

interested in missions? Query No. 2. — Are three cents all my sisters are able to give towards saving souls from death?"

"Monday, September 14. — Jean gave me some candy to-day — a part of the pound for which she said she paid sixty cents. If she had very much interest in the heathen couldn't she have given part of this money to the Young People's Association, or in the collection yesterday?"

"Sunday, September 20. Dr. James preached a powerful sermon this morning on 'Honoring the Lord with our Substance.' At the dinner table father said that he didn't like these begging sermons, but I don't see where the begging came in. The minister was not asking anything for himself. He presented God's claim upon our property. It seems to me if God has such a claim, Christians ought to recognize it and meet it."

"Wednesday, September 16. — No one went to prayer meeting to-night. No excuse given."

"Sunday, September 20. — Home Missionary Collection to-day. A very large debt on the board. Great need for new work, so Dr. James said. Father gave fifty cents — all he could afford. He couldn't afford more, I suppose, because the party last week must have cost him a pile of money."

"Sunday, September 27. — Dr. James urged the impenitent to accept Jesus in his sermon this morning. He may be a Christian; I believe he is. But I don't see much evidence of sincerity in any one else. Perhaps I ought to except mother, for she used to hear me say my prayers every night. But father and Jean and Blanche don't seem to take much stock in it. Business, pleasures, parties, dresses, seem to be of much greater importance. For every cent they give to the Church or its work, they spend dollars on themselves. I want to see more evidence of sincerity in them before I can be convinced that I ought to begin a Christian life."

The next evening Paul called at the parsonage. Dr. James had a long talk with him, and gained permission to make use of the diary as he thought best.

In a few days the longed for opportunity came, and Dr. James read the whole sad story to the Harpers, in the absence of Paul. It was a revelation to them. But they did not deny that the inferences of Paul were natural and logical. As Dr. James wished it, it wrought a revolution in the Harper family.

Paul is now a most devoted minister of Jesus, the successor of dear old Dr. James, whom the Lord has taken to Himself. Jean is a missionary in India and Blanche is training another little Paul for the ministry, in which work she has the best of help from Grandpa and Grandma Harper.

THE SOURCE OF PEACE.

The more we have of Christ's presence, the more serenely peaceful we become. An empty heart is always wretched. Wealth, fame, worldly success, cannot satisfy an immortal spirit when it looks at them in the light that conscience flashes on them, or which a glimpse of eternity can give. "Is this all?" whispers the uneasy heart to itself. But the true believer inventories his spiritual treasures, and even in the hardest of "hard times" can say, *Christ is mine!* I am a joint-heir with him to the most magnificent of inheritances! Joy is simply love looking at it's treasures. A Christian's joy is in loving Christ and loving others because Christ loved them; it is in doing good to others, and so having a Christmas all the year round; it is in looking forward to that world of glory where we shall be like him, and shall see him as he is.

"Where I am," is his sweet assurance, "yeshall be also." Jesus offers to fill our homes and our hearts with joy if we will only let him do it. We cannot create canary birds, but we can provide cages and food for them, and fill our dwellings with their music. Even so we cannot create the spiritual gifts and blessings which Jesus offers, but they are ours if we provide heart-room for them. The birds of peace and praise and joy will fly in fast enough if we only set the doors and windows of our souls open for the Christ. — *N. Y. Evangelist.*

HUXLEY'S TRIBUTE TO THE BIBLE.

We have Prof. Huxley's own testimony not only that he is an agnostic, but that he is the author of the term. It is therefore especially interesting to hear what he has to say about the Bible.

"I have always been in favor," says the Professor, "of secular education, in the sense of education without theology; but I must confess that I have been no less seriously perplexed to know by what practical measures the religious feeling which is the essential basis of conduct, was to be kept up, in the present utterly chaotic state of opinion on these matters, without the use of the Bible. The pagan moralists lack life and color; and even the noble stoic, Marcus Antoninus, is too high and refined for the ordinary child. Take the Bible as a whole, make the severest deductions which fair criticism can dictate, and there still remains in this old literature a vast residuum of moral beauty and grandeur. By the study of what other book would children be so much humanized? If Bible reading is not accompanied by constraint and solemnity, I do not believe there is anything in which children take more pleasure. *London Public Opinion.*

UP AND DOWN.

A prominent clergyman in London says that in his congregation is a socialist who, for years, was one of a secret society appointed for the purpose of assassinating the Prince of Wales. The only reason that they did not carry out their plan was that no opportunity occurred, although they dogged his steps with a persistency worthy a better cause.

One Sunday afternoon this ringleader of the gang came to Church and heard the clergyman, the singing, the prayers, and somehow they formed the turning point in his life. He became a devoted Christian, and is now one of the most exemplary workers in the church guild to which he then became attached. Perhaps the change in his outlook could not be better expressed than in the testimony that he often gives in the social meetings of the church, after the following fashion: "My brothers, once my creed was this, 'Down with everything that is up,' but it has changed, and now I say, '*Up with everything that is down.*' One means destruction, the other building." — *Union Signal.*

One of the first lessons I learned as a pastor was that if I would succeed I must let others have the honor, must put them on the throne, while I was the unseen power behind the throne. It is not the figure head in the bow, but the unseen screw beneath the water, that makes the steamship go. For all those who desire to see the cause of Christ prosper, the advice "In honor preferring one another" is the "open sesame" to success; while one of the greatest dangers in the church is the seeking of honor for ourselves. This is the rock upon which many a noble cause has been wrecked. — *Peloubet.*