

TWO MEN.

Two men toiled side by side, from sun to sun,
And both were poor.
Both sat with children, when the day was done,
About their door.

One saw the beautiful in crimson cloud
And shining moon;
The other, with his head in sadness bowed,
Made night of noon.

One loved each tree and flower and singing bird
On mount or plain;
No music in the soul of one was stirred
By leaf or rain.

One saw the good in every fellow-man,
And hoped the best;
The other marvelled at his Master's plan,
And doubt confessed.

One, having heaven above and heaven below,
Was satisfied;
The other, discontented, lived in woe,
And hopeless died.

MORNING AND EVENING PRAYER.

Thought and prayer both come from a hidden source; they go forth to fight with foes and gain victory in the external world, they return to rest in Him who inspired them. Oh, how fresh and original will each of our lives become, what flatness will pass from society, what barrenness from conversation, what excitement and restlessness from our religious acts, when we understand these secrets, when the morning prayer is really a prayer for grace to One whose service is perfect freedom, in knowledge of whom is eternal life; when at evening we really ask One from whom all good thoughts and holy desires and just works proceed, for the peace which the world cannot give.—Rev. F. D. Maurice.

"HALF-MAST" BISHOPS.

The visit of the Primate to Northampton recalls a story not unconnected with one of the Midland sees. The suffragan Bishop of — was visiting a rural parish to officiate at some festive function, and expected to find the usual village rejoicings. But on driving from the station to the church he noticed that the flag on the tower was flying at half-mast. "How's that?" he asked the driver; "who's dead?" "There ain't no one dead, sir," replied the jarvey; "that's for you, sir. We always fly the flag at mast for the Bishop, and at half for the suffragan." The "half-mast prelate" might have been angry, but he wasn't. The humour of the situation amused him greatly.

HOPE FOR THE WORLDLY.

Does not the meeting of Saul with Christ, the sudden vision, the instant recognition, open up the hope that somewhere on some hard road, in some earnest gust of misguided zeal, the influence of father and mother, the memory of home, the power of education, the strength of religious training, will combine to bring such to their only Saviour, their highest good—too well taught to put up with error, too earnest to miss the highest good, too good to miss finding Christ? Is there not a hope for those who are hinderers and slanderers of God, and are binding men and women in the deadly chain of unbelief, is there not a hope that a "Saul, Saul!" may recall them to themselves? Is there not a hope for those who are wasting their energies in mere worldliness, for those who are fiercely pursuing pleasure and vice? What seems most hopeless of all is the case of the listless, the idle, the indifferent, with no earnest feelings, no spirit-

ual energy. It is life, however, perverted, which arrests the interest of Christ. There is life in this stern meeting; life touches life albeit truth meeting error. We feel that at least we may hope for those in error where we see life. We may hope for ourselves if we have life, that He may stir up His manifold gifts which are in us by His countless operations of grace, and take us at last as the vessels of choice. Do not let us shrink within ourselves at the earnestness of unbelief, the strength of error, the restlessness of doubt. At least in an age like ours there is earnestness, there is life, and it may be a Paul, underneath the headstrong impulsiveness of intolerant Saul.—Rev. Canon Newbolt, M.A.

THE ANT.

Sir John Lubbock makes the remarkable statement that ants rank next to man in intelligence. He says when we consider "their social organizations, large communities, elaborate habitations, roadways, possession of domestic animals and even of slaves, it must be admitted that they have a fair claim to rank next to man in the scale of intelligence." Apropos of ants, the Chicago News says: "There are over one thousand varieties of ants, all different in their habits. Their industry is appalling. An ant was put in a saucer with some larvae and watched. From 6 o'clock in the morning she worked until 10 at night, and carried 187 of the larvae to her nest. The small red ants, so abundant in India, are so small that it takes from eight to twelve of them to carry off a grain of wheat only half as large as an English grain, yet they will carry one of these grains 1,000 yards to their nest. They travel in a straight line, going over obstructions instead of around. Some ants keep slaves, and would die if left to themselves. The slaves clean and feed them. The modes of fighting among ants are varied. Some attack in serried masses, never sending out detachments, while single ants never make attacks. Sometimes three or four together seize an enemy, pulling different ways, so the captive cannot reach any of his foes. Then one ant jumps on the captive's back and saws off the head. The Amazon ant has a method of combat peculiar to herself. She has powerful and pointed jaws, and when attacked she catches hold of her enemy's head between her jaws, and if the enemy does not loose her hold the Amazon closes her jaws, the sharp points of the mandibles pierce the brain, and the enemy dies in convulsions."

