

Post Mortem Praise

A Word of Appreciation Too Often Kept Back Until It Is Too Late

(By W. H. Sharpe.)

The raising of Lazarus caused such excitement that Jesus retired for a while with his disciples. He went into the mountainous district north of Jerusalem and as the Passover drew near, he crossed the Jordan and came down the other side through Perea, healing and teaching by the way. When he reached the town of Bethany, he re-crossed and started on his journey to Jerusalem, and to the cross.

Reaching Bethany, he stopped at a little vine-covered cottage where, with his disciples, he dined. It was the home of Mary, Martha and Lazarus. While they were sitting at the table Mary took a pound of ointment of spikenard, which was very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped them with her hair.

Out of this scene rises these words from Mark 14-8, "She has come aforehand to anoint my body to the burying." It made no difference what reason she gave for her act, for she was right. She believed in carrying the flowers to show her love for Him before He was gone.

It is the most natural thing in the world to hunger for appreciation. All the noblest souls of all ages have had this desire. God has created us this way, but, somehow or other, we fail so many times to show our appreciation until they have gone to the better land and then we generally say things we should have said years before, and we write a beautiful epitaph on their tomb when we should have written it on their hearts while they were with us.

Some time ago a trolley car was delayed quite a while for a funeral to pass. While waiting, one of the passengers on the car remarked:—"This is a pretty long wait for a dead man—if he had been alive the motorman would have run over him long ago."

Is it not true that it seems we are ready to show people more courtesy and kindness after they die than before? It is—

"Strange we never praise the music,
"Till the lovely flowers are gone.
"Strange that we should slight the violets
"Till the lovely flowers are gone.

"Strange that summer skies and sunshine
"Never seem one-half so fair,
"As when winter's snowy pinions,
"Shake the white down in the air."

The time for us to show our appreciation of others is now—when the opportunities are at hand. It is perfectly right to carry flowers and place them on the casket of our friend, or loved one—shows our love and sympathy, but, as Moody once asked: "Wouldn't it be better to give love of your bouquets before a man dies, and not go and load down his coffin? What good does it do then? None. How much would I care for it, could I know that, when I am under the grass or snow—how much do you think it would matter then—what praises were lavished upon me when, whatever might be its stint or store, it could neither help nor harm me more?"

What worth is eulogy's blindest breath
When whispered in ears that are hushed
In death?
No, No. If you have but a word of cheer,
Speak it while I am alive to hear.

If you appreciate your friends and loved ones, express it now.

Francis Murphy, the great temperance apostle, said in an address:—"I had rather have one little spray of a flower given me while I am alive, as a token of affection and esteem, than to have you throw a bouquet as big as a bushel at me when I am dead; saying, 'There Murphy, smell that.'"

To show our appreciation now strengthens many a discouraged heart. Not to appreciate what people do, drives them into discouragements and sourness. "Oh, well, they don't appreciate what I do—I might just as well stop. I'll be thought just as much of." Elijah desired to die because they did not appreciate what he did up at Carmel.

Unappreciation was a dagger that dug deep into the Saviour's heart. Too often we give flowers when dead—and thorns when living.

Look at Chas. Sumner, a grand, good man who fought for noble purposes, but he was slandered and driven to his grave, and then there were long processions in his honor, and tolling of bells and great choirs chanting his requiem, and they buried him up at Mt. Auburn under a mountain of flowers.

There is nothing meaner than intentional ingratitude. This world would be the sweeter and brighter if there were as many flowers carried to our friends before they die as there are piled on their caskets after they have gone—there, where kind things enough said, and flowers enough to brighten every hour of their lives.

It seems to me it would be a good thing if we could die sometimes and then come back in a few days and see the flowers on our coffins and read what our friends and neighbors say about us.

The other day I was reading of a minister who preached at the funeral of two soldiers in the late war, supposing them to be dead, but they both returned alive. I suppose it would have done those boys good to have heard what was said of them, and I think it would do us all good if we would have the opportunity to hear our own funeral service.

Cultivate the habit of appreciating others, and you will be appreciated. "With what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again."

We must not expect to be appreciated unless we appreciate others. We are so likely to expect from others what we do not give. Here, for example, is a person sick; he says: "No one came to visit me—no one paid any more attention to me than if I were up and about."

"Did you go over to see friend B. when he had the fever?" "Well, no, I was a little careless." Don't expect any more than you give.

If you appreciate what your friends do for you, tell me so. If your heart goes out in sympathy for them, don't fail to express it. If you have a husband that is kind and good, show him that you appreciate it. It will do more good than a barrel of tears over his coffin.

