach-testify." They were not only to expound the truth concerning these fundamental facts, but also to bear witness to what they had seen, heard and experienced. 1 John 1: 1-3; 2 Peter 1: 16-18. God's true ministers both teach and testify. "Judge of quick and dead." Of the living and dead. By this we are to understand that Christ would judge all who had lived, or were then living, or who

43. "To Him." etc. Not any particular prophet, but all directly or indirectly bore testimony to Christ as the Saviour of all men. 1sa. 9: 6; 53; 5. 6; Jer. 31: 34; Dan. 9: 14; Micah 7: 18; Zech. 13: 1. "Remission of sins." The taking away not only the guilt, but also the power, nature and consequences of sin. This is man's greatest need.

44. "The Holy Ghost fell." They were endowed with miraculous powers, and enable to speak in languages which they had never learned. Compare chap. 11: 15 with 2: 1-13. 'At this time their hearts were purified by faith; see chap. 15: 9 where Peter himself says distinctly that such was the case. The church needs the same baptism

to-day. 45. "They of the circumcision." The six Jews who had accompanied Peter from Joppa. "Were astonished." Were amazed that Gentiles should be admitted to the same favor as themselves.
48. "Magnify God." Praise and glorify

God. 47. "Forbid water." etc. Though the gift of the Spirit had been made so apparent, yet St. Peter did not omit the out-

ward sign. 48. "Commanded." It seems that Peter did not perform the baptism himself, but gave directions that the Christians who had come with him from Joppa should attend to it. It was not the practice of the aposties themselves to baptize very extensive. "Prayed them him." They entreated Peter. "To tarry." No doubt he remained to more fully indoctrinate them in the new faith, and to show them that he was ready to act according to the teachings given him in the vision (vs. 9: 16), and cat with Gentiles.

Suspend Objects in Midair.

Here is a very surprising trick, and It is calculated to create much astonishment. Before the company assembles place a fine black silk thread from one side of the room to the other. about six feet from the floor. Do not have too much light. First wave a handkerchief through the air and drop it gently on the line, continuing to make mysterious passes. Borrow a fan and fan the kandkerchief until it falls to the ground. You next suspend a light cane in the same manner. After performing the last trick be sure to break the thread, so that the company will not detect your hidden power.

Not So Unfortunate.

No harm was done, it is reported, to the submarine boat Fulton by its accidental trip to the bottom, but the incident is unfortunate, because of the undue importance which will be attached to it by people who know little more about such craft than that their history hitherto has been composed chiefly of fatalities. Yet what happened to the Fulton might have happened to any boat of her size and material, even though it was not intended for under-water navigation. Instead of illustrating the peril to which the Fulton's passengers will be subjected, it simply showed that the Fulton, when filled with water in circumstances which could not occur with her trained crew on board, will go to the bottom and stay there. An ordinary torpedo boat would have done the same thing, and nothing was proved except that the Fulton will not float when full of water, a fact which was perfectly well known before. It remains true, however, that submarine navigation is dangerous business at best, and that the object of the inventors is to minimize the danger, there being little chance of removing it altogether.

His Phonetic Understanding.

"The gravi-y which is supposed to attend all court proceedings was seriously disturbed in a New York courtroom one day last week," said a young lawyer who had just returned from a business trip to that city. "I was present at the trial of a case before one of the municipal judges—a case in which I was interested because it had to do with automobiles. One of the witnesses was a German, and gave his testimony through an interpreter. In the course of the examination he said he had driven an automobile to Cedar-

"'What's that?' asked the judge. "'To Cedarhurst,' replied the in-

"His honor looked puzzled. "'What did he want to see the hearse for?' he asked."

Grizzly cubs born in captivity are almost impossible to raise. Of twentythree born, at Cincinnati, only one

Cabinet Ministers in Mexico receive \$15,000 a year.

A Geographical Novelty.

The point where Utah, Colorado, Arf. zona and New Mexico touch each other is called the four corners. This fact is not a strange one, but when we come to find that is the only place where four states or territories point, we find that this spot is in some ways a unique one. Not only is this the only place in the United States where such a junction occurs, but it is the only one of its kind in the world. This statement seems a broad one, but a short study of the maps of an atlas will show that it is correct, and, more than that, that at no other place in the United States do more than two state corners touch each

...ere Opinion.

It's a good rule that works your way all the time.

A good woman's children rise up and call her blessed after they are married off and can't get back home more than once every four or five

The way of the transgressor may be hard, but that of his victim is generally a little worse.

Some of the people who talk so much are merely trying to keep the world from finding out that they have little to say.-Philadelphia Record.

There are 6159 establishments in the United States with 46,647 acres where flowers and ornamental plants are culti-

Berlin has 63 public monuments and is making ready for some more.

That is the best part of beauty which a picture cannot express.-Bacon.

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