

SPECIAL  
ARTICLES

## Our Contributors

BOOK  
REVIEWS**"HONOR THY MOTHER."**

(By A. W. Lewis, B.D.)

Suffragettes are clamoring for their rights; the mothers have them. Some people honor the woman that claims the right to vote; all men and women honor the mother. Children especially should honor their own mother; but a Nation gladly responds to the appeal to commemorate the virtues and graces of mothers, and wear the white carnation in honor of motherhood.

In the Ten Commandments God claimed from man honor to Himself and to parentage. The foundations of the nation and of character must be laid in reverence for the pure sources of life. "Thou shalt have no other gods before me; and honor thy father and thy mother." And next to the names of God is the name of Mother.

The world is superficial. It is like the bark of the tree; but the life of the leaves and the fruit courses in the unseen depths, the great mass of human beings are intensely worldly in their views and in their life. They applaud the outward display and ignore true worth, unless it is spectacular. They go wild over great generals and over those only seemingly great; but the plodding genius upon which our society rests goes unrecognized. Once in a generation perhaps the world needs a military genius and the man of the hour is idolized; but every day tens of thousands of the heroic brave are living and dying for the good of humanity, and the newspaper scarcely think anything of all this worthy of notice. The noblest of the noble are found among the mothers in the seclusion of the Christian home.

"The bravest battle that ever was fought;

Shall I tell you where and when?  
On the maps of the world you will find it not;

'Twas fought by the mothers of men.

"But deep in a walled-up woman's heart,—

Of women that would not yield;  
But, bravely silent, bore her part,—  
Lo, there is that battle field.

"O spotless woman in a world of shame,

With a splendid and silent scorn,  
Go back to God as white as you came,  
The kindest warrior born."

Nearly all great men acknowledge with gratitude that they owe the most under God to their mother. The world sees the great fruits of life and labor of love, and it fails to think of the sources unseen. Napoleon once uttered this momentous truth, "The greatest need of the French nation is mothers." In a Convention of Christian mothers in Cincinnati different ones gave their views of when to begin training the children. At last an elderly mother, widely known and highly esteemed, rose and said, "My sisters, you are all wrong. The time to begin is the generation before the children are raised in the fear of God; and the future is safe." It is certainly safe with such mothers.

"Home is a shrine where all have part;  
Not the hills that protect our dead,  
Not the roof where we lay our head,  
But the place where we lay our heart."

More and more the great need of America is mothers. Kate Upson Clark found three ruined young men within a narrow circuit in the West; and they all blamed their mothers, because they had not been trained by them for the things of worth in human life. Some mothers let their children get their training on the street, while they gossip or play bridge whilst. Others eagerly give their time to their children,

but train them for society and business, rather than for true manhood and womanhood. Those that trifle with the sacred bonds of holy matrimony make a mock of Christ's teaching and they will reap in their children what their example sows. The great majority of true Americans honor matrimony and exemplify God-given motherhood; and to such human mothers the nation feels proud to do honor.

We must recognize the fact that sometimes outside influence outweighs that of a good home; but mothers must ponder the great opportunity of their life, if they are to hope to exert any influence for the welfare of their children. Evil tendencies may be inherited from the father; but the good life of a devoted mother, imparted to the child and lived daily for the child in the home, will enable the child to rise above heritage and triumph over the most hostile outside environment. Many a wayward son has been brought back to manhood by the memory of home and mother. The mother is responsible for the "ministry of the fire-side"; and the hand that rocks the cradle makes or mars the nation.

A Telugu mother in India said: "My Christian son's home is heaven; but my Hindu son's home is hell itself." Christ is the source of the true home. Motherhood has always been dishonored where the influence of Christ has not been felt. Let Christian mothers feast upon this fact, and draw heavily and constantly from the source of their strength. The mothers brought their children to Jesus and He blessed them, though His disciples murmured; and He is still as willing and able to bless both the mothers and the men and women of the future.

