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FROM THE PAPERS.

The misplacement of a comma has defeated a law of the Illinois legislature relating to the publication of the receipts and disbursements of the school funds.

Two free kindergarten training schools have just been established in Chicago, which opens a pleasant prospect of in-struction for the neglected little ones

A Georgia colonel is said to have given the order to his regiment, "Advance five paces to the rear!" This is just what the leaders of Advanced Thought are asking us all to do. - Christian Index.

The Pittsburg Young Men's Christian Association has raised \$50,000 as a building fund toward the erection of a magnificent house, to be fitted with all the appliances which can make Christianity delightful to the young men.

The Chicago Christian Army has been organized under Bishop Fallows, of the Reformed Episcopal Church. Its members will wear a uniform, and march through the streets to the music of a

"We have now," says the New York Herald," a legal administration. The President, the Vice--president, Speaker of the House, and all the members of the Cabinet, have been active members of the bar."

A New York paper remarks; "Mr. A—has just died worth \$10,000,000. When he meets God he will have two hard questions to answer, namely: First how did you get that money? Secondly, what did you do with it?"

You pay your clerks or hired hands monthly or weekly, and that is right. They need it. You defer payment of the preacher's salary until the end of the year, and that is wrong. He needs Hall, Rector of Shir and, refused to too. - Nashville Advocate.

The pastor of a New England church stated in a recent public address, that of 160 persons admitted to his church on profession of their faith during a certain period, 140 were members of the Sunday-school. Another pastor, on a similar occasion, stated that of 121 thus admitted, 98 had been members of the Sunday-school.—S. S. World.

A well-named secret society is that of the "Guardian Angels" in Washington. It is composed of ladies, among whom is Mrs. Senator Logan, a warm-hearted and devoted Methodist lady, and an earnest temperance crusader. The work of the "Guardian Angels" is to attempt to save, by gentle and social influences, such members of Congress as are liable to become victims of intemperance.

In illustration of the taste of colored Church members in the Southern States for the ministerial career, Professor Simmons, of the Louisville Theological Seminary, recently remarked that he knew of one county in which there were eighty colored Baptist ministers, licentiate and ordained, and some Churches in which half the male members were in the same category.

M. W. Tupper writes to The Rock that it is in contemplation to follow the usage of foreign courts, and extend invitations for the Royal receptions to Cardinals Manning and Newman, in virtue of their office. Mr. Tupper thinks that the intervention of the Pope for the pacification of Ireland would be purchased at too high a price by such an act.

Rev. Dr. Parkhurst, preaching to his people in the Madison Square Presbyterian Church, New York, on last Sunday morning, on Practical Christianity, made a remark which is as well worth remembering as it is true and pointed "There will be," said he, "as many pulpits down town to morrow as there are true, earnest Christian lives down town

More than half-eighty out of a hundred and twenty eight-of the convictions in the Judicial county of York, Ontario, last year are traceable to strong drink. It would serve a good purpose to have statistics on this point for the whole Dominion gathered and published annually. The people should know the burden the liquor traffic imposes upon them. Perhaps the Dominion Alliance could organize a system of collecting and publishing information on God has not treated man as he ought to. the subject. - Montreal Witness.

The Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette says that "it is wonderful what Irish Churchmen have done during the past ten years for their Church—certainly more than for hundreds of years previously: Cathedrals built or restored; churches built, rebuilt, and adorned; glebe houses erected all over the country. The Irish Church Act, whatever else it testant Church of Ireland.

A pastor was to be called. The session came together, and at once the question was raised, "What kind of a man do we want for a pastor ?" One man wanted a man who would be popular with all the Church. Another wanted one who would be popular with the outsiders. There was present an elder who had kept silent all the time. He was asked what kind of a man he wanted. He answered, "I want a man who is popular with God."

The New York correspondent of the London Record says that with three or four exceptions the entire graduating class in the General Theological Seminary were "Catholic" in their sympathies; that is to say, un-Evangelical on the whole, and un-Protestant. Speaking of a future bishop, he says, also, that "not for one moment do our people propose to hand over the church in this diocese to a man of the way of thinking of the Rector of Trinity Church."

A broken wheel caused the railroad accident in Iowa last week, which sent two passenger coaches whirling down an embankment, and inflicted fatal injuries on three persons and serious hurts on twenty others. The point for investigation in this case is whether the wheels were thoroughly examined before the train started. Probably a careless employe, whose business it was to sound them with a hammer, skipped the very wheel in which a flaw had developed. —

The Protestants in English-speaking countries are steadily increasing their ratio. In 1801 the Roman Catholics in the United Kingdom and the United States were about 6,000,000 to 15,000, 000 Protestants; that is, they were a little less than one in three of the population. In 1880 the Roman Catholic population of the two countries is 12,-000,000 to 74,000,000 Protestants; that come down to barely a seventh of the

The Echo says: It will be remembered that some time back the Rev. J. register a Nonconformist burial in accordance with the provisions of the Burials Act. At the cost of about £200 to Mr. Hall, a mandamus was obtained to compel him to register. Rather than make a martyr of himself like Mr. Green the Rector of Shirland has obtained some neighbouring clergyman to make the entry for him. So long as the entry is made, we presume it matters little to the court whether it is written by Mr. Hall, or his friend, or his clerk, or his gardener.

