

The Home Mission Journal.

A record of Missionary, Sunday-School and Colportage work. Published semi-monthly by the Committee of the Home Mission Board of New Brunswick.

All communications, except money remittances, are to be addressed to

THE HOME MISSION JOURNAL,

34 Dock Street, St. John, N. B.

All money letters should be addressed to

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Terms, - - 50 Cents a Year

I have often been wantin' to ask you why your sermon barrel has never giv' out, as poor Parson Scanty's barrel did before you came here. He always giv' us about the same sermon, an as I set away back by the door, it got to be mighty thin by the time it got to my pew."

Parson Honeywell turned pleasantly to the deacon and said: "I will tell you what the famous old Dr. Bellamy once said to a young minister who asked him how he should always have material for his sermons. The strewed old doctor said: 'Young man, fill up the cask, fill up the cask, and then if you tap it anywhere you will get a full stream; but if you put in very little, it will dribble, dribble, dribble, and you may tap and get precious little after all.' I always get my people to help me fill up my cask. Good-afternoon, deacon."

Religious Vultures.

In every community tastes differ. What is relished by some is nauseous to others. This is true physically, mentally, morally, and spiritually, or religiously. To the pure in heart all things are pure; and pure things are preferable. But to the impure mind, the low, the base, the degrading, and the polluting is swallowed with avidity. This is characteristic of fault finders and grumblers, of gossipers and scandal mongers and these pests are to be found in every neighborhood where there is a Christian church. Some of them sometimes manage to get in to the church. But they are not the supporters of the church, but the kickers in the church, always taking exceptions to what is being done by the burden bearers of the church. These are the spots that feast on the church's charity in privileges, but they are the Cainites who are always jealous of their superiors in character, because their own works are evil, while those of the others are righteous. The pity is that they do not do as Cain did, "go out from the presence of the Lord" and make a place for themselves, and live by themselves. Then they would have to live on their own ~~conception~~ *conception*.

But they prefer to live in Christian communities where they can pick up the offal of the church members, they love to lick up what imperfections they can find in those who support the moral and religious institutions of the land, and they are always ready to stir into their mess with a stick of exaggeration untruths, misrepresentations and innuendoes, and season it with slurs and invectives; and there are some Rev. Tramps who go about like their master, "as roaring lions seeking whom they may devour." These are the kind of preachers whose religious vultures always take up with. They fill their ears and mouths with their home diet that they may spread it out before the multitudes of Cainites who always are ready to hear and support such roving nuisances, and hallo halleluiahs for them. And these Rev. Tramps often imitate the Saviour by multiplying what their disciples give them so as to feed all the crowds of vultures that throng after them. And in return these vultures will pay them well for their vilifying of the pastor and deacons, and any others who do not swallow their poisonous doses; and run after them and take their part. Many a quiet neighborhood has been set all aboil by these adventurous pests, and the churches divided and weakened by them. Now, the scripture direction in regard to such a religious menace is; "go not after them," and again, "beware of dogs," and again "try the spirits," "a tree is

known by its fruit." If the fruit of a man's work is strife, division, discord and enmity; bid him not God's speed. Patronize him not, that you be not partakers of his sins.

Health Column.

ENDEAVOR TO AVOID STOOPING.

Many growing girls, especially those tall for their age are inclined to stoop and well meaning persons often advocate the use of braces or shoulder-straps as a means of correcting the tendency. The braces may force an upright carriage, but they do not give the wearer any means of maintaining it, since they prevent the exercise of those muscles which should be trained to produce an erect figure. Any exercise which strengthens the muscles of the back and shoulders will aid in correcting this defect. Old-fashioned mothers used to drill their stooping daughters to walk with a plate carried on their heads and this is really a good practice. High pillows and very soft mattresses are blamed as an aid in producing this defect, and without a doubt a flat, rather hard bed, with low pillows, is preferable for growing children. A stooping, awkward walk detracts so much from the appearance that there is every reason to avoid it, apart from the bad effect it exercises on the physical conditions.

—Healthy Home.

To those who are suffering from a run down system. We would advise the following. Take plenty of rest, and proper food. Food supplies the substance for repairing the waste of the body, and gives strength. Sleep affords the opportunity for these repairs to be made.

