

OUR HOME CIRCLE. BREAKING THE NEWS.

The sunshine on the kitchen floor Was darkened, through the kitchen door...

THE SECRET OF THE LORD.

The following is a chapter from "Memorials of Isaac Marsden," a recently-deceased English local preacher.

One Sunday morning while he was staying at my house, we left home together about ten o'clock...

He met a group of young men evidently bent on Sabbath-breaking, and very kindly invited them to chapel.

He had a cheery word and a kindly invitation for everybody, and he distributed his tracts and leaflets and texts of Scripture.

Suddenly, without a word to me about his intentions, he withdrew his arm from mine, and abruptly turned down a narrow passage almost blocked up by waggons and carts and farming implements.

It proved to be a 'hush shop,' where ale was sold without license and during the hour of Sunday-closing.

'Lord, I have called them, but they will not obey. As they will not come to Thee, do Thou in mercy visit them.'

This man was the village carrier, and often his horses had found their way home from a neighboring town to their own stable door.

the parcels in the cart, and it was a work of considerable difficulty to drag his helpless form into the house.

The prayer for the next man was to this effect: 'Great God, save this swearing man! He takes Thy name in vain; he cannot talk without swearing; every other word is an oath; he is sinking down to hell as fast as time can carry him.'

The stick was moved to the third man's shoulders, and there came a prayer: 'Lord, save this poor gaol-bird! He has been hunted like a partridge for his sins; he has been a poacher and a thief, but Thou canst save him.'

The fourth was a young man of sallow complexion and shabby-genteel appearance; and when the stick reached his shoulders, he trembled visibly.

Still the stick went round the table, resting on each man's shoulder in order; and the preacher gibbeted each man's besetting sin, and sketched his character to the life.

There was no escape for the men. They were caught red-handed, breaking the law in drinking on unlicensed premises, and during prohibited hours.

When he had finished this strange-service, he resumed his journey to the chapel, as though nothing had happened.

I am not aware that he told anybody where he had been or what he had been doing.

The drunkards blamed me for revealing their hiding-place to the preacher, and furnishing him with information as to their histories, and peculiarities, and habits; and

they would not believe me when I assured them I had never said a word to him on the subject.

The men were so annoyed at this exposure, and the amusement it caused to the general public, that they were anxious to vent their indignation upon him by interrupting his services.

On the following evening they were sitting smoking and drinking in the 'snug' of a well-known public house, and discussing their adventures at the hush shop on the Sunday, when he appeared opposite the window, and commenced an open-air service with a few of his friends.

He was met by two or three staggering truths that fairly knocked his self-confidence out of him; and then he lost his temper and made use of the vilest language.

On the following evening the drunkards had some difficulty in finding a champion. As we were singing in an adjoining public-house, one of the ringleaders said to an impulsive, reckless young fellow in the room: 'Tom, thou dare not go an harken to yon felly praychin.'

He promised his sainted father he would meet him in glory; and he promised his pious mother that he would follow her to heaven.

Among those who followed us to the chapel were a number of navies. They had been attracted by the commotion and uproar in the streets, and doubtless expected some excitement at the service.

According to the figures compiled by the clerks in the Bureau of Statistics, in 204 out of the total number of 11,085 marriages in 1882, the bridegrooms were under twenty years of age.

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who seldom spoke without oaths and curses, looked up into the preacher's face, and with tears in his eyes said, 'Master, pray for me.'

'No,' said he, 'pray for yourself.'

'What must I say?' he asked. 'Tell the Lord how bad you have been,' was the answer.

He was soundly converted, and joined Tom and several of his old companions in Christian fellowship and evangelistic work.

There was a genuine revival of religion throughout the place, and all churches and congregations caught the infection.

THE LAW OF LOVE.

Pour forth the oil—pour boldly forth; It will not fail until Thou findest vessels to provide Which it may largely fill.

AERIAL NAVIGATION.

Germany and Russia are both pushing forward experiments in flying machines for use in war or otherwise. It appears that the direction in which these are working is the only one likely to be successful.

PEOPLE WHO MARRY.

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and 59 women between 50 and 55. Seventy men and 20 women were married who were over 55 and under 60.

TRAINING THE MEMORY.

The late Thurlow Weed had a wonderful memory. He retained faces, names, dates and facts. In answer to one who had asked him if he had ever done anything to strengthen his memory, Mr. Weed replied by giving an account of a method which had accomplished two things—it made his wife a confidant, and it developed a surprising memory.

DONT SELL IT TO THEM.

One day a young man entered the bar-room of a village tavern and called for a drink.

WELL TRAINED.

A Protestant little girl being asked by the priest to attend his religious instruction, refused, saying it was against her father's wishes.

OUR YOUNG FOLKS.

The little birds that fly and sing, So happy, blithe, and free, Are water-drinkers every one— Teetotalers true, like me.

AN HONEST BOY.

In a country school a large class were standing to spell. In the lesson there was a very hard word. I put the word to the scholar at the head, and he missed it; I passed it to the next, and so on through the whole class, till it came to the last scholar—the smallest of the class—and he spelled it right; at least, I understood him so, and he went to the

head, above seventeen boys and girls, all older than himself. I then turned round and wrote the word on the black-board so that they might all see how it was spelled, and learn it better.

KILLED BY A WORM.

A gentleman was walking with a friend one day through his beautiful grounds, when they came to a fine large tree that was decayed to the very core.

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THE... SIM... The a... lem—The... ganically... been still... authorita... Samar... an impu... Christian... Jewish se... tion of th... tans, it c... daim... They s... excessive... therefore... important... to the C... these Sam... the same... was sent b... Hence he... or primat... Recite... er clearly... the power... bestowed... Luke sp... common... Grou rec... his child... gifts who... tam end... the gospo... of Christ... The r... of such a... strong pr... view that... with the... these sur... apostles... Laid... This was... prenuity... own cho... twelve—w... imitated... to any su... Ghost... (chap. 10... (chap. 19... cost, in w... seems to... of the sa... each time... or socor... in the Ba... great reli... general... East of th... liverer;... Jews wen... many im... of this fa... Simon of... Cyprus;... Oriental... claimed b... ation fro... with a be... represent... ation; a... silla, the... sequently... continued... probably... mon saw... visible, a... of laying... was not t... miracle... mon, the... on Simon... postured... converts... themselves... and mro... laying on... regarded... the Holy... power, (w... ly, as one... nat metho... sition, and... every thi... wanted to... Whether... or wheth... in the nat... the accou... latter sup... ently pro... From h... in only... Christian... Clearly, h... himself d... the laying... out atten... tion was b... presented... is probab... brought... premonit... that he ac... as to the... of the Gu... as that... James 2... Julius... have boy... They mo... is not an... of a const... stantion... Peter ad... forgiveness... Report... may pray... bad as Sim... doth not... ducts and... —Here ex... mon's obt... pressed... here exp... Simon, in... Holy Gho... The un... refer the d...