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The Cross of Daily Care

"Wait not for some great cross to show
How much with patience thou canst
bear;

Try now thy strength in bending low

To take the cross of daily care;

It may seem poor and small instead,

But it may yet more needful be

To train thee, first of all, to tread

The path of true humility."

—Selected.

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Temperance Ships.—The late Sir Wilfrid Lawson, well known as an English temperance reformer, once remarked to some one who had quite properly criticized the senseless practice of "christening" ships with liquor, that a good temperance lesson might be learned from the custom. "How can that be?" demanded the other. "Well," replied the baronet, "after the first taste of wine the ship takes to the water and sticks to it ever after." Most men who drink at all are, unfortunately, not like the proverbial ship, for they take a taste of wine, and then ever after stick to the wine."

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International Convention.—The Twenty-Third International Convention of the Christian Endeavor Society, held in Seattle during the past summer, was a notable success. Delegates from every State in the Union, a goodly number from Canada, and many from foreign countries were in attendance, the total registration being 13,000. A splendid array of speakers provided a programme of unusual excellence. Our Church was well represented on the platform by Rev. Dr. Wilson, of Toronto, and Rev. W. H. Barracough, of British Columbia, who delivered excellent addresses. The former spoke on "The Saloon Power," and the latter on "How the Parents Can Help."

"The Fairest View on Earth."

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An excursion train from Boston carried a number of Christian Endeavor officials and their friends to Seattle for the International C. E. Convention. They very wisely chose to go over the Canadian Pacific Railway and spent Sunday at Banff, with which, of course, they were delighted. *The Christian Endeavor World* says: "Whoever has not seen the Bow Valley from the great hotel at Banff or from some of the near-by observation-points has not seen the fairest spot at the same time one of the grandest views on earth. Dr. Clark bears witness to this, after his four journeys around the world and his extensive travels in all the continents. The superb mountains, serrated and snow-clad, the swift green river, the tumultuous cataracts, the verdant valley

and the crowded spruces, and the wide sweep of that amphitheatre of glories, made the Sabbath at Banff an experience to be remembered even among the happy hills of heaven."

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Rev. Dr. Clark.—We are glad to publish this month, on our front page, a very good picture of Rev. F. E. Clark, D.D., President of the United Society of Christian Endeavor, who is so much beloved by the young people of all the churches. He has given the best years of his life to the great Christian Endeavor Movement, which he has had the joy of seeing grow from "a little one" to a mighty host of over three millions. We are pleased to know that Dr. Clark's health has been restored, and that he is again engaged in the work that he rightly regards of so much importance. At the Seattle Convention he was received with great enthusiasm and affection. Long may he live!

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Be Natural.—Rev. W. L. Watkinson, in a recent sermon, showed how preachers sometimes made great mistakes. Philosophical preachers tried to be poetical, and poetical preachers tried to preach argumentative sermons; but each failed when he attempted to occupy the ground of the other. He knew of this from his own personal experience. He had a style of his own; and he had sometimes tried to get out of it; but on such occasions somebody always met him at the foot of the pulpit stairs and asked him if he was unwell. Preachers should be natural, giving play to the wide variety and spontaneity of nature. In the wallpaper on his rooms at home the roses were all alike, but in his garden they were all different. Where life and vigor were there was infinite variety, and so it should be in the pulpit. It is also true of all Christian work.

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Prison Discipline in India.—The English authorities have reduced to a science the care of the prison population in India. The large jails of India are, so far as the conditions of the country allow, clean, roomy and busy places. At Montgomery in the Punjab is situated a jail containing over 2,000 inmates. The caste prejudices of all are respected, and the diet of the prisoners is as carefully arranged as that for the training table of a football team. The aim is to keep all the prisoners up to a certain standard of weight and health, with a view to getting the maximum of work out of them. Practically all the work about the jail is done by the inmates. Factories of different kinds are kept running, and the prisoners toil with all the energy they possess to exceed the day's stint and so

receive credit marks on their "history sheets," which means reduction in their sentences, twenty-four marks meaning the remission of one day's time from the sentence. Since rats carry the plague, a reward of ten marks is given to each prisoner who captures a rodent and produces it alive before a jailer. While the prisoners are dull and depraved in appearance, they are very cunning, and will take infinite pains to obtain comforts on the sly. As the prison stands in a broad plain, escape from it is difficult.

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The President's Message.—Theodore Roosevelt, who is in sympathy with all religious and moral reform movements, sent the following sympathetic message to the Christian Endeavors, in convention assembled at Seattle: "I wish to extend to the International Christian Endeavor my heartiest good wishes for the admirable work they are doing. Let me in particular express my earnest hope that you will emphasize the need that the Endeavors should take a first rank in good citizenship. I am glad you are to endeavor to bring this subject so prominently before this meeting. It will be a pleasure to accept honorary membership in your Christian Endeavor Patriots' League, for I am sure that with the general purpose and efforts of that League I shall have the heartiest sympathy, though of course I could not commit myself in advance to agree with all of their views without knowing them. I wish you God-speed in your work, because the Christian Endeavors are working for the things that are vital to the soul, and I believe that they can do much that is of the very greatest value to the cause of good citizenship; for in the last analysis the fundamental requisite of good citizenship from the standpoint of the country is that a man should have the very qualities which make him of real value in the home; in the church, in all the higher relationships of life."

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A Great Speech.—The *Congregationalist*, in its last issue, puts the emphasis where it belongs in saying: "That was a great speech—though it filled but five lines—made by Mr. R. E. But, president of a Texas oil company, at the convention of Southern Baptist Laymen at Richmond the other day. He was invited to address the assembly. 'Brethren,' said the Texan, 'I never made a speech in my life, and I can't make one now; but if Brother Willingham will send ten new missionaries to China he can send the bill to me! It would be hard for even pulpit oratory to match that utterance in effectiveness.'"