If you have a loving and devoted wife, show her that you appreciate her love. Some wives never receive a kind word until it appears on their tombstones.

A husband at looking at the beautiful bouquet he had just gathered. At that moment a tear would peep from the corner of his eyes—jump out and slide down his cheek. His mind appeared troubled by the some melancholy problem. A farmer working nearby, noticing the man's apparent perplexity, stepped up to him and said: "Well, neighbor, you seem kind of down in the mouth—sittin' them kind of flowers you was looking for?"

"Flowers are all right," answered the husband, "but I don't want 'em. I want a wife at home—terrible sick and I thought I'd just get her a few flowers, but—"

"No, it's not that—no, I've got a sick wife at home—terrible sick and I thought I'd just get her a few flowers, but—"

"That's right, mister," broke in the farmer, "I guess she'd be mighty tickled to get 'em." "Yes, she would, but the doctor says she can't possibly live long, and I thought perhaps I'd better save these flowers for the funeral."

If you have a dear old father and mother that have denied many things to you, show them that you appreciate it; make their days as they travel toward the sunset their happiest days on earth. It will do more good than to bend over their silent forms and cry and cry and say with sobbing voice, "Oh, how good father was to us—and mother was always so gentle and kind. We loved her so."

A minister once said: "Sometimes those who cry loudest at funerals have been cruelly negligent to those whose loss they bewail."

The kind things you mean to say after your friends and loved ones are gone—say them now. The flowers you mean to send to their caskets—send them now. The kind words and loving pitipahs cast no fragrance of cheer back over the weary days of the departed.

GIVE CHILDREN EITHER TO REDUCE APPETITES

Westfield (Mass.) Parents Take Novel Way to Cut Living Costs and Authorities Act

Westfield, Mass., April 2.—As the result of investigation by the school authorities, who feared that young children were receiving sugar lumps, soaked in ether, to reduce their appetites, Superintendent Chester D. Stiles took the matter up with State educational and health authorities.

Either may be bought in any quantity by a child in any drug store. Children when questioned, said that the ether was given them by their parents so the lower cost of living and also to quiet those who got hysterical.

POST NUPITAL RECEPTION.

Mrs. W. C. R. Allen, junior, was a charming hostess at her post-nuptial reception held at her home, 174 King street, W. E., on Thursday afternoon.

She was assisted in receiving by her mother, Mrs. W. E. Emerson, and by her husband's mother, Mrs. W. C. Allen, sr. The bride wore a lovely dress of white duchess satin and carried a beautiful bouquet of Ophelia roses. The home was most prettily arranged and yellow flowers were used in profusion to ornament it.

In the drawing room pot-plant and many daffodils made a pretty setting. The dining room was lighted with yellow shaded lights and yellow candles and daffodils graced the tables. The pouring was presided over by Mrs. Fred Harding and Mrs. H. Armstrong. Those who assisted with the serving were Mrs. J. B. Smith, Miss Florence Tangey, Miss Dorothy Emerson and Miss Annie Emerson. There were very many to greet the popular young hostess and the occasion was a very pleasant social event.

WERE READY FOR EMERGENCY.

The services of the men of number four fire station and the hose cart from that station also, were requisitioned yesterday afternoon as a safeguard by McLean Holt & Co. Ltd., while they were making an exceptionally large casting. The men were kept on duty for nearly two hours while the moulten metal was being poured into the mould to form the casting, but their services were not required.

News of the Churches



Bible Students' Hall

38 Charlotte St.

Sunday, 3 P. M., W. Sargeant Speaks on

The Morning Cometh

(Isa. 21:11.)

C. Roberts, who spoke in Imperial Theatre, will preach at 38 Charlotte street, Wednesday Night, April 6th. See ad. in next Wednesday's "Times."

Centenary Methodist Church

REV. H. A. GOODWIN, Pastor.

Rev. W. H. Barraclough, B. A., of Moncton, will preach both morning and evening.

Sunday School and Bible Classes, 2.30 P. M.

A cordial welcome will be extended to all who attend these services.

The Young People's Rally will be held in Exmouth Street Church Monday evening. Canon Armstrong of Trinity will be the speaker.

Portland Methodist Church

Pastor, REV. HARRY B. CLARKE.

Pastor will preach at 11 A. M. and 7 P. M.

Sunday School 2.30 P. M.

Evening Subject: "The Gestures of Jesus."

EVERYBODY WELCOME.

Exmouth Street Methodist Church

REV. G. F. DAWSON, M.A., Pastor.

