

lives; and that it was not till christianity became corrupted that its followers became soldiers. This is a most awful fact for these who profess christianity at the present day, but who sanction war. The consideration of it ought to make them tremble as to the grounds of their opinions on this subject. It ought to make them fly to the divine writings, and to inquire with an anxiety proportioned to the magnitude of the case, what scope the latter afford them for a construction of the precepts therein contained, so injurious to the morals and happiness of mankind.—*Christian Citizen.*

THE DOMESTIC ALTAR.—Family Religion is of unspeakable importance. Its effect will greatly depend on the sincerity of the head of the family, and on his mode of conducting the worship of his household. If the children and servants do not see his prayers exemplified in temper and manners, they will be disgusted with religion. Tediousness will weary them. Fine language will shoot above them. Formality of connexion in composition of prayer, they will not comprehend. Gloominess or austerity of religion will make them dread religion as a hard service. Let them be met with smiles. Let them be met as for the most delightful service in which they could be engaged. Let them find it short, savory, simple, plain, tender, heavenly. Worship, thus conducted, may be used as an engine of vast power in a family. It diffuses a sympathy through the members. It calls off the mind from the deadening effect of worldly affairs. It arrests every member with a morning and evening summons, in the midst of all the hurries and cares of life. It says, "There is a God!" "There is a spiritual world!" "There is a life to come!" It fixes the idea of responsibility in the mind. It furnishes a tender and judicious father or master with an opportunity of quietly glancing at faults, where a direct admonition might not be expedient. It enables him to relieve the weight with which subordination or service often sits on the mind of inferiors. Religion should be prudently brought before a family. The old dissenters wearied their families. Jacob reasoned well with Esau about the tenderness of his children, and his flocks and herds. Something gentle, quiet, moderate, should be our aim.—There should be no scolding; it should be mild and pleasant. I avoid absolute uniformity—the mind revolts at it; though I would shun eccentricity, for that is still worse. At one time I would say something on what is read; but, at another time nothing. I should make it as natural as possible; I am a religious man; you are my children and my servants, it is natural that we should do so and so.—*Cecil.*

THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION.—It is a striking fact, and one which must disarm the infidel of all argument, that the precepts of Christ have stood the test of upwards of eighteen centuries, and no genius has improved on the christian system, or suggested any one article more conducive to the glory of God and the benefit of mankind.

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