"O happy home, where Thou art loved  
The dearest,  
Thou loving Friend and Saviour of  
our race;

And where among the guests there  
never cometh  
One Who can hold such high and  
honored place."  
Millinocket, Maine.

**COME NOW.**

By George W. Armstrong.

Come now, accept the great offer,  
The offer of pardon from God;  
He kindly delayeth His vengeance,  
Withholding His frown and His rod.  
Come now, God wills your redemption,  
Let your will and His be as one;  
Submit to His offer of mercy,  
Of mercy through Christ, His dear Son.

Chorus—  
Come now, come now, despise not the  
offer of grace.  
Come now, come now, and seek the  
Redeemer's sweet face.

Come now, step into Salvation,  
For this is the reason Christ came;  
For Jesus is waiting to give you,  
Deliverance from sin and from shame.  
Come now, accept the great offer,  
Let all your rebellion now cease;  
Take God at his word and receive Him,  
Gain purity, pardon and peace.

Chorus—Come now, come now, etc.  
Come now accept the great offer,  
Let grace do its work in your soul;  
Be absolved from the sin of transgression.

Come now and by faith be made  
whole.  
Come now, God urges, entreats you,  
He knows your desires and your  
needs;

His voice and his heart are most tender,  
To-day God most graciously pleads.  
Chorus—Come now, come now, etc.

London, Ontario.

**NOTES FROM ILLINOIS.**

By Rev. W. H. Jordan.

Much interest is awakened in Illinois over the effort of the Synod's Foreign Missions Committee to make a thorough canvass of the church that every member shall be a contributor to the world-wide work. Alton Presbytery, one of the twelve presbyteries in this synod, has the work well in hand. We have visited four churches this week, and have met with much encouragement. Wideawake committees have been secured and each church will be well canvassed. This work has been made possible in this synod by a gift of \$7,500 by Mr. Crowell, of Chicago, who said to the synodical committee, "What you need is personally to touch every member of the church in Illinois, first with a sense of individual obligation and then give a business-like opportunity to meet that obligation. If your committee will develop a plan to do this, and undertake it, I will finance it."

Elder T. H. Perrin, one of the best men gained through the Cumberland union, is giving addresses on the use of printer's ink to advertise the work of the church. He declares that space purchased in local papers is a splendid investment. We have just published through the local weeklies a pastoral letter addressed especially to our people, before the mid-summer communion service. The editor is often very willing to give space if material is furnished early.

The Presbyterian Training School of Chicago closed its first year's work recently, having enrolled 18 students, all young ladies. The work for which they are needed is church visiting, strangers in the neighborhood, looking up lapsed church members, the needy, visiting hospitals, asylums, jails, teaching, meeting the perplexing boy problem, institutional and settlement work, among the working girls, nursing, pastors' assistants, country district work, home and foreign mission work. Chicago offers exceptional facilities for this varied preparation. Broad plans are laid for next year's work. Dr. Alexander Patterson is demonstrating that the school is able to do this work.

This synod is supporting a student pastor at the State University at Champaign. Four thousand nine hundred and sixty-five students were enrolled, 700 of whom are from Presbyterian homes. We have excellent Presbyterian colleges in the state, such as Lake Forest, James Milliken University, with over 1,000 students, Illinois College and Blackburn College. But we dare not ignore the 700 in the state institution, who have no Christian instruction. Our church was the first to undertake this work, and has maintained it for the past three years. We now worship in a hall loaned by the university. The present forward movement of the Christian Education Committee is to secure \$100,000. We now have nearly \$25,000. Plans for a church building have been drawn. The annual expense is \$5,000. Rev. Martin C. Anderson, a recent graduate of McCormick Seminary, has just entered upon the work as student pastor.

The Jerseyville Presbyterian Church which recently celebrated the seventy-fifth anniversary of its organization has published a 76 page history, which is of great interest to those of the 1,575 members who survive. The Carlinville, Ill., Presbyterian Church, founded by the celebrated Dr. Blackburn, celebrates its 75th anniversary this week.

Jerseyville, Ill.