

*THE HABIT OF JUDGING
ONE ANOTHER.*

No habit is more common. Christians as well as others indulge in it. Nearly every one thinks it is not only right, but in some sense a duty to form and express judgments of others, and more particularly if these judgments are unfavorable and calculated to injure them. There is an element in human nature which prompts very many to find flaws and defects in the lives and characters of others, and, when found, to make them known to the world.

Now at this miserable habit our Lord levels His unqualified condemnation. In His great Sermon on the Mount He says to one and all, "Judge not that ye be not judged." To give solemn emphasis to the injunction He adds, "For with what judgment ye judge ye shall be judged. And with what measure ye mete it shall be measured to you again."

What an admonition is this ! With what energy it warns us against this dreadful habit ! Let us lend a listening ear lest we fall under this fearful condemnation.

Rev. R. Bruce Dickson moved the following resolution at the Oxford Conference : "That it is the duty of the clergy to advocate, and of every Christian to practice, systematic almsgiving." Canon Paget referred to a matter which the clergy should take notice of. He said that many would be more willing to practice loyalty and generously systematic almsgiving if there were always systematic publication with full accounts of all that was done with the amounts received.

*EARLY PRAYER—EARLY
COMMUNION.*

I will now say confidently, that you can as soon invert a process of nature ; you can as soon transpose the dew and sunshine ; you can as soon give to sultry noon the softness and fragrance of early dawn, as you can make it to be the same thing, whether you carry to the throne of the Most High, the first-fruits of your day, or not the first. I feel that I am arguing here on that which is not the ground of argument. They who know the Christian life, know what I say. They will not contradict me, when I aver, that there is a freshness, a power about that prayer which is sent up to God, when it is our first work of heart and mind in the day, which is not found when it is not the first.—
S. P. C. K. *Tract on "Early Prayer."*

THE TEACHING OF PROPORTIONATE GIVING.—I have been here nearly (writes a country clergyman) two years. I found an open church, free seats, free-will offerings ; but the latter were unsatisfactory. In my parish papers I have dealt with the subject of Proportionate and Regular liberality. Once or twice I have just announced from my stall that the claim for the ensuing offertory was a pressing one ; but I have never preached, or allowed, a charity sermon. On the other hand, I frequently speak of the matter in my parish visitation, and twice I have taken an ordinary "Church Expenses" Sunday for a "straight talk" upon the subject in its full scriptural and moral bearing upon a well governed Christian life.

Charity is the way of man to God.