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A. C. CREWS, Editor.

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Make this a Day.

Make this a day. There is no gain
In brooding over days to come;
The message of to-day is plain,
The future's lips are ever dumb.
The work of yesterday is gone—
For good or ill, let come what may;
But now we face another dawn,
Make this a day.

Though yesterday we failed to see
The urging hand and earnest face
That men call opportunity;
We failed to know the time or place
For some great deed, what need to fret!
The dawn comes up a silver gray,
And golden moments must be met,
Make this a day.

The Prince in India.—His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has had a great reception in India. Magnificent spectacles, processions, etc., have been held in his honor, and the people everywhere have shown the greatest patriotic enthusiasm. Tours of this kind do much toward binding together the different parts of the Empire.

Let in the Air.—This is the time of the year when the windows in churches are nailed up, and double windows put on in private homes so that it is almost impossible to secure any fresh air. A request for a little ventilation in several churches, recently, revealed the fact that every window in the building was either nailed up or frozen up, and probably would not be opened again until spring. This is a serious mistake. Every public building should be flooded with fresh air before it is occupied with an audience, and there should be some convenient way of ventilating whenever it is necessary. The effect of many a good sermon and address has been spoiled by impure air.

Denominational Union.—The prospect for union between the Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational Churches, seems to be brighter than ever since the meeting of the Union Committee just before Christmas. One of the Toronto papers refers to the statement of doctrine and polity drawn up by the committee as "the most remarkable ecclesiastical document prepared since the Reformation." Certainly it is significant that denominations so diverse in origin, doctrine and church government, should find it possible to prepare a declaration of faith on which they could agree so heartily. Some of the names that have been so significant in the differ-

ent churches, like "election," "entire sanctification," etc., will not be found in the statement of doctrine, but the truths for which these names stood are certainly embodied. It was felt that the terminology did not matter so much. Union seems now to be fairly within sight.

✓ **Memorizing Hymns.**—Bishop Vincent has been delivering a series of lectures to the theological students of Victoria College, on pastoral work, which have been very interesting and inspiring. Two of the lectures have dealt with the pastor's relation to the children and the young people of the church. Among the many good suggestions given, the Bishop urged the young ministers to encourage their young people to commit to memory passages of scripture and standard hymns. He said that nothing was so cheering and helpful to people in trouble, sickness and old age as to be able to repeat from memory hymns of trust and hope. Those who in early life stored their memories thus were preparing downy pillows for themselves in later life. This is excellent advice which we trust the young readers of this paper will heed. It will be an easy thing to learn one hymn a week, and what a store of hymnology that would mean at the end of a year. Of course the good Bishop did not mean the ephemeral productions that attain a brief popularity, but the splendid hymns of the church like "Rock of Ages," "Lead, kindly Light," etc.

A Drunkards' Train.—The inter-urban railroad of London has unwittingly rendered a service to temperance. Knowing how often its patrons were annoyed by the presence of drunkards on the evening and night trains, the company made preparation for a drunkards' train over the road after midnight. Sober men were to be allowed on this train only when in charge of drunkards, and in order to accommodate the too previous toppers who thoughtlessly got drunk before train time, a drunkards' car was annexed to each train for several hours in the evening. The premature publication of its plans, however, spoiled the company's anticipation of good business for the drunkards' train, for when it came along with stalwart guards ready to load in the drunkards, there were none. Most of the steady drinkers, ashamed to be known as occupants of a drunkards' train, went home early, and those who remained late were sober enough to travel in the regular trains. Thus did a measure designed solely for the comfort of the decent travelling public, prove conducive to the cause of temperance.

Hearts and Dollars.—Charles H. Parkhurst, D.D., thus illustrates the question of value: "It would be interesting if the church officers, as they count the money which a congregation contributes, could somehow read back from each piece to the person who gave it, and could find in each check, bill or nickel, a sly symptom of the impulse which prompted it. That would enable us to have some idea of the real value of the contribution, considered from a distinctly Christian standpoint. The amount in dollars and cents—the amount viewed from the standpoint of the mint and the Stock Exchange—might be stated in figures; but only God knows how much love is represented by those drafts, bills and pennies. Perhaps that will not affect the purchasing power of what is contributed. In paying a missionary's salary, I suppose a dollar is a dollar; but even so I can not but think God is more interested in watching our hearts as we were putting our offerings on the plate than He is in watching the figuring up of the result."

A Great Project.—The Christmas number of *The Farmer's Advocate* has an interesting article on the proposed Georgian Bay Canal waterway, by which, if the scheme is carried out, grain vessels may proceed from Fort William and Duluth direct to Montreal by way of the Ottawa valley. From the Georgian Bay the route will be by the French River to Lake Nipissing, and then by the Mattawa and Ottawa Rivers to the St. Lawrence. From the mouth of the French River to Montreal, is 430 miles, and it would only be necessary to construct a canal of about twenty miles to complete the waterway which would greatly shorten the distance between the lakes and the ocean. One engineer estimates that the plan could be carried out for about seventeen million dollars.

The Holy Name Society.—Some of the Roman Catholic Churches of Toronto have organized several "Holy Name" societies for the purpose of stamping out profanity and blasphemy. There is room for such an organization in all our towns and cities, as profane language is becoming frightfully prevalent. Frequently, on the streets, mere boys are heard cursing awfully and using the vilest expressions. Now and then something might be done by personal reproof, administered in the kindest way, but in bad cases the law ought to be invoked, and these blasphemers should be given to understand that their bad language cannot be tolerated in public places.