

sympathetic Jesus that he has always been, that the word of God is living and active, that whatever is lacking is on the part of the church. What a power for good we might all be if we were all in dead earnest. How often have we gone into the social meeting, and after the meeting was opened and opportunity given for all to speak a few words of encouragement, oh! how cold and indifferent some seem to be; whereas, on the other hand, if everybody was full of life and gladly willing to take part in such meetings how different it would be in many places? If every disciple of Christ in the land would realize that he or she is a co-worker with God, and that we also need to work with one another, not against? For instance, I go into a place where there is a church and go around visiting. Well, some good brother does not like the way some other brother speaks or prays. Perhaps he neither speaks nor prays. Then, some good sister does not like the idea of some sister communing with her gloves on. Now, this is not combination; and sometimes these trifling things, when treasured up in the heart, grow and become the cause of greater difficulty. Let us have Christ in our hearts, in our lives and in our homes, and all will be well.

The second matter we need to think more about is the fact that daily thousands of men and women are going down to hell. The Bible teaches that gospel is the power of God unto salvation. How many there are who neither believe it nor obey it. God in heaven, when the grave shall open and the mountains quake, and the rocks rend, and the earth shall melt with heat, and all nations shall be gathered before Thee, where shall these people stand? Will any be there that we might have saved if our lives had been more consistent with the great truth: "He that believeth not shall be damned?"

We have a great enemy to contend with, a cunning foe to meet, but the great combination I have mentioned must go on. The powers of hell cannot prevail against the church. What a great combination there will be in the New Jerusalem. They will be there from all nations, every tribe will be represented. Cherubim and seraphim, angels and saints, prophets and priests, and God Himself shall be with them and be their God. And as the years of eternity roll they will bring more glorious revelations of God and of Christ. The hearts of the ransomed will beat with a stronger devotion, they shall sweep those harps of gold with a firmer hand, and ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands of voices unite to swell the mighty chorus of praise. "And every creature which is in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them heard I saying, Blessing and honor and glory and power be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever."

W. H. HARDING.

News of the Churches.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

ST. JOHN ITEMS.

We note with pleasure that two of our young preachers, Ellis B. Barnes and C. H. DeVoe are holding a meeting in Indiana.

Our Sunday-school picnic takes place at Nauwigewauk, July 11th. An energetic committee is arranging to give the children a good time.

Bro. Capp's family are spending the summer on P. E. Island.

Our Home Mission Board should let us know when and where the Annual is to be held. The committee appointed at our last Annual to make arrangements for the coming one should report at once the result of their efforts.

Our Young Peoples' Meeting on Tuesday evening is well attended.

P. E. ISLAND.

We very reluctantly closed the meeting in New Glasgow. Our visit was so very pleasant we were loath to leave the place. We received undeserved kindness and favors, hospitably and substantially, which we shall ever hold in grateful remembrance. We are more than thankful for the encouragement and kindness received at the home of Brother and Sister Crawford. Sister Crawford knows how to make her home pleasant and fittingly agreeable to those who are fortunate enough to be her guests. The success of the meeting was largely the result of the faithful life and teaching of Bro. Crawford, who has been among this people many years. None can listen to his clear and earnest presentation of the truth without knowing the will of the Lord concerning them. There were twenty-five baptisms, including four whom Bro. Crawford baptized, who had confessed the Christ previous to our meeting.

H. M.

Selected.

THE UNCHANGING GOSPEL.

BY REV. THEODORE L. CUYLER.

Last evening closed the twenty-eighth year of my happy pastorate among the people whom I serve. For three things I may sincerely thank the Giver of all mercies: first, unbroken health; secondly, an unbroken congregation; and thirdly, an unbroken faith in the glorious gospel of the blessed God. During these fast-speeding twenty-eight years many changes have occurred. Beloved faces have vanished at the touch of death. Little children have grown up into manhood and womanhood. This city has doubled its dimensions; the nation has had its baptism of blood and its birth of impartial freedom. But no change has come over my love for my devoted flock, or in the precious gospel which I love to preach.

