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In the Library

My days among the dead are past;
Around me I behold,
Where'er these casual eyes are cast,
The mighty minds of old.
My never-failing friends are they,
With whom I converse day by day.

With them I take delight in wail
And seek relief in woe;
And while I understand and feel
How much to them I owe,
My cheeks have often been bedewed
With tears of thoughtful gratitude.

My thoughts are with the dead; with them
I live in long-past years,
Their virtues love, their faults condemn,
Partake their hopes and fears,
And from their lessons seek and find
Instruction with a humble mind.

When to be Dogmatic.—There are not two sides to every question. The questions, for example, that the devil suggests to you, are not open for discussion. All he wants is that you shall permit a little discussion of them. Campbell Morgan, writing in "A Message to New Converts," says of this: "Have one policy with regard to the devil. Don't argue with him; hit him. If you begin to parley, he is considerably older than you are; his experience is very varied; he will win." Any other advice is from the pastmaster in argument himself, and is not to be listened to.

What Makes a Book Sell?—What makes a book sell. In these days of large sales for fiction, perhaps no topic has been more widely discussed than the causes which have led to great success. The most common reason given, probably, has been that the books have been cleverly advertised, but even this is open to serious dispute, inasmuch as very many successful books have received far less advertising than other books which achieved no particular success. Interesting light on the whole subject is shed by a statement which has just been prepared by D. Appleton & Company, as affecting the sales of a new novel, which is now in its fifth edition.

When the first edition was placed on the market, postal-cards were enclosed requesting purchasers to make replies to a series of questions as to what had induced them to buy the book. Nearly five hundred purchasers responded, with the following result:

Was it because you saw it advertised? Replies 59; per cent. 12. Was it be-

cause you saw it reviewed? Replies 49; per cent. 10. Was it because a friend recommended it? Replies 69; per cent. 14. Was it because the bookseller recommended it? Replies 126; per cent. 26. Was it because you had read the author's previous works? Replies 76; per cent. 16. Was it because you were attracted by the binding? Replies 2. Was it because you were attracted by the title? Replies 25; per cent. 5. Was it because you were attracted by the colored illustrations? Replies 13; per cent. 3. Was it because you were attracted by its general appearance? Replies 36; per cent. 9. Was it for some reason not here stated? Replies 24; per cent. 5.

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Love God with the Mind.—Bishop Warren urges all young people to love God with the mind as well as with the soul. He says: "Intelligent love depends much on knowledge. A German might bestow a passing glance on the blue corn-flower by the dusty roadside, but when he is informed that it is the favorite flower of his Emperor, he transplants it to his garden, his buttonhole and his heart. A man may regard with decent complacency his country; but when he studies the principles of its constitution, learns that the rights of men are embodied therein as nowhere else outside the Bible, goes to battle-fields and sees where men have died for God and native land; nay, when he enlists in its armies of war or peace, endures hardness as a good soldier, and is ready to lay down his life for his country, then he knows how every faculty can combine to make his love intense.

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A Root of Bitterness.—It seems passing strange that in Protestant English Christian men are facing the bailiff and the jailer for conscience sake. Yet such is the case. The Government still enforces the obnoxious Education Act, and the Non-Conformists by the thousand still persist in their attitude of "passive resistance." According to the *British Weekly*, 53,285 persons have been summoned for refusing to pay the rate; 1,978 have had their goods sold; 178 have been sent to prison. Of the prisoners, 36 were Primitive Methodists, 31 were Baptists, 29 were Congregationalists, 13 were Wesleyans, 5 were Bible Christians. Among those who went to jail was one young woman. Several passive resisters have been deprived of the franchise, among them the Rev. R. J. Campbell, successor to the late Rev. Dr. Parker, at the City Temple, London.

The Non-Conformists believe that the

Education Bill represents a deliberate attempt on the part of the High Church Anglicans to suppress religious liberty, to kill the Free Churches and to propagate semi-Roman Catholic sacerdotalism. Some go so far as to openly accuse the extreme High Churchmen with undermining the very foundations of the Protestant faith; and this by means of money supplied by a Protestant Government for the support of Public Schools. Bearing this in mind, we can understand the apparent bitterness of the English visitor, Rev. Dr. John Brown, of Bedford, England, once pastor of John Bunyan's famous church, when he advised the Canadian Congregational Union to have nothing to do with the Anglican proposals in the matter of making Bible study a part of the Public School curriculum. For our part we cannot see what the Established Church has to gain by supporting a measure which tramples rough-shod on the convictions of her sister Churches. At best her triumph will be short-lived. All signs point to the defeat of the present English Government at the coming elections. With a change of Government the Education Act is almost sure to be radically amended, if not repealed. But no reparation will blot out memories which will be keen and bitter as long as this generation lives.

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Complimenting Lord Palmerston.—Lord Palmerston, once Prime Minister of Great Britain, was perhaps the most popular statesman of his time. He was "hail-fellow-well-met" with nearly everybody, and, of course, many persons were very free-and-easy with him. This was amusingly shown in a friendly talk he had with John Day, trainer of his horses. Day was laid up with gout, and "Pan," as they called his lordship, would sit by his bedside and chat with the patient. On this occasion he told Day of a change of Ministry that had just taken place. John's answer was comical:—"Yes, my lord, but they tell I as how you are the cleverest among them; for it don't matter which side goes out, you always manages to keep in!"

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Rules for a Record True.—Dr. Henry Van Dyke has put into verse four rules for the intellectual and spiritual life which are well worth committing to memory:

"Four things a man must learn to do,
If he would make his record true:
To think, without confusion, clearly;
To love his fellowmen sincerely;
To act from honest motives purely;
To trust in God and heaven securely."