

Matthew vs. Mark.

DEAR SIR AND BRO—In my letter in C. E. of Sept. 1, in the sentence, "if Jesus said both," you say, "Mark, is it not?" I say, by no means. I Jesus said what Mark records, he was giving the validity of baptism, therefore Matthew would be derelict in not recording words of such awful import, when spoken by one "having authority."

JAMES ALLEN.

Baysville, Sept. 12, 1893.

Is Religion Real?

This is just the question which lots of men are asking to-day. They see so much that is sheer humbug, and very properly measure the Christian folk about them by the measure of the New Testament in which they profess to believe. This is fair enough when you come to think of it. Is a master a Christian? Then he ought to be just such a master as Jesus Christ would have been. Is a servant a Christian? Then he ought to be just such a servant as Jesus Christ would have been.

"His blood can make the vilest clean, His blood avails for me."

—British Workman.

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The Sunday School.

Sunday School Committee of the Co-operation of Disciples of Christ in Ontario.—J. A. Atkin, Chairman; George Fowler, J. D. Stephens.

All matter intended for publication in this department should be sent to J. A. Atkin, Orangeville, Ont.

Normal Training.

The time is opportune for the organizing of Normal Institutes. There is no better time of the year for study than autumn, and hence no better time to undertake anything in the line of an organization for religious or educational work. One of the recommendations of the Sunday-school committee at the last convention was, "that wherever and whenever practicable normal institutes be formed for the study of the science of teaching, etc. Such institutes to be formed in co-operation with workers in other Sunday-schools."

Sunday-school people are realizing more and more the necessity of trained teachers if good work is to be done. Speaking at Hamilton recently at the laying of the corner stone of a new Sunday-school, Hon. G. W. Ross, in his address, said, "that the teachers now-a-days were often intellectually incapable of doing the work assigned to them, a fact that is apparent to one who visits a modern Sunday school, and sees a girl of 16 or 17 teaching a class of great hulks of boys, almost as old as her little self." "Mr. Ross suggested an organization, whereby each teacher would have to go through a preliminary course of three years." This is just in line with the efforts being made by the executive of the Sunday-school Association of Ontario. Those desirous of forming a Normal Institute should write J. J. Woodhouse, Box 525, Toronto, and a normal instructor will be sent to the locality desiring him for a time. We hope to hear of the formation of many of these institutes during this present season.

The Great World's Sunday-school Convention has been in session at St. Louis. The newspaper accounts were very meagre. We are assured that newspaper men made a mistake in failing to report the proceedings of a gathering that is of deep interest to a large portion of our people. We learn, however, that the sessions were very largely attended, upwards of 2,500 present at a single meeting. A goodly number of Canadians were present. Our own Alfred Day was conspicuous among the delegates and in the convention. Great and wonderful things have been done in and by the Sunday-school since Robert Raikes gathered together those children in Gloucester, England. To use the words of President Clark, of C. E. fame, speaking of his society, "It grew from a seed, and that seed was of God's planting," and so with the Sunday-school. It had a humble beginning, but has in God's providence grown to an immense institution with upwards of twelve millions of scholars and teachers in attendance.

J. A. ATKIN.

We are pleased to have the following interesting report of the Rallying day in the Owen Sound Sunday school from Bro. Lediard. Will others of our pastors and superintendents not send reports of the proceedings in their schools on the first Lord's day in September? This year's contributions to foreign missions are considerably in advance of last year in the Ontario Sunday schools. More have contributed than formerly, and many have passed their past records. We hope it will be so reported for home missions: Yesterday, Lord's day, Sept. 3rd, was our Annual Rallying day. We have followed this practice for three

years, and find it quite helpful. Our school does not close in the summer months, but, nevertheless, there is a falling off in attendance during July and August. Our nearness to the shores of the Georgian Bay has something to do with this, and our ready opportunities for travel; but, on the first Lord's day in September, we think it high time to get down to steady work.

Yesterday our attendance was 65, out of a roll of 85, and this attendance is about an average one from this till next July. A roll call, answered by a text of scripture, is a feature of the exercises; special singing, some floral decorations, the lesson briefly taught to the whole school by Bro. C. A. Fleming, and a splendid address by our superintendent, Bro. A. E. Trout, to both teachers and scholars. In the evening we had a special gospel sermon for children. This, with our children's collection for home missions, made up the day's programme, and closed pleasantly and profitably for all concerned. We make a special effort to get the parents of the children to come to these rallying day services.

JAMES LEDIARD.

The World's Congress of the Disciples of Christ.

Our World's Congress has passed into history. It was in every way a success, not disappointing, but surpassing our expectations. The attendance was even larger than we had anticipated. And the addresses were all of a high order; broad, scholarly, dignified, and worthy to be heard in the World's Parliament of Religions.

The speakers gave forth no uncertain sound. They spoke not as those in quest of truth, but as those who had found Him, who is "the way, the truth and the life." In this great Babel of voices, in the Pantheon of the nations, when so many seem to be feeling after God if haply they may find Him, it was refreshing and stimulating to listen to these clear and settled utterances of men who "know whom they believe," and who have attained unto the place which comes from an unmistakable trust in a personal Redeemer.

