

The Baptist Reporter.

PUBLISHED ON THE FIRST OF EACH MONTH.

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Fourth International

B. Y. P. U. Convention

At Toronto, July, 19 to 22, 1894.

We desire to thank our friends who have so kindly sent us suggestions regarding Volume III. of the Reporter. As we go to press we are unable to say what changes will be made in the paper; but, no doubt, the June number, which begins Volume III., will be equal to its predecessors.

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A great many subscriptions expire with this issue. We trust our friends will send along their renewals promptly. As our receipts for this year have been far less than our expenditures, we have decided not to send out any complimentary copies, in hopes that in this way the receipts will be increased to such an amount as will make the paper self-supporting.

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As we are crowded with matter sent us for this issue, our "Solicitor" has kindly consented to forego the pleasure of a side-talk with our readers this month.

OUR COMMITTEES.

How to Make Our Social Work More Effective.

(Continued from April number.)

In the second place, let me say that this work will increase in effectiveness just so far as each one resolves to increase his own sociability. You may have the grandest ideals imaginable, but unless you have the ambition to put them in practical shape, what profiteth them to you or others? In a young girl's diary was found her idea of a member of the Social Committee. It was as follows:—"(1) I must always smile; (2) I must treat everyone alike, cordially; (3) I must talk with others of what is most interesting to them, forgetting myself wholly." You will notice all through this that it was *I*, not *we*, *must*; not *should*. There is so much theorizing in this world—so much of what "we should do", so little of what "I will do." How easy it is to shift the responsibility on to others; how hard to take it upon ourselves! How easy to say what others should do; how hard to do it ourselves! How idiotically easy to find fault with others; how almost absolutely impossible to see a flaw in ourselves! But somebody says, "It is all right to *talk* about making unsociable people sociable; it is another thing to do it." I concede that it is no easy matter to effect a radical change in a man's nature; but what work of any value ever came to a felicitous conclusion without much work or patience? Have you a purpose in life, or are you drifting on without once inquiring what may be its meaning and end? If so, you have not imbibed the spirit of our great Divine Ideal Fellow-worker, "for His answer to the reproachful question of His mother, when she found Him in the temple, lays bare at once His childhood's mind, and shows us that He had a God-appointed life-work to do, which it was the one business of His existence to accomplish. It was the passionate thought of all His after life. It ought to be the first and last thought of every life. It recurred again and again in His later sayings, and pealed itself forth finally in the words with which He closed his career—"It is finished!"

From this day forth, will you make this a life

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