Amid all the mutations which eighteen centuries have witnessed, the divine system of saving truth revealed in the New Testament has proved to be entirely immutable. Not a line has been added, not a syllable taken away. The waves of time which have swept away empires and systems of philosophy dash in vain against the adamant of the gospel. God, who is its author, is unchangeable; He is the same yesterday, to-day, and forever. His holiness, which abhorreth sin, is a part of Himself; so is His injustice, which punishes sin; so is His love which pardons and saves every sinner who repents and believes on His Son Jesus Christ. To all these attributes this gospel is essential; while they live it must live. Light is composed of the seven different colors blended together, and in like manner the different attributes of God, when blended harmoniously, produce the light which beams from Calvary. There has been no change in the rays of the sun since it shone upon Adam in the morning of Eden; there has been no change in the plan of salvation since that time when Paul declared that the curse of God would rest on even "an angel from heaven" if he attempted to alter it.

1. Human nature also is the same that it always has been. Amidst all the advances of science and art and civilization the human heart is the same depraved and deceitful thing, desperately wicked. An American can see himself just as distinctly in the mirror of the "Epistle to the Romans" as any man could who dwelt in the old city on the Tiber. Man has no more outgrown the need of the gospel than he has outgrown the need of bread, or water, or sunshine. If Saul of Tarsus needed the atonement, so do I as much as he; it meets my case just as well as his.

A common scoff of sceptics is that in the rapid advance of thought this antiquated gospel has be-

come obsolete. These scoffers seem to forget that no possible advance in human knowledge can ever disturb an established truth. Euclid's famous forty-seventh proposition is just as true now as it was twenty-one centuries ago; and for the very good reason that there has been no change and can be none in the nature of triangles. Wonderful progress has been made in our days in investigating the laws by which God governs the natural world; also in the application of these laws to brilliant inventions; but the laws have not altered by one iota. The lightnings which played around Paul's cornship were the same which Benny Franklin caught on his kite-string. The only difference is that Franklin knew things about the nature of the electric fluid that Paul did not know. If the laws of nature ceased to be immutable, then people would not risk building any more steam engines, or putting up any more telegraphs. Now, just as the advance of human knowledge does not effect the nature of laws and principles in the material world, neither can any advance in knowledge disturb the immutable laws and principles by which God governs the spiritual world. When there is a reaction against the circulation of blood, or against the theory that water will freeze at thirty-one degrees Fahrenheit, then there will be a reaction against the gospel of Jesus Christ, and not one instant sooner. The Creator never changes first principles—in physics, or in ethics, or in His moral government.

2. The gospel also is exactly adapted to human needs in every age and in every clime. Wherever man suffers from the bite of sin it cures him; wherever he suffers from sorrow it comforts him; wherever he hungers for truth and holiness it feeds him. Some plants seem to suit only the tropics, and others the higher zones; but bread suits the dwellers in all climates. Water meets the universal thirst. "I am the Bread of Life"; "I am the Water of Life." An universal experience has proved the truth of Christ's declarations. Then, too, the virtues which the gospel inculcates, and the graces which it produces, satisfy the universal standard of Right. Paper money, which is good in America, is not current in Canton or Calcutta. Gold is current the broad world over. So is the gold of the gospel: love, peace, purity, honesty, benevolence, truthfulness, patience, joy and unselfishness are current in every clime. Those who have lived out the gospel most carefully have always attained to the noblest and purest characters.

3. The gospel is God's masterpiece, and it cannot be improved. In our day we hear much about "new light breaking out," and about "new departures." This enlightened age will not stand the old doctrines—so some advanced theologians tell us. Yet the new theologians have not got rid of the old necessity human guilt, nor of the old attributes of the Almighty. Their telescopes have not discovered anything that Paul did not know—better than they do—eighteen centuries ago. Spurgeon, the most successful preacher of this century, has said in his racy and pungent way, "Some modern divines whittle away the gospel to the small or of nothing. They make certainties into probabilities, and treat eternal verities as mere opinions. When you see a preacher making the gospel small by degrees and miserably less, until there is not enough of it left to make soup for a sick grasshopper, get you gone! As for me, I believe in the colossal—a need as deep as hell, and a grace as high as heaven. I believe in a pit that is bottomless, and a heaven that is topless. I believe in an infinite God and an infinite atonement—in an infinite love and mercy—and in an everlasting covenant ordered in all things and sure, of which the substance and the reality is an infinite Christ."

There are plenty of false lights in these days, which attract only to bewilder, and allure immortal souls on the lee-shores of perdition. How different