

animus, which under God that mighty apostle of evangelical truth has diffused around him. In short, the chief influence of Christianity is in purifying the tainted atmosphere of human society. The Lord Jesus Christ never intended to take His disciples out of the world, but to keep them from being poisoned by making them purifiers.

PLEASING SERMONS.

The struggle of the pulpit to please the pews ought to stop at certain well-defined limits. Its proper use is to help the preacher to the ears of the people; it should be arrested when this rhetorical purpose is accomplished. There are pews that want to be pleased—just pleased, straight through to the end of the sermon; and there are preachers whose highest ambition is to please with every sentence, and every thought. The taste of such pews is unhealthy, and the pleasing qualities of such preachers out of place. Put the standard of preaching as low as possible, and assign it merely the duty of promoting the proprieties, decencies and honesties of life, and even on this lowest possible theory a sermon which can be described best as “a pleasing discourse,” “a discourse that greatly pleased the people,” is a very melancholy parody of the real business of preaching.—*Zion's Herald*.

The Presbytery of Victoria and Richmond met at Port Hastings, Sept. 7th, for the ordination and induction of Rev. Donald McDonald. Mr. McLeod preached, Mr. McDougall addressed the minister, and Mr. McMillan, the people.

The Austrian government has decided that American missionaries have no right to conduct worship in halls or chapels, but are strictly limited to “house worship.”

There are 24 mission presses in India, Ceylon and Burmah; 3,420 works in 31 languages and dialects, issued in ten years; 12,000,000 other works printed.

The native Church in Indore gave last year \$2.38 per member for foreign missions.

LOVE THE CHIEF GOOD.

BY. PROF. DRUMMOND.

How do you learn to love? Love is governed by the law of cause and effect. If we fulfil the condition we get the results. “We love Him because He first loved us.” Because He first loved us, we love all men. Stand before Him and you will be changed into His image. Look at the great sacrifice of Christ and His life of love and you must love. It is a simple case of induction like a piece of iron and a magnet. Remain by Christ and you will become a permanent magnet, and like Him you will draw all men to you whether they be white or black. Give up the idea that religion comes by chance. It comes by natural law, or rather supernatural law, as God's laws are supernatural.

Where is the wisdom of the ancients? The school-boy to-day knows more than Newton did. The old encyclopedias can be bought for 10 cents a volume. He said he had recently heard Sir William Thompson say that the steam engine is passing away. Behind every workshop you will find a pile of iron which was a machine, once the pride of the village. We know in part and prophesy in part; we see through a glass darkly. The world passeth away, but the Word of God endureth forever. When all things have passed away love remaineth. Covet that and give your life for it, and have the character, which is described, that you be created in His image. Why do you want to live to-morrow? Because you love some one. There is no other thing to live for but love. To live is to love. If love dies, a man has no contract with life, no reason to live, and he dies—by his own hand. How many will join in reading the chapter (1 Cor. xiii.) once a week for three months, and then once a month? Get those ingredients fixed in your mind, and then you will have love. No greater misfortune can befall a man than to grow old unloving and unloved. The final religious test at the great assizes is not merely how I have lived, but how I have loved.

India has thirty-six missionary societies of all Christian denominations. There are 791 missionaries and 530 ordained native ministers. Converts, 149,755. A gain, since 1881, of 133 missionaries and 32,383 native Christians.