

they would come when I did call for them, I would undertake to summon to the task a hundred heroes who would make the whole wide world ring with the praise of Christ, whilst we were still droning over our minute books."

*The Significance of Trifles*, vs. 5-8. What difference did it make whether men stooped to drink with the hand, or knelt to drink with the mouth? Would it not have been more sensible to judge them by their courage, than by their table manners? But the method of drinking had real significance. Those who knelt down, removed their helmets and drank with their lips to the water, were careless and left themselves exposed to a surprise attack from an ambushed foe. On the other hand, the men who merely stooped, and looking around to guard against a possible foe, showed foresight and caution. These men used their heads in warfare and could be trusted. A trifle showed which men were soldiers by instinct. Men who knelt to drink might have brute courage, but these men had high intelligence. They thought of protection as well as of attack.

A Canadian officer who was in many of the worst battles, attributed his escape to the fact that in the school where he was trained, special attention had been paid to the art of keeping under cover. He had caution and courage combined. Other men scorned attention to such detail and paid the penalty of their headlong courage. We may resent having great issues depend upon seeming trifles. When men are being judged in the business world, small indications often have great weight. Men of ability have been rejected because of some mannerism of speech or breach of good form. These things may be insignificant in themselves, but significance is attached to them because of what they indicate regarding the personal habits. "Trifles make perfection, and perfection is no trifle."

*Publicity and a Slogan*, vs. 16-18. Gideon believed in advertising. If he were alive to-day, he would utilize bill-boards and electric signs. He had only a few men, but he placed them so as to make them appear to be many. He divided his three hundred warriors into three companies, so that when

they made a din the foe would think a huge army was there. Then he gave them a trumpet. He understood the psychology of noise. In every pitcher was a lamp. He knew that a display would be effective, and finally he gave them a battle-cry that would rally them as they entered the fight shouting, "The sword of the Lord and of Gideon." Each man would feel responsibility for the reputation of his own unit. He would be cheered by the sound of the trumpets, would keep his light waving to encourage his own company, would shout to keep his own courage up, and would be strengthened hearing the name of God and their trusted leader, Gideon.

All the conditions for brave fighting were fulfilled. Patriotic campaigns have taught us the effect of simultaneous action and display advertising. The public mind cannot escape the prevalent subject, for it meets the eye and ear constantly. Every organization finds it a help to have a catchy title and a slogan to work for. Bible Classes can develop the spirit of Gideon's Band and learn from his methods. Missions will attract more interest when educational work is thoroughly done and information becomes widely distributed. Is there any better battle-cry for the Christian church than, "The evangelism of the world in this generation?" We are under the leadership of God and of his Christ.

*The art of camouflage*, vs. 19-21. The word camouflage is modern, but the thing is old as warfare. Gideon practised it here very successfully. He gave to every man a trumpet and a light, and the few made the din and glare of a large army. Deception is inevitable in war, for it is a battle of wits, as well as of weapons; but the policy is to be withstood in business life, and especially in religious work. The cause of Christ cannot prosper by ecclesiastical tactics or mental reservations. Only the most transparent truthfulness is consistent with religion. Religious workers will soon lose the confidence of their public, unless they are frank and sincere. The sincerity of Christ should be our guide. He would not conceal his truth to avoid unpopularity. He would not gain converts by methods of magic. He taught openly and told his followers to count the