

Pastor and People.

THE TEACHER'S REWARD.

Ye shall shine as the stars in the fadeless forever,
Who turn unto Jesus the perishing here,
Who gently are leading the lambs to the pasture
Where floweth the water so cooling and clear.

Then prayerfully, carefully, go to your labors,
And deal with them wisely, the souls of your
care,

Never forgetting, though lofty or lowly,
How costly a gem is the spirit they bear.

Better by far than all worldly bestowment,
Is the reward that your service will win;
Turning to righteousness souls of the children,
Stooping to gather the poorest ones in.

Time, with its guerdons of honor and treasure,
Soon will be lost in the measureless sea,
But yonder a crown, that is starred with the glory
Of souls for thy hire, will be waiting for thee.

Then turn not thy hand from the work that's before
thee;

Nor suffer thy heart to grow careless and cold;
The seeds ye are sowing with patience and prayer,
Ere long will be waving in harvests of gold.

Not long may it be till the Master shall call thee;
Not long till the time of thy mission is o'er,—
Then work while the day lasts, and ere the night
shadow

Shall gather its gloom—and ye labor no more.
—Sel.

Written for THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

NEW PICTURES—ADVANCE OF THE KINGDOM OF CHRIST.

BY REV. JOSEPH HAMILTON.

It is not easy for us to take such a comprehensive view of the kingdom of Christ as to say whether upon the whole it is advancing. Its advance is something like that of the mighty tide that breaks on all the shores of the world. We have stood on the level, sandy beach where the tide breaks in gentle ripples at our feet. For a time it seemed quite uncertain whether the tide was coming in at all; but after a little, a wavelet larger than the rest came rolling in, and marked a clear advance all along the shore. That slight advance showed us that the vast volume of the waters was tending inward, and that soon the whole beach would be covered by the advancing tide. Yes; but I know another shore where it is very different. When the tide there is on the turn, no man or beast may venture out upon the sands, for there the waters sweep in with such resistless force as to carry everything before them. So it is with the kingdom of God. In some cases it comes gently and silently—almost without observation. In other cases it comes like the sweep of the mighty tide, bearing down all opposition. But whether gently or violently, the kingdom of God will come. As the tide fills every beach and laps every shore, so Christ shall have dominion from sea to sea, and from the rivers to the ends of the earth.

Knox College, Toronto.

A GOOD WAY TO CONDUCT BUSINESS.

A merchant in New York had pledged to the Lord a certain portion of his business receipts as fast as they were collected. He called this the Lord's insurance money, for, said he, "so long as I give, so long will the Lord help and bless me and in the same way will He give me the means to give. It is a blessing to my heart to keep it open in gratitude; a blessing to dispose of it to gladden other hearts, and the surest way to keep the Lord's favor with me." The results of his experience were blessed, indeed, as he said: "I never realized before, how He helps me in all my plans.

"Things happen daily which show me that some one who knows more than I, is protecting me. Bad debts have been paid that I did not expect. Errand boys just getting into sly and bad habits have been discovered ere their thefts proceeded far. As I needed competent help in my business, it has come just as I needed it.

"When customers were about to fail, somehow their debts were paid although they failed to pay others.

A severe fire came to my office and seemed to have swept all my valuables away, but it was stopped at just the right moment, and not

one valuable was lost. The insurance company paid me enough to replace every damage, and the office was renewed better than before. The Lord sends me business enough to pay all debts, while others are dull.

"I cannot tell why it is, except that I always pray for my business, and ask the Lord to bless it for the good of others, and that the means which come from it may be used for His cause.

"When I stop giving, business stops coming. When I stop praying for it, perplexities arise. As long as I pray for it, all moves easily and I have no care or trouble.

"The Lord is my banker, my insurer, my deliverer, my patron, and blessed guardian of temporal things as well as spiritual." — *Wonders of Prayer.*

ORIGIN OF THE KING'S DAUGHTERS.

