

growing drinking habits are now giving their time and money to their homes instead of spending it in the saloon. Gambling houses are less numerous, the occasional visitor to Lewiston returns home sober, and fights and draws and disturbances are less frequent. The duties of the policemen are much easier than they have been for many years. The administration of Sheriff Cummings is characterized by great tact and marked ability. An attorney well qualified to speak on the matter says, "We have never had a more prompt and efficient executive in the county than he. I am coming more and more to feel that the sheriff is an ideal man for the place, enforcing the law serenely, impartially, with an vein of malice, kindly in manner, incorruptible, honest and zealous. I am satisfied if he goes on as he is now. He is doing well. It is a most difficult office. I believe we can rely on him." These five months have proved that prohibition laws can be enforced consistently and fairly and that much good results to the people. The cities of Auburn and Lewiston are cleaner. The people can hold up their heads unashamed. All these things have not been accomplished without disappointment, but the citizens of the twin cities have the satisfaction of knowing that the right thing is being done.

G. M.

Cease Searching, and Receive.

A lady told her minister that she had been seeking and longing in vain for the presence of the Holy Spirit. This gift of God was her chief desire, but still beyond her attainment.

"Dear lady," said the good man, "the other morning I searched about diligently, but all in vain, for my stocking. I wanted it, but could find it nowhere. Suddenly I discovered in reality I had it on! Madam, you have what you desire. Your seeking and longing prove the indwelling of God's Holy Spirit; and all you have to do is to cease searching, and be happy in receiving."

The lady found peace in believing, for she understood that her prayers had hitherto exceeded her faith.

A Novelist's Faith

When very old Victor Hugo wrote: "I feel in myself the future life. I am rising, I know, toward the sky. The sunshine is over my head. Heaven lights me with the reflection of unknown worlds. You say the soul is nothing but the result of bodily powers; why, then, is my soul the more luminous when my bodily powers begin to fail? Winter is on my head and eternal spring is in my heart. The nearer I approach the end the plainer I hear around me the immortal symphonies of the worlds that invite me. It is marvelous, yet simple. It is a fairy tale, and it is a history. For half a century I have been writing my thoughts in prose, verse, history, philosophy, drama, romance, tradition, satire, ode, song—I have tried all. But I feel that I have not said a thousandth part of what is in me. When I go down to the grave I can say, like so many others: 'I have finished my day's work,' but I cannot say, 'I have finished my life.' My day's work will begin the next morning. The tomb is not a blind alley. It is a thoroughfare. It closes in the twilight to open to the dawn. I improve every hour because I love this world as my fatherland. My work is only beginning. My work is hardly above its foundation. I would be glad to see it mounting and mounting forever. The thirst for the infinite proves infinity."

"During the twenty years, 1881 to 1900 8,250 persons died of delirium tremens in England and Wales.

Pauline Tact and Courtesy

By O. P. Eaches.

Paul's courage and hopefulness and eloquence and earnestness stand out conspicuously in all his writings. They could not be hidden. He was unselfish, caring more for others than for himself. He was full of sympathy—if others were burdened he took a part of the burden himself. He was a man independent in spirit—he would not build on another man's foundation. He was efficient in organization—the care of all the churches rested on him.

In the New Testament one figure, commanding and supreme, is found, Jesus Christ. Apart from Him the New Testament and Christianity would have no existence. Next to Him an organizer, defender, exponent, men instinctively think of Paul. There was in him a large native capacity in which the Holy Spirit could work. The Divine grace, humanly speaking, could not have done a first class work through a second rate man. By common consent Paul was a genius. He was not a man with an imposing personal presence—but he was a man of an imposing intellectual and moral presence.

But his success in life, his mastery of men and of affairs was not due simply to his commanding powers. He did not go through life depending on revelation and inspiration and genius to grant him success. His life was not like a cyclone, sweeping everything in its way. He had a genius also for good judgment, for tact, for the art of knowing men, for courtesy. He approached men in a kind and conciliatory way. He was not abrupt, and rude, depending on the power of the truth to win its way.