The Roman Catholic population of Gibraltar is busily engaged in the assertion of its rights against what is considered priestly intrusion. A Vicar Apostolic has been appointed who is not acceptable. Personally, it seems, this Dr. Canilla is respected, but he is young. has had little experience, and is wanting in such attainments as would ensure the public confidence. It is needless to describe the riotous proceedings which have taken place. The temper of the populace is roused, and it is evident that Spanish members of the Romish Church have somewhat modernised their opinions as to the relations between priest and people. - Methodist Recorder.

It is announced by one of our daily journals that "a school for brewing has been established in this city, with a miniature brewery, in which can be brewed twelve gallons of beer at a time The scholars brew beer and, "drink it afterwards." One of them is reported as saying, "It takes us longer to brew it than it does to drink it." It appears that free lectures are given on Sunday afternoons. Thus is the "gospel of beer," being preached and the drinking of beer being promoted in this great metropolis. What will the friends of temperance, ministers and members of Christian churches especially, do about it. - National Temperance Advocate,

(New York.) The Presbyterian, after a considerable discussion, comes to this remarkable conclusion: "We conclude that there are no duties owed by God to man, no responsibility on the part of God to We are sorry to find that the Presbyterian differs on this point from Abraham, who on a matter of duty of God to man, once asked "Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" and had his appeal allowed; and from Paul, who says that if God were to visit man unjustly with wrath he could not judge the world; or from Jehovah himself, who again and again appeals to man's own sense of justice to decide whether

THE GOSPEL IN FRANCE.

To the tour of the Rev. John Paul Cook in Normandy, of which the Evangeliste contains a pleasing report, we give the first place, he being a direct representative of Wesleyan Methodism in France. While the avowed object of may have done, has not ruined the Pro- his inspection was Sunday-schools, he associated himself with evangelistic labours in general, and makes mention, not only of the Rev. W. Gibson, the Rev. G. Whelpton, and others of his own brethren, but also of Lord Radstock and Count Bobrinsky, and the exclusively to three classes—"the indifmembers of the respective families of lerent, the unbelievers, and the Cathothe English and the Russian nobleman. At Honfleur the good work engaged in by them had what some might style a Havre Mr. Cook related his own re-"casual," we would say a "Providential," origin. Calling at the port with no intention beyond preaching the Gos-pel to certain sailors there, the Count one was a poor blind woman, who, pel to certain sailors there, the Count was led to remain some weeks with his family, taking a large hall, to which, at much expense, he invited a succession of Protestant pastors from Paris and other distant places. "For more than two months," relates Mr. Cook, "crowds, sometimes of more than two hundred at once, flocked night after night to hear the simple preaching of the Gospel by pastors arrangelists lawrent seventimes for the Lord forth would only fight for the Lord forth." pastors, evangelists, laymen, semetimes even women and young girls." Such was the stir that the priests took the the alarm, and announced that they would refuse "first communion to any children who might dare to go to the development of the Christian scheme. services for children. The threat, how- Here we are brought to view it as the ever, did not prevent the coming of full and final development of God's plan "twoscore children to the afternoon forsaving sinners. In its origin it anand fourscore grown up persons to the evening services." At one service, in I which Mr. Cook was the preacher, he had the satisfaction of seeing a man, who came afoot from a place three leagues off, and, still more, a woman, notorious for excessive drinking, who from that hour gave up the habit and her heart to God. Similar results attended almost every service. At one, over which Count Bobrinsky, his Countess, and three elder children, together with Mr. Cook, took part, three declared atheists gave up their unbelief, captivated, it would seem, by "the happy family of the Count;" and it was observed that those who yielded at some one of the earlier services became regular attendants at such as followed. Another feature was that of numerous conversions of foreign sailors. Norwegian and English. "On board one ship," says Mr. Cook, "nine out of a crew of twelve were converted in the same week: their captain lamenting with hot tears to me that he had not yet found the same peace." When the Count and his family took leave, two of the largest ships in port were dressed with colours, and nearly all those who had received good assembled on the quay to shake hands with their spiritual benefactors, and receive their adieus. "I," says Mr. Cook, "had the pleasure of accompanying them to Lisieux, and shall never forget the delightful prayermeeting we had in the railway train flying at its highest speed." Now it was that Lord Radstock came to the front, or, rather, Lady Beauchamp, his sister, who had reached Honfleur, with two of her daughters, and two of their lady friends, to spend a month. These ladies in concert with M. Baker, a young Methodist candidate for the ministry, placed there by the Rev. G. Whelpton, of Havre, held meetings and made do-

to organise a church. It should be known that these gentlemen share between them the whole expense, "receiving neither allowance nor help from without ; but the church is beginning to give well, the receipts for the year approaching close upon two thousand francs!" Neither at Havre nor at Rouen do the Methodist labourers come into any conflict with those of the Re-formed Church, but address themselves lics." Of several instances of cheerforth would only fight for the Lord Jesus who had saved him."

