

Him to manage for us.

Ps. 81: 13-16.

There is no way therefore but the way of full surrender and simple childlike obedience. The Lord knows what is best, we do not; therefore we must leave all the arrangements to Him, and must say "Thy will be done" about everything."

Remember, that all questioning is of the nature of doubt. It is called in the Bible speaking against God.

Ps. 78: 19-24.

Their sorrows came upon them because they did not trust. God was equal to the emergency, but they did not believe it, and their doubt grieved Him more than all their other sins.

Ex. 17: 7.

Here their questioning is called "tempting the Lord" and yet how common is just this sort of questioning among Christians, who little dream what a sin it is.

Let our Lord's own words close our lesson Luke 12: 6, 7.

In the face of such an assurance, who could doubt? The sparrows, and the hairs of our head, too strikingly insignificant and valueless things! and yet they are noticed and cared for. Then surely we.

Facts About Russia.

Russia's apparently uninterrupted series of reverses during the present war has brought into being on this continent and elsewhere, a feeling of what may be almost called contempt for that country, and all that appertains thereto. This is a feeling, however, which may easily be carried too far; Russia is a country of magnificent resources; all that has been shown so far is that her strength is not in an immediately available position. A few facts and figures about this wonderful and probably greatly misunderstood nation, which still remains the "Colossus of the North," may prove of more than usual interest at this juncture in her history.

The Russian Empire covers an area of 8,660,395 square miles, or one-seventh of the land-surface of the whole globe. Its population is estimated at 141,000,000. To show the country's marvellous growth in numbers, which of course includes the people of newly "absorbed" territories, it may be remarked that in 1859, the population of Russia was 74,000,000, or little more than half of what it is at present, and that in 1722 it was only 14,000,000. Considering the poverty and lack of opportunity for the masses, the emigration is small, probably hardly an annual average of 400,000, though it seems to have a strong tendency to increase, and would probably do so to a considerable extent if it did not meet with Government discouragement.

The sole reliance of vast masses of the people is upon agriculture, and though implements are of the most meagre description and the methods of cultivation, though yielding as a rule but poor and uncertain crops, is responsible for great additions to the world's food supplies. It should not be taken for granted, however, that this agricultural inferiority will last forever in Russia. The Government is now taking a pronounced interest in several rural departments of industry; and already such lines as eggs and butter the Russians are beginning to make their mark in the markets of the world. At present there are 68 or more experimental farms under governmental control. It is by no means unlikely that future development will show that one of Canada's strongest commercial rivals in the supply of agricultural produce, etc., is Siberia.

Another natural feature in which Russia is rich is timber. She has vast forests, the principal owner being the State. Altogether belonging to the Government there are 956,546,000 acres of forest, though much of this is in Asiatic territory where its utilization is attended with greater difficulties.

Many districts are rich in mineral ore of all kinds, the chief minerals mined being gold, platinum, silver, lead, zinc, copper, iron, coal and naphtha. In the year 1902, the consumption of all sorts of iron, raw and wrought, was 177,552,000 pounds, of which 156,497,000 pounds, or nearly 98 per cent. was made at home. The output of coal in the year last mentioned was 6,022,000, and the Russian Government is trying, through the imposition of a stiff duty and other means, to increase it.

Coming to the consideration of the trade done by the Russian Empire it is very large, but of course by no means so much so when the size of the country and of its population are remembered. Briefly stated, the export of foodstuffs in 1902, was valued at 526,189,000 roubles; chiefly corn, flour, buckwheat, eggs, and dairy produce, timber, flax, oil cakes, etc.; of raw and half-manufactured goods, 258,267,000 roubles; of animals, 21,558,000 roubles; and manufactured goods, 19,263,000 roubles.

The imports for 1902 may be made divided roughly into food, 81,409,000 roubles; raw and half-manufactured goods, 295,383,000 roubles; animals 1,403,000 roubles; manufactured goods, 148,800,000 roubles. Among the chief of these may be mentioned raw cotton, metal goods, coal, wool, raw and in yarns, wines and spirits, tea, fish, machinery. The countries which take the larger quantity of Russia's exports are Germany, (203,596,000 roubles in 1902); United Kingdom, 188,775,000 roubles; Netherlands, 103,013,000 roubles; France, 55,158,000 roubles. The United States only took 4,413,000 roubles' worth. It may be worth noting that the Russian tariff is very high, and generally specific in its nature.—*The Monetary Times*.

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Sparks From Other Anvils.

Christian Work: Whether they know it or not, men go to church to see God, to feel his touch upon their souls. They do not go to be taught how they should decide moral issues, or what they should think

about world events, or the problems of civic and social life; they go to be lifted out of their present view point, and set upon a new foundation from whence perceiving things as they truly are, they may decide these issues for themselves. The sermon, however simple, which is penetrated with the consciousness of God; the service, whatever its character, which expresses true worship of God, have in them "something for" every person in the church.

Presbyterian Banner: The forgiveness that follows repentance is more to be prized than the forced state of mind that forgives by an effort of the will or deceives itself into forgiving, when there has been repentance. The man who is too quick to forgive is apt to be little sensible of his own honor, or lacking in sincerity. Forgiveness should not make light of sin, but magnify the love that pardons.

Michigan Presbyterian: Perhaps there is no danger of our saying too much about the duty of earnest service of Christ; but we must not forget also to urge the privilege of such service. At this summer season we can only stand just about so much urging to renewed activity. So many people are taking vacations that those who have to stay at home do not feel like doing too much additional work. But if we could feel that all of the extra service that we can render for Christ is that much of a privilege given to us by the Master, work would at once be glorified in our eyes.

Sunday School Times: To dream through the hour that should be filled with doing is one of the snares and delusions in life. When a noble deed or a clever one is announced as accomplished, what a chorus goes up to the tune of "I thought of that years ago!" And the difference between men who do things and who do not, lies very often in the mere fact that one goes ahead into action, while the other doesn't, rather than in any superiority of vision. Doing the good deed one thinks of, filling the moments with what one's thought is urging,—that is the path to service.

The New York Sun: "The reason why men do not go to church is obvious enough. It is as apparent as is the reason why a play fails to draw a crowd to a theatre. They are not interested in the church because they are not interested in religion. They have not the deep and vital religious faith of which church worship is the outward expression. They may think they believe, but actually they do not believe in the religion they profess. They are not convinced that their fate for all eternity depends on faith in its dogmas and obedience to its obligations. How to get men to go to church? Let there be a revival of true and genuine religious faith, and the churches will not be large enough to hold them. But no such revival can be started until Christian ministers themselves turn from criticisms of Christianity to actual and fervent belief in it as the only means of salvation."

A Modern Show.

The Central Canada Fair is up-to-date in every respect, and thousands from every district in Canada and the Northern States make a point of attending it annually for its instructive and amusing features.

For live stock the accommodations is all that could be desired, and the premiums in these departments include thirty-five beautiful gold medals as special prizes. Those who have not yet exhibited at Ottawa's Fair, if they consult their best interests, will give it a trial. This year's dates are Sept. 16th to 24th. E. McMahon is secretary and solicits correspondence.