

things could not impart or transfer the qualities of the divine nature, or be subject to any of the conditions of the human part.

"P. C. A."—Many of my people have an unfortunate habit of rising and leaving the church during the service, especially during the sermon. It is very annoying. Can you suggest a remedy?—A.: One remedy, always a safe one to endeavor to apply, is to make your service more interesting. Artemus Ward used to print on his programmes, "Persons who think that they will enjoy themselves by leaving the hall early in the evening are re-

quested to do so with as little noise as possible." Of course, it is not always the fault of the preacher, if people enjoy themselves more outside than inside the church. The preacher should seek in every legitimate way to deepen the interest of the people who are already sufficiently interested to come inside the church. Another good plan would be to single out several of the more prominent offenders, and in private talk earnestly to them about the evil of this habit, and its annoyance to you and to others. Use tact; very little good is done by a "pulpit broadside" toward correcting an evil of this kind.

THEMES AND TEXTS OF RECENT LEADING SERMONS.

1. Garrison Duty. "As his part is that goeth down to the battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff: they shall part alike."—1 Sam. xxx. 24. T. De Witt Talmage, D.D., Brooklyn.
2. Reflective Criticism the Spirit of the Age. "And God gave Solomon . . . largeness of heart."—1 Kings iv. 29. President Noah Porter, D.D., at Dartmouth, N. H.
3. Esther's Exaltation: or, Who Knoweth? "Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther," etc.—Esther iv. 13, 14. Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, London, England.
4. God in Creation. "I know that whatsoever God doeth, it shall be forever," etc.—Ecc. iii. 14. President Carter, of Williams College, Williamstown, Mass.
5. The Story of a Poor Wise Man. "Now there was found in it a poor wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city," etc.—Ecc. ix. 15-16. G. C. Lorimer, D.D., Louisville, Ky.
6. Life the Test of Character. "Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?"—Matt. vii. 16. Rev. J. C. Zimmerman, Brooklyn.
7. Fidelity in Small Things. "He that is faithful in that which is least," etc.—Luke xvi. 10. C. D. W. Bridgman, D.D., of New York, in Plymouth Church, Brooklyn.
8. Learning and Life. "To this end was I born," etc.—John xviii. 37. "As thou hast sent me into the world," etc.—John xvii. 18. Rev. Phillips Brooks, at Harvard College.
9. What Paul leaves Behind. "For I shrink not from declaring unto you the whole counsel of God. Take heed unto yourselves, and to all the flock. . . . I know that after my departing," etc.—Acts xx. 27-29. Joseph Parker, D.D., London.
10. Spiritual and Intellectual Light. "Having the understanding darkened," etc.—Eph. iv. 18. Bishop F. D. Huntington, D.D., at Ithaca, N. Y.
11. The Fourfold Coming of the Gospel. "For our Gospel came not unto you in word only," etc.—1 Thess. i. 5. T. D. Witherspoon, D.D., Louisville, Ky.
12. The Social Duties of Religion. "Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly," etc.—1 Thess. v. 14. Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, Brooklyn.
13. Reform and Reformers. "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance," etc.—1 Tim. i. 15. J. P. Newman, D.D., New York City.
14. Learning and Life. "For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world,"—2 Tim. iv. 10. T. L. Cuyler, D.D., Brooklyn, N. Y.
15. The Supreme Test of Truth. "That the trial of your faith, being much more precious . . . though it be tried with fire," etc.—1 Peter i. 7. George H. Gould, D.D., Worcester, Mass.

SUGGESTIVE THEMES.

1. Guilt Causing Fearful Panic. ("The Lord looked unto the host of the Egyptians . . . so that the Egyptians said, Let us flee from the face of Israel,"—Ex. xiv. 24, 25.)
2. God's Bidding too much for Unbelief. ("Have not I sent thee? (Gideon) . . . Surely I will be with thee," etc.—Judges vi. 14-16.)
3. The Way of Wickedness is Madness. ("As David and his men went by the way, Shimei . . . cursed as he went, and threw stones at him, and cast dust,"—2 Sam. xvi. 13.)
4. The Divine Simplicity of the Gospel a Snare to Some. ("Naaman was wroth, and went away and said, Behold, I thought he will surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper," etc.—2 Kings v. 11, 12.)
5. "God's Hidden Methods." ("Behold, I go forward, but he is not there; and backward, but I cannot perceive him, etc."—Job xlii. 8, 9.)
6. The Arts of the Wicked. ("He winketh with his eyes, he speaketh with his feet, he teacheth with his fingers," etc.—Prov. vi. 13, 14.)
7. Traffic in the Inner Kingdom. ("Buy the truth and sell it not; also wisdom and instruction and understanding,"—Prov. xxiii. 23.)
8. Opportunity to be Sought After. ("And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues," etc.—Matt. iv. 23.)
9. Insolvency Confessed. (" . . . Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all," etc.—Matt. xviii. 29.)
10. The Mercilessness of Sin. ("And he would not [forgive him on confession]; but went