THE CROSS OF CHRIST.

Consider the place it occupies in the techtes every other professedly remedial true and is antecedent to all the forms of paganism. The doctrine of Christ crucified looms up amid all the types and shadows of the old dispensation; it is seen in the sacrifices of the fices of the old dispensation would have been without significance and without virtue, its types without the great Antitype, its promises and hopes never to be realized. We have now a "living sacrifice" and a spiritual temple. The work of redemption, adumbrated through long ages, is now complete; the great sacrifice, the wonder of angels, and the terror of devils has been offered; the fearful sentence of death has been annulled, and man may be restored to the favor of his God and live forever. The mighty stream of salvation, gushing up from all the fountains of Divine mercy and love, has swollen into a mighty ocean, whose waters lave the shores of every continent and island on the face of the whole earth. - From Sermons by the Rev. D. W. Clark, D.D.

THE SALVATION ARMY. The Salvation Army is pushing its way into notice more rapidly than ever. Persecution is aiding it, because its adnerents are non-combatants, and though never a week passes without some of their followers being before the magistrates, they generally come away with judicial commendation. It is quite remarkable how the wealthy classes have taken up their cause, and patronized them more with their presence than all their money. It was a great gain to secure the personal presence at their meetmiciliary visits. At Lisieux, as was forings and commendation of the Lord Chancellor of England, Earl Cairns, and merly intimated, Lord Radstock inauhis wife. They have taken a grand step gurated the missionary services. The in advance, in taking an extensive pile announcement of an English "milord" of buildings long used as an asylum for as preacher made a great sensation. orphans. The property is offered them Place after place was taken, until, in the largest to be found, overflowing for \$75,000, and to help them in collectcongregations were gathered of "huning so large a sum, Gen. Booth, originally a Methodist preacher (New Condreds of working-men." The noble nexion), has had a large all-day meeting lord, Mr. Cook tells us, was "nobly in City Road Chapel, and the President aided by his wife and their children. and several ex-presidents of the Wesley. two girls, who formed the police of the hall, overawing by their mere presence an Conference have signed an appeal on behalf of this movement. The Army is such as might be disposed to make a doing the work which the first Methoa noise far more than men could have dist pioneers began to do and did so well. done." In these efforts Pastor Bertin In some places, the Army show so much joined with all his well known energy : more energy than the Methodists, who the English language, "All hail the and Mr. Cook "never before saw him

Gibson in France," the Revs. J. W. find their way to Methodism. Consi- but was sustained amid many vicissi-Herivel and G. Whelpton, have begun dering that this organization only came tudes of life by an all victorious faith. into existence in 1865, its success in numbers far exceeds that of Methodism during the first half century of its existence. The Army has taken for its head quarters large premises in Queen Victoria Street, in the city, at a rental of \$5,000 per annum, and daily meetings are held in the large hall there. Their newspaper, The War Cry, established but a few months ago, has reached a circulation of 160,000 weekly at one cent per copy. It is a real live paper, sparkling and vigorous, and is eagerly read by multitudes of people, chiefly the industrious classes, amongst whom the Army has gathered thousands of trophies. - Eng. Cor. of Central Advocate.

FEWER CONVERSIONS.

One of the most eminent ministers in London writes me this week: "For several weeks we have had very few conversions in my congregation. I have preached with greater fervor than usual the old Gospel, aiming at souls. But I have waited in my vestry in vain for 1792. inquirers. Our mission schools are in full operation, but with hardly any results. At a breakfast company of clergymen held last week, the brethren all around the table admitted that there were never so few conversions in their churches as this year! I cannot be cont ent. I shall encourage a livelier and warmer sort of prayer meeting, and have begged my people to be more in prayer for conversions."