At Athens the common version represents him as saying, "I perceive that in all things ye are very superstitious." It would have been an impossibility for Paul to have spoken in this way. Their minds would have been embittered against him and his message. How conciliatory does his address begin: "I perceive that ye are very religious." He would never trifle with the truth to please men—but his recognition of their devout spirit would conciliate them and make an opening for the utterance of new teachings. He was tactful and courteous. When Paul went to the conference at Jerusalem, about 50 A. D., he took a large stock of conviction and good judgment with him. It was a critical time in the history of the Christian churches. The question, in reality, was whether the Christian churches should be large and free, open to all irrespective of race, seeing in Jesus something vastly larger than Moses or whether the churches should be adjuncts of the Jewish synagogues. Paul had conviction in the essential doctrines. He therefore refused to circumcise Titus; he blamed Peter face to face for cowardly turning his back to the truth (Gal. 2). The Pauline teaching won in the conference. But Paul showed his judgment in meeting the leaders of thought privately before the public conference began. That private conference of the leaders (Gal. 2: 2); their agreement in the things that ought to be done, would prevent stormy sessions in public, the display of bitter feelings, and the formation of parties. Paul did not know the meaning of finesse or the tricks of wire pulling—but he did understand human nature; he knew how to approach it in the best way; he knew how to use it.

How courteous and how tactful is his letter to Philenon. Nothing can surpass the delicacy and grace with which he makes requests and suggests obligations. When he would rebuke the Corinthians for selfish display, for partisanship, for unfitting behavior at the Communion he prepares the way by mentioning the praiseworthy things about them. He has large and abiding truths to present. He adds to their weight and effectiveness by his courteous allusion to their gifts and graces. Abruptness and outspokenness would, to a large extent, have defeated the purpose had he viewed. Paul was everywhere and always a gentle man. He was cast in a fine mould. He won men to himself and to a favorable consideration of the truth by a transparent courtesy and manliness of manner. On shipboard he impressed the captain. Whenever he can find opportunity for saying a courteous word he makes use of the opportunity. Speaking before Felix (Acts 24; 10) alludes to the many years during which Felix had exercised his judgeship. Before Agrippa

(Acts 26: 2) he expresses the pleasure with which he addressed him. He carried his truthfulness with him everywhere. His zeal for souls comes out in the words, "I would to God—such as I am" (Acts 26: 29). His unflinching thoughtfulness comes out in, "except these bonds." Paul was a man rooted in convictions. He had with him always a large and sensitive conscience. He would not trifle with the truth of God or with responsibility. But he was considerate of others, studied men and circumstances, was conciliatory in method, thoughtful in expedients, courteous and tactful.

Paul could not have done his large work and made so deep an impress had he been simply an inspired genius. Ten talents will not take the place of tact. No minister or man should be a time server or man pleaser. That belittles a man and gives no room for conscience. But Paul's, "I am become all things to men that I may by all means save some" (1 Cor. 9: 22) reveals a man who adjusts himself to changing circumstances. Fixedness of character and a generous and thoughtful consideration for others, these dwelt side by side in Paul. His ten talents made capacity, his tact made usefulness.

More men in public fail through lack of tact, of consideration, of good judgment than from moral delinquencies or lack of ability. An abundant orthodoxy will not atone for the lack of forethought. Capacity and courtesy must be yoke-fellows. Paul was a genius. Paul became a gentleman. A gentlemanly spirit, having understanding of the times and of men is worth more to the world in effectiveness than a genius devoid of thoughtfulness and tactfulness. Large native powers, the grace of Christ and tact were a triumvirate that made Paul a commanding man.

Proof of Success

A successful mission preacher recently had an amusing experience. He had been taking a mission in a certain rural parish, and, on its conclusion, paid a round of farewell visits with the rector to the parishioners.

Among them was a young dressmaker who had attended the services regularly, and who told Canon——how much she had enjoyed them, and how sorry she was that they were all over.

"Do you think the mission has done any real good?" the Canon asked.

"Oh, yes, sir, it has indeed!" she replied heartily.

"What makes you think so?"

"Well sir," the dressmaker answered, "I don't think you'd doubt it if you only knew how many people have called during the last few days to pay their bills."

Religious News.

After the business meeting SALISBURY, N. B. of the 16th inst., Rev. H. V. Davies accepted the unanimous call from this church to stay another year.

LEE M. TAYLOR, Clerk.

The young ladies of the WOODSTOCK, N. B. church have raised \$45 recently for repairs. Sunday, June 21, the pastor asked the congregation for \$75 additional to pay for the work which would begin the following Wednesday. No one was allowed to give more than \$5 and no one was asked to give less than \$1. He asked them to take \$75 shares in the Lord's work at \$1 a share. In a few minutes 100 shares were taken and there will be more soon. No one was coaxed. It was a purely voluntary offering, given scripturally and that is much better than tea meetings and bazaars though these may have their place. The church is looking forward with great pleasure to the coming of the Maritime W. M. A. S. August 18 20. Z. L. F.