I am often asked to tell the first thought I had of the Sisterhood that resulted in the Order of the King's Daughters. I was crossing the Atlantic Ocean. I had met on deck some young fellows who had been tramping through Switzerland, and learned they were from some theological seminary. One morning I was startled at hearing of the death of one of these young men. He had been ill only a few days, and I learned that through his sickness, while delirious, he had constantly called for his mother. As I paced the deck in the days that followed, and looked up at the boat that swung day after day with his body in it, I thought if I had only been in a Sisterhood wearing a badge that would have denoted service to humanity, they might have asked me if I would like to see the young man who called for his mother, for I learned that no woman had seen the youth during his illness, and I pictured to myself how glad the mother would have been if I could have written to her and told her I had seen her boy. At that hour I wished for a Sisterhood that should not be known by any distinct dress, but by some kind of a badge. I did not speak of this thought to any one.

A few months passed and Dr. Edward Everett Hale called to see me on business. As he was passing out he said, "Mrs. Bottome, I wonder you do not found a Sisterhood." And the word Sisterhood took my thoughts back to the steamer. Not many days after I invited four friends of mine who had been associated with me, and they came to my home, and we decided each to invite some friend, a consecrated woman, and to meet the week following and there would then be ten of us, and I felt sure Dr. Hale would lend us his idea of "ten times one is ten." When later I wrote to him about it he answered, "You are welcome, Mrs. Bottome, to any idea of mine that you can use."

The lovely woman, Mrs. Theodore Irving, who suggested the name for the new Sisterhood of service, "The King's Daughters," has passed into the beautiful beyond.

I was made president of that first ten, not because I was better fitted to be president than some of the others present, but simply because the forming of such a ten was my suggestion, and later, as you know, the word "tens" was dropped and the word "Circles" substituted. In all the Circles there is a president, a secretary, and a treasurer. — *Mrs. Bottome, President of the Order, in Ladies' Home Journal.*

A WORD OF CHEER FOR CHRISTIAN WORKERS.

Discouragement no more attends or opposes Christian, than it does worldly effort. Weeds and briars are sure to spring up and flourish under the same conditions as sprout and mature the precious fruits. That farmer would have little credit at bank or store who hesitated to scatter the seed at the summons of spring, because Canada thistle and snapdragon and the general host of obnoxious vegetation were likely to take advantage of the prepared ground and warming sun. Tares will grow with wheat. But this does not hinder from planting wheat. The good must

have culture and encouragement. The bad, opposition and extermination. This is nature's parable. In making the wilderness glad and the desert blossom, the children of the light must be as wise as the children of the world. The farmer knows that the soil is the place for the seed. He knows that the sun will shine and that dew and rain will fall. And he knows, too, that whatever it may be in degree of reward and remuneration, the harvest time will come.

And every Christian laborer knows that the human heart, with all its tendencies and susceptibilities to evil, is the place for that seed which is "the Word," and that those operations of Divine power and grace which are as essential to spiritual success as sunshine and rain are for the plant, will not be withheld. It is as true in the one department as in the other, and in both is a matter of experience, not of conjecture or experiment. Many a man has taken hold of some unpromising piece of land, fought with stones and thorns, with marsh or sand, and after years of toil and patience has come out conqueror.

True is this in all departments of secular industry, and truer in the annals of the world-wide field of Christian enterprise. Hindrances are manifold, opposition strong. But the Lord is with those who go forth in the valor of faith. Discouragement is encouragement. Command is promise. Antagonism is strength.

But for those who balk at obstacles, "who dare not climb because they fear to fall," who fret and fume over hindrances, there is no honor from Church or world. The way out of "difficulties," hard times and indifference, want of sympathy and co-operation, is to breast the way through. — *Christian Intelligencer.*

THE PREACHER'S PRAYERS.

Avoid incoherency in prayer. Simplicity is not against order; the very reverse is the case. If you study the Lord's Prayer you will see that there is a beautiful arrangement in it. It begins with the approach of the heart to God, then goes on to God's character, His kingdom, His will; man's bodily wants, his sin in their guilt and tempting power, and the cry for deliverance. It is logical, and yet it is not the logic of the reason, elaborating links and chains, but the logic of the heart, flowing on through the thought, as a stream flows on by its own natural unforced law. I have heard prayers that had neither beginning, middle, nor end, that went backwards and forwards, up and down, mixing body and soul, earth and heaven, in hopeless confusion; and then, when the tone or some customary phrase seemed to give hope, not of a conclusion, but of a cessation, something seemed to be forgotten or remembered, and the vessel which looked like getting over the bar was out at sea again. Oh, if that man only knew what grudges he is creating in hearts below him, he would pray earnestly to be guided better to a becoming close. Therefore aim at order and coherence, that you may know when you will be done, and that others may cherish the hope that you will be done. — *Rev. John Ker, D.D.*

SUMMER HOLIDAYS AND CHURCH DUES.