The experience of this faithful and eloquent minister of the Word corresonds with that of a very large porti of our American pastors. In year just closing has not been a year of widespread revivals or of large ingatherings of souls. The drought which lowered the Jew. shadowed forth in the types of the city reservoirs and parched up the paslaw, celebrated by the inspired poets, ture grounds, has had its counterpart in redicted by the prophets, and diligent- a spiritual drought that has seriously ly looked for by all conversant with the affected a great majority of the churches pracles of God. Without this the sacri- in our land. A late editorial article in these columns described some of the effects of this drought in the diminished accessions to the membership of Presbyterian churches. Other denominations acknowledge, to a greater or less degree, the same lamentable lack of conversions. This decline in conversions is not a sudden affair, it has been going on for some time past. A mere "spurt" of fitful effort, a "week of prayer" or a series of extra services do not go deep enough to change an habitual state of things. The present dearth is the result of certain influences that have been operating, not for a day or month, but for several years. A less faithful preaching of vital Bible truths, a growing laxity of the whole style of religious thought and living, an immensely increased worldliness, have all been steadily at work in producing this sad result. A man who has had a long course of fever, does not regain his appetite and strength in an hour. Our Churches have got to do a good deal of "subsoil" work, as well as a good deal of praying for showers, before conversions o Christ will become general and abundant. The votaries of this world are unikely to embrace a religion which is so presented to them as to have no power and no attraction. They don't see enough of Christ in it; and when Christ is "lifted up" in the hearts, prayer and lives of his people, he will draw all men unto him." Certainly is not God's fault that there are less onversions than formerly; it is our fault, and every one of us must meet his or her share of the responsibility. When we begin to cry out, "I am not content to have it so," it will cease to be so, and a new state of things will be een. The rebuilding of Jerusalem's walls required some time, but there was a first stone that each man handled. or the walls had never gone up. -T. L. Cuyler, in N. Y. Evangelist.

A WONDERFUL HYMN.

Edward Perronet, the author of that most inspiring and triumphant hymn in so happy or so zealous." As for Havre, are now so generally respectably quiet, power of Jesus' name," is a benefactor the scene of "the most prosperous and that Methodism is suffering loss, but in whose history is but little known. He most blessed work set on foot by Mr. other places converts made by the Army was a manof great humility of character, and modestly.

He was the son of Rev. Vincent Per-

ronet, an excellent English clergyman of the old school, who was Vicar of Shoreham for fifty years. He left the established church in early life, and became a Methodist. He was a bosom friend of Rev. Charles Wesley, in whose diary mention of him may be found, beginning about the year 1750. He was one of the preachers appointed under the patronage of the Countess of Huntingdon, and, adding an ardent zeal to an humble and sympathetic nature, his labors in the ministry were for a time attended with marked success. But Perronet was at heart an opponent of the union of Church and State, and at last produced an anonymous poem entitled the "Mitre," a keen satire on the national establishment. This hostility brought him under the displeasure of the Countess. He severed his connection with her society, and became the pastor of a small congregation of Dissenters, to whom he preached till his death, which took place in January,

His death was triumphant, and is an evidence of the sincerity of the piety which inspired his rapturous hymn. His majestic faith seemed to lift his soul above the world, and to autedate that coronation day when the cherubic hosts and the redeemed should

" Bring forth the royal diadem. And crown Him Lord of all!"

His dying testimony was : "Glory to God in the height of His divinity ! Glory to God in the death of His humity ! Glory to God in His all-sufficiency! Unto His hands I commend

THE HALF-HEARTED.

When the half-hearted are invited to imitate the holy lives of the Apostles. of such exalted characters is not imitable by ordinary persons. Pleading with such objectors in his day, Chrysostom pertinently asks : "Had not these holy men the same nature in common with ourselves? Came they not into the world in the same way as we did? Were they not nourished with the same food? Did they not breathe the same air? Had not some of them wives and children? Did not many of them carry on the various trades of life! Were they not influenced by the same ties and interests ! Were there not those among them who had even been sunk in the abyss of crime?". Yea, verily, they had the same nature and similar circumstances to contend with as have modern men. Grace made them what they were, and, since the Giver of, all grace is no respecter of persons, grace can make all who are willing, as pure, as devoted, as they were.

THE WORLD'S GLITTER.

Was any woman, do you suppose, ever the better for possessing diamonds? But how many have been made base, frivolous, and miserable by desiring them? Was ever man the better for having coffers full of gold? But who shall measure the guilt that is incurred to fill them? Look into the history of civilized nations; analyze with reference to this one cause of crime and misery, the lives and thoughts of their nobles, priests, merchants, and men of luxurious life. Every other temptation is at last concentrated into this : pride and lust and envy and anger, all give up their strength to avarice. The sin of the whole world is essentially the sin of Judas. Men do not disbelieve their Christ, but they sell him J. Ruskin.

Whatever you do, do it in such a manner, spirit and time, as to make it productive of the greatest possible good. There are many who have such an unhappy method of doing their good acts, as not only to do little or no good by them, but a great deal of evil. It requires much prudence and watchfulness to find out the proper time of performing even a good action. - Adam Clarke.

The old preacher who can decrease gracefully is as beautiful a spectacle as the young one who can increase rapidly