

DO NOT PASS THEM BY.

A valued correspondent sends the following bit of experience, which was related to him by an old minister. It may serve as a useful hint to young ministers in their pastoral labors:

My first charge was in a rural neighborhood. It was my practice to go round among the families of the congregation and pay them pastoral visits. When I was leaving one house I had visited, I asked whether I ought to call at the next house on my way homeward. I was told, however, that it would not be of any use, for the master of the house was very temperate and rude in his manners. Being thus warned, I passed the gate of the prohibited dwelling, but I said to myself, "Why not call at any rate? It can do no harm." I turned back and entered the gate, encountering the owner of the place, who was unharassing his team. He spoke quite civilly, and asked me to go into the house and wait till he should dispose of the horses.

On entering the humble dwelling, I saw a number of children seated near the stove, while the mother was busy in a corner hatching flax. She looked up for a moment, but did not rise, nor ask me to be seated. I sat down near the children, and began to converse with them. I found that they were quite intelligent and I proceeded to ask them some questions from the Shorter Catechism, which they answered readily and correctly. As soon as the first question was asked, the woman left her work and came and sat beside me. To my great surprise I found that the little ones were thoroughly drilled in the catechism, and were well acquainted with the Scriptures. The fact was that the woman mistook me for the sheriff, and supposed that I had come to levy an execution. The husband was a worthless fellow, who did little for the family, but the mother had been well brought up herself, and she carefully trained her little ones. I had a most interesting visit with the family, but the husband took care not to make his appearance. The family thus excavated, were attended to by the members of my congregation, and they began to attend Sabbath school and public worship. The girls grew up intelligent and attractive, and in due time were well married. The father improved somewhat in his conduct, but never became a church member. For myself, I learned a lesson of experience which proved highly useful. My motto afterwards was to pass no house in my pastoral visits without attempting to find an entrance.

Is not the womanly and maternal feeling itself declining? asks Bystander in Weekly Sun. Are not women growing less proud of what were the glories of their sex, and more ambitious of taking the place of men? Has not the admission of women to male universities had its effect, not only on their intellectual acquirements, but on their tendencies and aspirations as a sex? Everyone who remembers the women of England two generations ago must see that there has been a change. Two generations ago suffragetteism would have been absolutely impossible. It is hard to imagine a suffragette playing the part of a mother and the mistress of a home.

HELP THE ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS FIGHT.

The Ontario Government has been called to account by some of the speakers at the Charities and Corrections Conference in Toronto for having done so little for the anti-tuberculosis movement. The province of Ontario is wealthy, and has a large revenue, which is being dispensed with liberal hand, therefore it might do more to aid in the fight against the white plague. The government can well ask parliament to vote a larger amount of money for this purpose.

In this connection it is gratifying to know that the Ottawa hospital for consumptives will soon be ready for occupation. Dr. Hodgetts, Secretary of the Provincial Board of Health, who inspected it not long since, pronounces it one of the best equipped institutions he has seen. Private munificence has already provided for the furnishing of some of the rooms, and the public is being appealed to for what is necessary to complete the furnishings. Such a worthy cause should not appeal in vain.

LITERARY NOTES.

A subject which is much discussed in England of late, and which has attracted considerable attention also in the United States,—“Slave Labor upon Cocoa Plantations,” is the topic of an article which The Living Age for November 13 reprints from the Contemporary Review.

“The Attitude of Canada,” by Professor George M. Wrong, of the University of Toronto, with which The Living Age for November 13 opens, is an intelligent and highly interesting presentation of Canadian opinion touching imperial questions and incidentally with reference to the United States.

The opening article in The Living Age for October 30, is “An Hour with the Pope,” by Rene Lara, who recently enjoyed an interview with the Pope under the most favorable circumstances, and who gives, in this article, intimate glimpses of the Pope's personality and his attitude toward public questions.

The Fruit Magazine is a new candidate for public favor, the initial number of which has just reached our desk from Vancouver, that growing city on the Pacific coast. It is a handsome looking publication and will be “mailed to any address in the world” for \$1.00 a year. We wish the editor and publisher abundant success.

The November Current Literature well sustains the high reputation of this periodical. In the various departments—such as A Review of the World, Persons in the Foreground, Literature and Art, Religion and Ethics, Music and the Drama, Recent Poetry—will be found much to interest and instruct. The moderate price of this magazine places it within the reach of everybody. Address 41-43 West 25th street, New York.

We have on our table a budget of the well-known publications of Cassell and Company, London and Toronto. The Quiver, Cassells', The Girl's Realm and Little Folks appeal to the varying tastes in a cultured home. We are glad to notice the large increase in the number of British publications coming to Canada; and certainly it merits counts for anything the above named magazines should have thousands of readers throughout this Dominion.

SPARKS FROM OTHER ANVILS.

United Presbyterian: America owes more to the cabin than the palace; to the man with a callous palm than to the man with a diamond stick pin.

Cumberland Presbyterian: No workman can do good work without sufficient tools. Books are the minister's tools. He must have them, if he is to serve his people well. Yet many a minister's salary is so small that he is unable to provide the commonest necessities for his family and have enough left to supply himself with needed books. The church that makes it impossible for its pastor to buy books harms itself even more than it harms the minister.

United Presbyterian: The conquests of the lowly for Jesus, the victories of the unconsidered men and women will be among the marvels of redeeming grace when “the things that shall be hereafter” are disclosed. Only when the “books are opened,” and the “small,” as well as the “great,” stand before God, will we know what the unconscious influence, the untrumpeted lives of unknown men and women have wrought for Christ and for humanity!

Presbyterian Witness: We must see to it that the young generation growing up in this highly favored land of ours have stamped indelibly upon their minds that character is our greatest asset,—worth more than all our mines and forests, wide-stretching prairies and far-flung coast line; and that without the endowments of mind and heart which make men, all our great and God-given resources will be turned into blighting curses and weights to sink us lower among the nations of the world.

Morning Star: The history of too many churches and young people's societies shows example after example of most disastrous failure in the end. “Booms” may seem to build up; they do, after a fashion and for a time, but sooner or later they cease to boom, reaction follows, the pastor resigns, another follows, to suffer from the unsanctified zeal and fleshly energy of his predecessor. In a society which has sought to boom, new officers have to spend too much time in disentanglements. Mr. Vain Glory can not bring success to any church in any of its departments.

Presbyterian Standard: When a Christian moves into a new community it is neither kind nor Christ-like to hold aloof from the church in that place, and put the members of that church on trial to see whether or not they are a cordial set. Most likely they are unaware of your unkind scrutiny of them. It is probable that you will know more quickly the location of the church of your faith than the members of that church will learn of your coming. The right, the kind, the Christian way is to attend the church at once, make yourself known to pastor and officers, and arrange for the transfer of your church membership without delay. Such action on your part will invite and stimulate cordially even if it were lacking before.

The West-land: The labor problem is again to the front. The Grand Trunk Pacific is hampered by lack of men and the British Columbia canneries have for the same reason been unable to take full profit from a good run of salmon in the Fraser River. It has been rumored that the Government was about to be asked to permit the G.T.P. to employ Oriental labor, and the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council sent a vigorous protest to Ottawa. There are two sides to this question, as usual; if the G.T.P. builders cannot secure sufficient white men because the wages offered are not adequate, it is their own fault; but if the exclusion of Oriental labor is retarding the interests of the nation the embargo should be lifted. It is a fit matter for investigation.