

No visitor should miss the thrilling drive to the summit of Mount Hamilton. I said good-bye to the Hotel Vendome, and to friends I had made there with regret, and by one of the best constructed railroads upon the continent passed Stanford University, Stanford stock farm, and reaching San Francisco completed a most interesting, instructive and enjoyable round trip.

Want of space forbids me speaking of many other things of great interest which I saw, and of the many pleasant people I met.

Every Epworth Leaguer, who can, should attend the great convention to be held next July in San Francisco, and should not fail to take the side trip through Southern California.

Toronto, Ont.

THE QUEEN IN THE HOME.

BY REV. R. J. TRELEAVEN.

IN a small village burial ground in the South of England stands a little marble monument, marking the resting place of the remains of a beloved wife and mother. That marble slab bears this inscription placed there by the direction of his husband, who knew whereof he spoke:

"Mother—
"She Made Home Happy."

What a testimony of precious worth! What a tribute of deserved praise, concerning that mother's loyalty, loving devotion, wise direction and gracious influence in the home? Surely not less suggestive, not less precious, the testimony to the sweet, pure life, the hallowed influence, the noble example of the home-life of the Queen are the words of her royal son on accession day: "My first and melancholy duty is to announce to you the death of my beloved mother."

He speaks of the irreparable loss of such a mother, and declares that it will be his constant endeavor always to follow in her footsteps. Such a filial tribute makes it easier for us in our grief to sing "God Save Our Noble King." These were not idle words. This was no formal State message. Coming from one who knew the inner life of the home, who knew so well a mother's love and care and wise control, a mother's loyalty to the duties and responsibilities of the home, these words of our King speak volumes of tender, precious, cherished memories.

The home, God's first, best institution in the world. The home is the foundation of the Church and of the State. The springs of national purity and power are in the homes of the people. When the home life is corrupt the knell of a nation's greatness is being tolled by the hand of doom. The ministries of the home have gladdened and sweetened or poisoned and embittered life the world over. Home is the place of grandest opportunity to prepare for public life. It is from the culture and refinement of the home that our best hopes with regard to the social and national life are to spring.

Several things contributed to make the Royal palace what it was in very many respects—a model home. First, there was previous preparation for the making of such a home. The duties, responsibilities and sanctities of this holy of holies are not to be lightly esteemed or thoughtlessly entered upon. Yet oft-times the words are true, "Fools rush in where angels fear to tread." The story of the home-life of the Queen cannot be rightly told without a tribute to the noble-minded woman, the Duchess of Kent, who, in the Queen's early life, by careful, constant, prayerful attention to the culture, development and enrichment of all her physical, moral and mental powers, sought to prepare her for the high offices and sacred duties of wife, Queen and mother.

When we remember the Queen's pure life, her integrity, faith, love, courage, tenderness and devotion, let us not forget that in the home of her childhood, she was rooted and grounded in those principles that make for purity of heart,

upon personal regard, esteem, worth, is the only legitimate basis of marriage, and such was the love of our noble Queen. She says of Prince Albert, "there cannot exist a purer, dearer, nobler being than the Prince." To him she gave her heart, hand, love and life, saying "What is in my power to make him happy, I will do." And to her vow and covenant she was faithful till death did part, till life rejoined, when she had crossed the bar.

As a mother in the home, may it not be said of her as of the Royal Psalmist in the 101st Psalm, "I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way. I will walk within my house with a perfect heart. I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes." She walked circumspectly. Her household was hallowed; her home-life consecrated; her private labors sanctified and blessed by the sweet and gentle aroma of her pure and holy life. The Bible was a constant companion and guide. Her daily intercourse with Heaven purified all the streams of life and influence permeating the home circle. Hers was the rich heritage of an unsullied character, a pure conscience, a stainless life, and with these treasures the favor and approbation of God. This, "that nothing earthly gives or can destroy, the soul's calm sunshine and the heart-felt joy," is virtue's prize. Oh, noble Queen, virtuous wife, saintly-loving mother, thy price is far above rubies. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all. Thy children rise up to-day and call thee blessed.

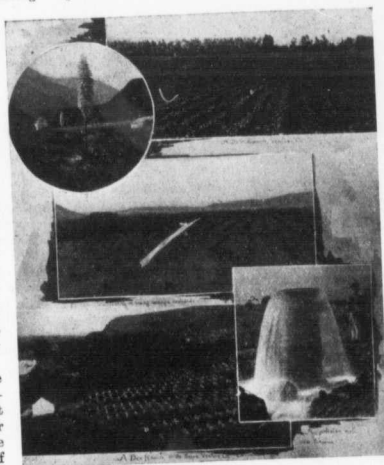
Brantford, Ont.

AN EXCELLENT PLAN.

THE Michigan Christian Advocate gives a striking illustration of the industry and also shrewdness of Bishop Ninde. It says: "Once, when a pastor, 'Bro. Ninde' was imposed upon by too frequent and too long calls from a certain parishioner. His kindness would not allow him to lock the door against the intruder, so he hit on this expedient for gratifying the old brother, and at the same time doing his own work.

On the next call, picking up a certain book he was eager to read, he said to his visitor: 'Have you read this book? Now, I wish you would listen and give me the benefit of your judgment;' and he began to read. On and on he went until the call ended, and the book was laid aside with the understanding that it would be taken up when they could mutually agree upon it. During these calls that volume was read and its contents mastered, and the caller delighted in thinking he had helped his pastor."

In commemoration of the historic service held outside St. Paul's Cathedral on the occasion of the Jubilee of 1897, an inscription is being cut in the pavement below the steps leading to the west entrance. It begins thus: "Here Queen Victoria returned thanks to Almighty God."



CALIFORNIA SCENES.

righteousness of life and nobility of character, which constitute the crowning glory of ideal womanhood.

Secondly, another great factor in this beautiful home-life was the Queen's marriage, a union which was endorsed by the most cordial response of the nation. Her marriage was no mere convenience contracted for State reasons, as has often been the case. Her marriage was one of deep, true, pure, abiding affection, the pledging of the heart and hand together to one who was so worthy of both. The union was a union of two loving hearts that beat as one. Thus united, there was established in England's stately palace a type of family life that was destined to produce a "royal family," not in name only, but in character and life. There was established a type of family life destined to be a benediction and honor to the nation and to the world. Love based