10.00 A. M.—Prayer and Praise.

11.00 A. M. and 7.00 P. M.—The Pastor.

2.30 P. M.—Sunday School and Bible Classes.

Evening Subject: "Life After Death."

A HEARTY WELCOME TO ALL!

ST. LUKE'S CHURCH

ALL SEATS FREE.

11 A. M.—Rev. E. P. Wright.

7 P. M.—Rev. R. P. McKim.

All the Ex-ter Music will be repeated.

Tabernacle Baptist Church

Haymarket Square.

REV. A. LAWRENCE TEDFORD, Pastor.

Sunday, April 3rd, the Pastor will speak.

11.00 A. M.—"The Wrestlers of Peniel."

6.45 P. M.—"The Secret of a Happy Married Life."

2.30 P. M.—Sunday School Lesson and Easter Programme.

Brotherhood and Sunshine Classes, regular lesson.

Monday 8 P. M.—Young People's Hour.

Wednesday, 8 P. M.—Special Church Prayers.

All people welcomed, and young people especially invited to hear Sunday night subject.

GOOD MUSIC. COME AND WORSHIP.

Lord's Day at Coburg Street Christian Church

Evangelist W. C. Cole Will Speak.

11.00 A. M.—Subject: "The Five Recorded Prayers of Jesus."

12.00 P. M.—Lord's Supper.

2.30 P. M.—Bible School.

3.30 P. M.—Sermon in honor of new members, after which the hand of welcome will be extended by Minister F. J. M. Appleman and the congregation. A copy of our Rule of Faith and Practice (The New Testament) will be presented to each new member by the minister.

7.00 P. M.—Great closing Evangelistic Service. Subject: "Jesus the Christ, and What Will You Do With Him?"

Mrs. Cole will lead a double chorus and sing a solo at each service.

EVERYBODY WELCOME.

Brussels Street Church

81 Brussels Street UNDENOMINATIONAL.

O. P. BROWN, Pastor.

9.30 a.m.—PRAYER.

11.00 a.m.—PREACHING.

2.30 p.m.—BIBLE CLASS.

7.00 p.m.—PREACHING.

MONDAY, 8 p.m.—Bible Class. A. C. J. Browne, Teacher.

WEDNESDAY, 8 p.m.—Prayer and Praise.

ALL WELCOME.

Christian Science Society

141 UNION STREET

Lesson sermon Sunday, 11 a.m. Subject: "Unreality." Wednesday evening meeting at 8 o'clock. Reading room open 8 to 5 p.m. daily except Saturday.

NEGRO IN SPEAKER'S CHAIR.

Jersey House Presided Over First Time by One of His Race.

Trenton, N. J., April 2.—For the first time in the history of New Jersey a negro this week occupied the chair of Speaker of the House of Assembly. The honor was accorded to Assemblyman Walter G. Alexander of Newark, a member of Essex delegation, by Speaker George S. Hobart. The latter was called to attend a National Guard investigation and appointed the negro Assemblyman in his place.

Dr. Alexander is a practicing physician. A resolution expressing the respect of the House of Assembly for his ability as a legislator, offered by Warren Patten Conn, a minister and fellow Assemblyman from Essex County, was adopted. Dr. Alexander is the first of his race to be elected to the New Jersey Legislature.

St. Philip's Church

Cor. Pitt and Queen Streets. REV. CLAUDE STEWART, Pastor.

11 a.m.—Public worship. Subject, "Bondage and Liberty." Holy Communion will be observed at the close of service.

2.30 p.m.—Sunday School. Bible classes welcome all who wish to join them.

7 p.m.—Evening service. Subject, "Growth." Special music by the choir. The pastor will conduct the services. A Glad Welcome to All.

BAPTIST CHURCHES

FAIRVILLE Church A Pastor, REV. C. T. CLARK.

11 a.m.—Subject, "The Fruitless Tree."

2.30 p.m.—Sunday School and Teaching.

7.00 p.m.—Subject, "God's Cure of Discouragement."

8.00 p.m.—Communion service, observance of Lord's Supper and reception of new members.

Cordial Welcome to All.

CENTRAL Church

REV. F. H. BONE, B.A., B.F.L., Pastor.

Sunday Services:

11 a.m.—Subject, "The Value of Soul."

2.30 p.m.—Subject, "A Quantity of Soul."

7.00 p.m.—Subject, "The Value of Soul."

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THE SALVATION ARMY ANNUAL SELF-DENIAL APPEAL

Your Contribution will help The Salvation Army to deal with its World Problems and meet the needs of THE FALLEN, THE FAMINE STRICKEN, THE HEATHEN, THE DESTITUTE

RESCUE HOMES

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