AN ODD EXPERIENCE WITH A POINT.

The man who goes to church for the purpose of meeting and worshipping God will never refuse to pay his fare. It is said that a conductor on a passenger train, who was also an active Churchman, had an awkward experience one day not long since, in church. In passing the plate he came to a man who did not contribute. After urging a contribution, he reached up in a fit of absentmindedness for the bell cord, and said: "I will put you off this train if you do not pay your fare." While that conductor may have been greatly embarrassed when he was recalled to himself by the laugh in the congregation, that story certainly has a moral worth our attention.

There are a great many people in our Church beating their way on the Gospel train. The State makes them pay their taxes, the lodges make them pay their dues, but there being no way by which we can compel them to support the Church, they refuse to do it. And to add to this, their refusal, they show how mean they are by

enjoying the services of the Church for which their brethren have to pay.

We do not see how any man or woman can enjoy the services of the Church, Sunday after Sunday, and never give anything towards its support. Will you think of this matter?

The Fleming H. Revell Company (Chicago, New York, and Toronto), has just passed its quarter century mark in the field of religious literature. The scope and volume of its continued efforts can only be appreciated when we consider the scores of thousands of volumes which are broadcast throughout the world over; every book of which is in purpose, definite, and in character, ennobling and elevating. This high moral standard has been maintained throughout the firm's long journey on the highway of literature, and therein lies the secret of such marvellous success. This grand work, accomplished only by long years of earnest effort, is a mighty power for good, and deserving of all commendation. The firm's new holiday catalogue is to hand, and as usual, is replete in suggestions for holiday reading. Of Revell's latest publications we cannot refrain from noting a prominent book on its list, viz., "A Man's Value to Society," by Newell Dwight Hillis. A delightful revelation in character study. Every sentence is an apothegm, which is indelibly engraved on the reader's mind, making it a most desirable addition to the best library.

HINTS TO HOUSEKEEPERS.

Beef Patties.—Chop fine some cold beef; beat two eggs and mix with the meat, and add a little milk, melted butter and salt and pepper. Make into rolls and fry.

Breaded Sausages.—Wipe the sausages dry. Dip them in beaten egg and bread crumbs. Put them in the frying basket and plunge into boiling fat. Cook ten minutes. Serve with a garnish of toasted bread and parsley.

Ham Croquettes.—One cupful of finely-chopped cooked ham, one of bread crumbs, 2 of hot mashed potatoes, one large tablespoonful of butter, three eggs, a speck of cayenne. Beat the ham, cayenne, butter, and two of the eggs into the potato. Let the mixture cool slightly, and shape it like croquettes. Roll in the bread crumbs, dip in beaten egg, and again in crumbs, put in the frying-basket and plunge into boiling fat. Cook two minutes. Drain, and serve.

Cream Pie.—Bake a lower crust and set away till cool. Then take three-fourths of a cup of sweet cream, sweeten it and flavour with essence of lemon. Whip it up quick, spread it on the crust, and set it away in a cool place several hours before using.

Cranberry Jelly.—To three quarts of cranberries take two pounds of good, white sugar and a quart of water. Cook thoroughly, mashing all the berries fine, then put all through a fine sieve. Return the juice to the stove, and cook fifteen minutes more; pour into glasses and seal when cool.

Cocoanut Pie.—Two eggs, three tablespoonful of corn starch, small piece of butter. Bake cocoanut, one pint of milk, one tablespoonful with one crust. One half a cup of dessicated cocoanut, soaked in the milk three or four hours, may be used if you cannot get the fresh.

The lids should be kept closely pressed upon saucepans which contain boiling liquids. The delicate aroma and flavour of most boiled dishes escapes with the steam.

Tea and coffee stains may be removed from china cups by using a strong solution of salt and hot water. China teapots which are stained may be treated in the same way.