First came the address by Regent H. W. Everest, on "The Church of the First Century," which the Tribune reporter characterized as "fiery." It was indeed "fiery," but its fire was not that which destroys, but purifies. It was a perfectly fearless arraignment of modern day departures from the faith and practice of "The Church of the First Century." And if, as the Tribune reporter declared, it would have stampeded the crowd had it been delivered in the Hall of Columbus before the World's Parliament of Religions, it would not have been the first time a crowd was stampeded by the truth fearlessly spoken.

The reporter was mistaken. He did not know enough to know that the very purpose of these denominational Congresses was just such a declaration of principles, clear and brave, as Regent Everest made in his masterly address on "The Church of the First Century."

Following this came the address of F. D. Power, of Washington, D. C., on "Christian Union." It was a clear, eloquent and forceful setting forth of the grounds of Christian Union, and delivered in the charming and winning way of this most pleasing pulpit orator. The audience was delighted both with the speech and the speaker.

The closing address in this, our presentation before the World's Parliament of Religions, was made by W. T. Moore, of London, England, editor of the Christian Commonwealth. His theme was "The Church of the Future." It was a masterful address, character-

ized by great breadth of thought and delivered in the earnest and forceful manner of the speaker. The address made a profound impression on the audience.

These three addresses were delivered in the Hall of Washington, in the Memorial Art Palace. The remaining sessions of the Congress, except the last, were held in a smaller hall in the same building, and the last session in the Central Church of Christ.

It is not our purpose to speak of all the addresses in particular, but merely to express our great satisfaction and delight with them, and that they have so well fulfilled, and more than fulfilled, our expectations of what our World's Congress should be.

The following addresses were delivered in Hall XXVI of the Art Palace, and in the order named: J. H. Garrison, St. Louis, Mo., "Biblical Anthropology—the Key to Some Religious Problems;" Prof. B. J. Radford, Eureka, Ill., on "Christianity the only solution of the Problems of the Age;" Hon. W. D. Owen, Washington, D. C., on "The Church and the Masses;" President E. V. Zolliars, Hiram, Ohio, on "The Creed that Needs no Revision." None of these addresses fell below the standard. One was characterized by "sweetness and light," another was philosophical and subtle, another epigrammatic and brilliant, another scriptural and strong. And all were marked by clearness of thought and elegance of diction.

The closing session of the Congress was held in the Central Church of Christ, where a ringing address was made by B. B. Tyler, of New York city, on the "Promise of Christian Union in the Signs of the Times." No man among us certainly has done more, and probably no man has done so much, to advance the great cause of Christian union as this genial and gifted brother. In beginning his address he made reference to what was intended to be a pleasant allusion to himself as a "hobbyist" on Christian Union by saying, "I have a stable, and in it many steeds, well-fed and well-groomed. One of these I call Christian Union. It is my favorite, and on it I make the best time." Right well did he ride this favorite, and his splendid address was a fitting close to this great Congress of the Disciples of Christ.

The brethren who presided over the various sessions of the Congress were: T. P. Haley, of Kansas City, Mo.; Prof. W. F. Black, of Chicago, Ill.; W. T. Moore, of London, England, and A. M. Atkinson, of Indiana. These names are a sufficient guarantee that the features of the Congress were not wanting in grace and dignity.

"Two things about this Congress," said W. T. Moore, "profoundly impress me. The first is its exaltation of Jesus Christ; the second is its fearless loyalty to the Word of God." Many things have come and gone in Chicago during these three days, but none could have come and gone of which a greater thing could be said than this.

The World's Parliament of Religions will ere long close its doors, and the multitudes have made their exit, but two things will abide forever, the Christ and the Word of God, and the people who are loyal to Christ and faithful to His Word have a future before them, and nothing can stop their growth.

I cannot conclude this brief notice of our Congress without expressing the deep regret we all experienced at the absence of Alexander Proctor, of Independence, Mo., whose name was on the program for an address on "The Higher Criticism." His absence was a sad disappointment to us all. His serious illness prevented his attendance. In a telegram received from him just

before the Congress were the words, "deepest regrets." It is our prayer that this sickness may not be unto death, but that the Father may spare to us for many years to come this sweet spirited and great souled man.

The publication of the addresses was left in the hands of the local committee of the World's Congress, and we hope soon to set before our whole brotherhood this feast of good things.

J. W. ALLEN.

In behalf of World's Congress Committee.

CHICAGO, Sept. 15, 1893.

Never Soiled His Lips.

We could not help overhearing an elderly gentleman conversing with half a dozen young college boys the other day. He told them that never in all his life had he soiled his lips with a profane or an obscene word, or a drop of strong drink. He made the ascription with no semblance of conceit, but with a ring of gratitude in his voice that God had kept these, if not other, strains from marring his character. A kind of prig, or a goody-goody, milk-and-water personage, do you fellows who are just blossoming into manhood, call him? Ah! but you should have seen his erect carriage, his dignified, yet modest bearing, his pure face, and, most of all, the loving and admiring glances with which those boys regarded him. Perhaps some of them prayed that night more earnestly than ever, for clean lips and a pure heart.

The poet Burns says: "Dyspepsia is the devil." It is, but where he assumes this form he is easily gotten rid of by K. D. C. Use K. D. C.

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