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You Can Never Tell.

You never can tell when you send a word—

Like an arrow shot from a bow
By an archer blind—be it cruel or kind,
Just where it will chance to go.
It may pierce the breast of your dearest friend,
Tipped with its poison or balm ;
To a stranger's heart in life's great mart
It may carry its pain or its calm.

You never can tell when you do an act,

Just what the result will be ;
But with every deed you are sowing a seed,
Though its harvest you may not see.
Each kindly act is an acorn dropped
In God's productive soil ;
Though you may not know, yet the tree shall grow
And shelter the brows that toil.

You never can tell what your thoughts will do

In bringing you hate or love ;
For thoughts are things, and their airy wings
Are swifter than carrier doves.
They follow the law of the universe—
Each thing must create its kind ;
And they speed o'er the track to bring you back
Whatever went out from your mind.

ELLA WHEELER WILCOX.

OVER LAND AND SEA.

Many conclusive considerations might be cited in favor of a custom of church attendance, but perhaps no prettier phrasing of the true spirit and motive of worship can be afforded than was suggested by the late Oliver Wendell Holmes, who thus explained his own habit of regular church attendance : "There is a little plant called Reverence in the corner of my soul's garden which I love to have watered about once a week."

There is nothing so self-satisfied as the skepticism that thinks it has a fact, but does not know what to do with it. A certain man had learned about the ark and its dimensions and its purposes. He said that he could believe in its size and that it held a vast number of animals, but he could not, and would not, believe that the Israelites carried it around in the wilderness for forty years. And so, the poor man said, the absurd claims of religion kept him from being religious. He had found a mistake of Moses.

A decree has been issued in the German principality of Waldeck, forbidding the issuance of a marriage license to an habitual drunkard unless satisfactory evidence is furnished that the applicant has reformed.

Rev. W. Scott Watson, of West New York, N. J., and a member of New York Presbytery, has recently returned from Germany where he has spent several months pursuing his studies in paleography. For three years he was a missionary in Syria, and while there collected ancient Hebrew manuscripts. While in Germany recently he obtained an incomplete text of the Samaritan Pentateuch which he claims is older by several centuries than other similar documents of which the date is known. The date of Mr. Watson's text is A. H. 35, or A. D., 656. The earlier Hebrew

manuscript of the Bible of which the time of writing has been ascertained is the Codex Babylonicus of A. D., 916. The date of his MS., Mr. Watson says, is contained in a simple cryptogram which is so arranged as to furnish convincing proof of the antiquity of the text.

Judge Logue, of Cleveland, delivered an address before the Ministers' Union in that city a short time ago in which he stated that during the four years of his experience as judge of the Police Court forty thousand cases had been presented to him, and that four-fifths of all these cases was the result of intoxication. An appalling record !

The fact that Fargo celebrated its quarter centennial from July 3 to July 6, with 20,000 in attendance, and but one arrest for drunkenness, is attracting wide attention. It is the best advertisement North Dakota has ever received. It shows what prohibition does

Now if Minnesota could regenerate her border cities like Moorhead and East Grand Forks, it would be greatly to our credit. The brewers and distillers are pouring money into South Dakota, in order to defeat its prohibitory law next fall. Surely the people will not permit them to succeed. It will take vigilance and fidelity to preserve their protection.

It was suggested that "in passing through Rochester an 'Our Father,' 'Hail Mary,' and 'Glory be to the Father' should be said in honor of 'Blessed John,' Cardinal Fisher, Bishop of Rochester (martyred under Henry VIII.)." Arrived at Canterbury the pilgrims marched in procession, headed by cross-bearer and acolytes, and clergy bringing up the rear, from the railway station to the church of St. Thomas. Afterwards a visit was paid to the nave of the Cathedral, where the pilgrims were asked to pray earnestly for the intentions of the Sovereign Pontiff and the return of England to Catholic unity.

The following are useful hints for a Christian Home and should be remembered.

- 1 We may be quite sure that our will is likely to be crossed during the day, so let us prepare for it.
- 2 Every person in the house has an evil nature as well as ourselves, and therefore we are not to expect too much.
- 3 Look upon each member of the family as one for whom Christ died.
- 4 When inclined to give an angry answer, let us lift up the heart in prayer.
- 5 If from sickness, pain, or infirmity, we feel irritable, let us keep a very strict watch over ourselves.
- 6 Observe when others are suffering, and drop a word of kindness.
- 7 Watch for little opportunities of pleasing, and put little annoyances out of the way.
- 8 Take a cheerful view of everything, and encourage hope.
- 9 Speak kindly to dependants and servants, and praise them when you can.—*Exchange.*