

## CHRISTIAN HOSPITALITY.

One of the Practical Teachings of Christ is that his followers "be given to hospitality" in not only the entertainment of those personal friends of ours who are congenial and delightful to us personally and for themselves alone, but the glad and cheerful entertainment of servants and disciples of Christ for his sake, as they may have need and we opportunity. The story of the good woman who prevailed with her husband to build the chamber on the wall for the entertainment of the prophet, though he was not a popular man at the time, and many words of Christ concerning receiving a disciple or a prophet in the name of a prophet and a disciple, ought to start a new train of thought in the minds of those of us who have neglected this gift.

We would humbly suggest to our readers to think over this matter; and the next time an opportunity comes to them to extend hospitality to one another in the name of Christ embrace it heartily, and show forth the loving kindness of that Lord who does not forget that he was a stranger in the earth himself, and so delights to honor those who have a gracious care for strangers who are in need of entertainment. Let those guests whom you receive on a society or personal basis be who or what they may; but when you extend hospitality in the name of Christ look for the angel who may be in disguise, or at least give entertainment as unto an angel in disguise and your guest will probably prove to be one. — *N. Y. Independent.*

## DISPROPORTIONATE GIVING.

"I ministered once," said Bishop Huntington, "in a church where a pew stood for a million of dollars. There were generous men and saintly women among them,—not a few. But it only happened once, in nine years, that, after I had announced an offering for a following Sunday, a person stopped after the service to say, 'I must be absent next Sunday, and wish you to take my gift now.' She was not a Samaritan, but she was a cook, and she was to be absent to cook a rich man's dinner; and I had some reason to suspect her gift was larger than his." Disproportionate giving is more common than proportionate giving.

## DO MISSIONS PAY?

They pay by whatever standard you apply. Is it the commercial standard? They are the best friends of commerce. They introduce the wants, the decencies, the refinements of civilization; they multiply the customers of the trading nations of the West, and they procure security for the trader. The mission of the Sandwich Islands was a costly effort to the American Board, but two years' profit of the annual commerce would cover all the outlay, and commerce was the fruit of the mission. Mr. Whitmee estimates that every missionary sent to the Southern Seas represents civilizing influences that issue in a trade of £10,000 a year. Is it the political standard? By confession of the government of India they are a strength to our rule, and a factor that is all but indispensable to the contentment, progress, and welfare of the people; and less than a century after our missionaries were forbidden on Indian soil, official Blue-books pronounced them the greatest benefactors of the country.—*Rev. W. F. Stevenson, D. D.*

## PRAYING WITH CHILDREN.

The loving instruction of a mother may seem to have been thrown away, but it will appear after many days. "When I was a little child," said a good old man, "my mother used to bid me kneel down beside her and place her hand upon my head while she prayed. Ere I was old enough to know her worth she died, and I was left too much to my own guidance. Like others, I was inclined to evil passions, but often felt myself checked, and as it were, drawn back, by a soft hand upon my head. When a young man, I travelled in foreign lands, and was exposed to many temptations; but when I would have yielded, that same hand was upon my head, and I was saved. I seemed to feel its pressure as in the happy days of infancy; and sometimes there came with it a voice in my heart, a voice that was obeyed:—'O' do not this wickedness, my son, nor sin against God.'"

Dr Cuyler's article on revivals should be carefully read and its lessons laid to heart. Let the opening year be signalized by earnest prayer and effort on the part of each Christian for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit and He will surely come in quickening power.