

The Pastor and People.

Former Sins Revealed.

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An eminent public man has had unexpected opposition raised to him...

The circumstances may illustrate one form of that peace which is so frequently mentioned in Scripture...

Because all that was cleared up and settled when he was accepted. To begin with, the Lord knew all...

Some melancholy cases have come to light, in which the old accomplices of men honestly attempting to reform...

But we can conceive of one position in which such a man could stand strongly. Suppose him able to say: "You will denounce me and ruin me?"

But this is exactly the position of a believer. He has judged and condemned himself. He has not hidden his iniquity.

There is one condition of things in which such a man might have apprehension. Suppose his employment to have been given by a subordinate...

But in the case of the sinner forgiven there is no room for such apprehensions. He has been dealing only with principals...

I will confess my transgressions and thou shalt forgive me. I will confess my sins to the Lord and thou shalt forgive my iniquity. (Psalm 32: 5)

For God does not forgive in disregard of his own declared will and plans of ruling his creatures; but in harmony with them.

course. Failing to see it distinctly their peace is apt to be raised in its elements. They say to themselves, "Now I am converted."

But rising sins, or coldness of heart, raises grave doubts on this point, and the peace is disturbed. When they see that the only righteousness they ever had, or can have...

We say any peace of justification, for there is a peace permitted to a believer, that has real connection with holiness. Primarily, man has to do with God...

On the other hand, if men follow double courses; if they try to row in two waters; if the eye is not single; if they only follow conscience as the coachman does his horses...

Shepherds and their Flocks.

If a man is fit to preach he is worth wages. If he is worth wages they should be paid with all the business regularity that is demanded and enforced in business life.

Flee to Christ.

Come, my brother, I come to you simple of speech, and I exhort you to flee to Christ. O my brother, dost thou know what a loving Christ He is? Let me tell thee from my soul what I know of Him.

Memoriter Preaching.

The practice of reciting prepared orations has antiquity in its favor, but for all that we question its wisdom. Demosthenes no doubt spoke thus, and so did other classic orators...

When a speaker can choose his hour and prepare at his leisure, as in the Senate, he may write and commit his oration without imposing upon himself a harassing labor.

Mr. Spurgeon has said of himself: "If I had twenty-four hours' time for the preparation of a sermon, I would spend twenty-three of them in doing something else."

Of course, with a florid style memoriter preaching is indispensable; but except for occasions of ceremony, the florid is a vicious style.

A Promise Illustrated.

"It shall not come nigh thee." The words came to our mind the other day as, sitting in the family room of a depot...

Gentle Ways.

There are a thousand gentle ways which every person may put on without running the risk of being deemed either affected or foppish.

Neglected Duties.

One of the saddest thoughts that weighs on the heart of the Sincere Christian is that of opportunities for doing good which have been wasted.

Cursing and Profane Swearing.

"By reason of swearing," says the Prophet Jeremiah, "the land mourneth."

A distinguished author remarks, that "profane swearing is always the evidence of a depraved heart."

No man is believed any sooner because he swears to a thing. If a man swears to a thing, it is good evidence that what he is saying he knows to be false...

Profane swearers are seldom believed. To swear is no mark of a gentleman. The worthless and vile, the refuse of mankind—the drunken and the profligate—swear as well as the best dressed and educated gentleman.

Every profane swearer prays that God would smite him and others into hell, and he knows not but God will hear and answer his horrible petition.

Profaneness has done no man any good. No man is the richer, or wiser, or happier, for it. It helps no one's education or manners. It commends no one to respectable society.

"As he loved cursing, so let it come unto him: as he delighted not in blessing, so let it be far from him. As he clothed himself with cursing like as with his garment, so let it come into his bowels like water, and like oil in his bones."

"Surely thou wilt slay the wicked, O God, and thine enemies take Thy name in vain."—Psalm cxxxix. 19-20.—N. Y. Evangelist.

John Ploughman's Talk about Faults.

He who boasts in being perfect is perfect in folly. I have been a good deal up and down in the world, and I never did see a perfect man or a perfect horse...

If we would always recollect that we are among men who are imperfect, we should not be in such a fever when we find out our friends' failings; what's rotten will rot, and cracked pots will leak.

But surely such horses and wives are only found in the fool's paradise, where dunnings grow on trees. In this wicked world the straightest timber has knots in it, and the cleanest field of wheat has its share of weeds.

"Ask and Ye shall Receive."

I find, with regard to myself, that the benefit of prayers, sacraments, and the means of grace bears exact proportions to the care I take to improve the influence and operation of the Spirit in them...

The Gospel not Gloomy.

The gospel gloomy! It is an anthem from the harps of heaven, the music of the river of life washing its shores on high and pouring in cascades from the earth.

The Weekly Offering System.

Just how far the envelope or weekly payment system is adopted by churches, or to what extent it is proving successful, is difficult to ascertain. Some congregations undoubtedly are enjoying it through their pastor's enthusiasm...

Homo.

"I know that heaven can never seem more delightful than my home does after my long absence," said a worldly lady who had just returned from a European tour...

To the weary traveller that haven of rest must have indeed been welcome, yet how faint a type is this joy of that which the children of God shall know when they are in the glorious and only real home gathering, after the brief journey of this mortal life is over.

Why is it, then, that we are so anxious to rest in the present; and when the tidings of the better land echo in our ears, why do we so slowly lift our reluctant eyes to heaven?

This world is not our home. All its shining scenes must pass under the shadow of the tomb. This warning comes to us often. Even now it is thundered aloud at my door, for my neighbor who went to his rest last night in perfect health comes not down to give his family their morning meeting.

Homo! Yes, there is our home, in those mansions of eternal light prepared for us by Him who bought us with His blood. Whither we have travelled through this foreign land, we may enter in there and find rest. In our journeyings we meet with many annoyances and discomforts, but we shall remember them no more when we get home.

No sickness will be there to fetter us by weakness and pain. There will be no disappointment, for we shall be satisfied when we awake in His likeness. There will be no weariness, no sin, no sorrow, no dread of future ill, such as often casts a cloud over earthly hopes.