There are comparatively few church people who have such a high sense of the duty they owe to their church as to see that their Sunday offerings are made during their absence, or made up in a lump sum on their return. We have even heard lately of some members of city congregations who give up their pews for the summer when away upon vacation for the purpose of saving a quarter's pew rent. It is almost impossible to believe that such a spirit could be shown in a Christian congregation, but churchwardens have informed us of actual cases. The times are said to be bad, but it is sad to see retrenchment begin at the house of God, while dress and pleasure make as many demands as ever. The boats, hotels, and summer resorts are said to be more crowded than ever, but many a church has had

to suffer from a diminished revenue, and some of the clergy have been much pinched in their incomes. Church people should remember that the expenses of a church go on all the year round, and are often but little lighter when the revenue suffers most from the absence of members on a summer vacation.

SEIZING OPPORTUNITIES.

A lady, once, writing to a young man in the navy, who was almost a stranger, thought, "Shall I close this as anybody would, or shall I say a word for my Master?" and, lifting up her heart for a moment, she wrote, telling him that his constant change of scene and place was an apt illustration of the word, "Here we have no continuing city," and asked if he could say, "I seek one to come." Tremblingly, she folded it and sent it off.

Back came the answer, "Thank you so much for those kind words! I am an orphan, and no one has spoken to me like that since my mother died, long years ago." The arrow shot at venture hit home, and the young man shortly after rejoiced in the fulness of the blessing of the Gospel of peace.

How often do we, as Christians, close a letter to those we know have no hope "as anybody would," when we might say a word for Jesus! Shall we not embrace each opportunity in the future? — *Southern Churchman.*

The race of grumblers is not yet extinct. They are a poor lot; but they are powerful at times in the churches for mischief. One sinner destroyeth much good. Here one man finds fault with the length of the sermon, or of the prayers in the public congregation. There another man finds fault with the brevity of the sermon—says it was not worth his while to put on his Sabbath attire for a sermon like that. Here one man finds fault with the liveliness of the church music; there another finds fault with its slowness. Here one man finds fault with the audacity of poor people pushing themselves forward in the church before their betters. There another finds fault with somebody and everybody, because the poor people are absent. But why recite the grumbings? Their name is legion. Mr. Moody, with his usual forceful commonsense, administers to them some wholesome admonitions—"If you don't like the churches go in and make them better, but do not become a grumbler. Keep yourself aloof from that class of people for it is the easiest sort of thing to find fault. Any stupid man can do that, but it takes a smart man to make things better. When a man begins to grumble and find fault, you can size him up for a light weight right away." How true this is, anyone of ordinary experience knows full well. The great Apostle says—"Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer." It is a pity that the church is so slow to learn that the greatest of all the graces is not faith but charity, good-will, loving-kindness, gentleness. — *Belfast Witness.*

Joseph Parker preached a sermon recently on the text, "The sons of Eli were the sons of Belial." His main thought has a hundred illustrations every day. The higher the heights, the deeper the depths. Only Eli's sons could be Belial's. No fall so great as the fall from heaven. It took a queen to make a Jezebel. It took an apostle to make a Judas. It took a grandson of Jonathan Edwards to make an Aaron Burr. It took a minister's boy to make an Ingersoll. It took Cornell sophomores to practise refined murder on their fellow-students. It took heathenism to make a Darkest Africa, but it took Christendom to make a Darkest England. The brighter the lights, the blacker the shadows; the loftier the peaks, the lower the valleys. It took an angel to make a devil; "The sons of Eli were the sons of Belial."

Some ministers and churches feel that when a minister is invited into the pulpit of a vacant church it is in order that he may be on trial. We do not regard it in this one-sided way. To us it appears that the church and the ministers are on the same footing in this respect. If the church desires that more intimate acquaintance with the minister which can be obtained only through meeting him personally, the minister should likewise desire a similar acquaintance with the field. Both parties are seeking light, and are on equal terms, and the one ought not to feel himself on trial any more than the other. — *Christian Observer.*

We believe in a *done* salvation and in a *doing* religion. The first produces the last and the last is not genuine without the first.