Both are necessary to health, rest of the body and mind are essential requisites for recuperation. Proper food and plenty of sleep are indispensable. To create an appetite use a drink made of ground hemlock, and bones-l herb, take a teaspoon full every morning. For breakfast, eat porridge made of either oatmeal or barley meal or white corn meal, or cracked wheat, with entire wheat bread, eggs, and butter. Drink milk, or hot water, trimmed with cream and sugar; avoid tea and coffee. If you can not use hot water then use postum, for dinner use fish, or lamb's chicken, or fowl with vegetables, fruits, and soups are wholesome.

A plain supper is always best. Keep clear of patent medicines, and all kinds of drugs. For moving the bowels, use the flushing treatment instead of cathartics; above all keep your mind off your complaints, and be cheerful, and hopeful, and determine to get well.

Children young enough to secure as much joy in playing with broken crockery as they could derive from gilt-edged toys, often find the back yard a source of fascinating amusement. If our eyes could be opened so that we could see the pestilence which lurks in every neglected gutter, cesspool, and heap of garbage, we would shudder when we see the innocent children staking off imaginary cities in the midst of all this, or perhaps making mud pies from some of the contaminated earth in the same vicinity. When these children sicken and perhaps die, the grief-stricken parents and sympathizing neighbors are wont to attribute their loss to the dispensations of a mysterious Providence, and attempt to become reconciled to the sad bereavement.—*The New Crusade*.

Unfortunately for the busy woman, lamps need more attention than any other means of light, and many women know but little of the best methods of treating them. If lamp chimneys are cleaned with a cloth dipped into alcohol, instead of soap and water, the result is better; and if the wicks are soaked in strong vinegar and thoroughly dried before being used, there will be no smoke. The burners will become clogged in the course of time, and ought to be treated to a ten minutes' boiling in a quart of water in which an ounce of washing-soda has been dissolved. Wipe with a cotton cloth, and they will be as good as new. This really ought to be done every month. Clean lamps give brilliant light and promote health. Dirty lamps are health destroyers.

As Seen from the Pastor's Study.

Ignorance is the mother of Prejudice, and Pr. Judice is the infant prodigy that soon rules the whole house and makes all the neighbors uncomfortable.

When the ideal church and the real church become one, the pastoral relation will be judicious for life, annual deficits will be unknown; and the difficulty will be not how to get people to church but to get room in church for all who come.

No pastor will be counted old, or will cross the dead line, who finds his warmest welcome and his chief delight in the primary class in Sunday school.

Churches that afford their members least opportunity to work are most apt to wonder why more is not being done.

What many Christians need is not so much a spirit to do, as sight to see what can be done.

Dr. Gordon once said a theological professor was bewailing the lack of students. He said they had got down to three, and one of them was a skeptic, the second a dyspeptic, and the third an eclectic.

The occasional Christian is the type that keeps the church apologizing to the world, and keeps the world away from the church.

That was a wise pastor who said he would rather have ten steadfast than a hundred occasionals in the church.

A minister who ate mince pie late at night, and had the colic in consequence, said to the physician, "Doctor, I'm not afraid to die, but I am ashamed to."

The professor of homiletics met his match in the student who was given the text, "Thou knowest the foolishness of man, O Lord, that it is great," and subdivided his discourse thus: "I have two heads: 1. Man is a great fool; 2. The Lord knows it."

Nearly all pastorates seem pleasant and peaceful except the one you happen to hold. To realize the utter fallaciousness of this view would save many an unwise pastoral change.

If man, as ancient Protagoras says, is the measure of the universe, it is man's most important business to keep enlarging his measuring capacity.

The Interruptions Ceased.

A clergyman who had been greatly annoyed by the continued interruption to which he had been subjected during the delivery of his sermon stopped abruptly, and locking round at the congregation spoke as follows:

"Some time ago, while delivering a sermon. I was frequently interrupted by a gentleman sitting in front of me, who gesticulated, moved about, and whispered to his neighbors, and at last I addressed to him a sharp reprimand for his unseemly conduct. When the service was over my clerk in the vestry mentioned the matter to me, and asked if I was ignorant of the fact that the person addressed was an idiot. I have since then always hesitated to reprimand any of my own congregation for interrupting me in fear that I may be addressing an idiot, who is not responsible for his actions."

Silence rained throughout the delivery of the remainder of his sermon.

Men are not proud of their physical defects. They do not boast that they have lost an eye or an arm; but, strangely enough, they are often to exult in their mental and moral defects. They call themselves agnostics with a tone that savors of anything but regret; they say that they lack the power of faith as if it were a reason for congratulation.