

baptized is the end and aim of the rite. To be baptized into the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost is to be brought into the closest and most intimate relation to the character of these divine personalities. Baptism is a symbol of the washing away of sin and the putting on of a Christ-like character.

But we are required, in order to disciple the nations, not only to baptize them but to teach them. Forms are empty without instruction. And what is to be taught? It is no narrow range of merely evangelistic truth; but rather all evangelical truth, whatever Christ has taught. To teach this is to preach Christ.

THE CHRISTIAN'S POWER.

Before the ascension the disciples had a foretaste of the pentecostal gift but after days of waiting the Holy Spirit descended in power, coming as He does, in fulfillment of Christ's promise, teaching us all things and especially how to speak in emergencies, revealing Christ as present, and bringing His teachings to remembrance; it is no wonder that He is a power. The Spirit dwells within us and helps us in every time of need. But further, Christ Himself is with us through the Spirit and His presence cheers us, strengthens us and makes our lives effective.

The Bible in Japan.

During the Spring of 1895 the Missionaries residing in Nagoya Japan together with some of the native workers representing four denominations resolved to undertake the work of putting one copy of a portion of God's word into each of the 50,000 dwellings of the city. Some Christian friends came to the meetings of the committee and made well-meaning but discouraging speeches, declaring the undertaking dangerous, and one Christian pastor predicted bloodshed as a consequence of stirring up Buddhist wrath by attempting a house-to-house visitation and distribution. It was well known that among these two hundred thousand people, mostly Buddhists, two thousand Buddhist temples and five thousand priests, there would be some opposition; but the committee did not hesitate. All were eventually surprised at the mildness of the opposition.

The work was begun by presenting neat well bound copies to the chief officials, each copy containing a letter of explanation. With but one or two exceptions the officials received the Committee with great cordiality and many of them seemed glad to enquire about Christian customs. Portions of the city adjacent to the respective churches were apportioned to their workers, and the work of house-to-house visitation began. In some instances priests went in advance of the workers and threatened the people if they should take copies of the Word. In other cases the distributors were closely followed and all the portions left were gathered up for destruction. In some cases doors were barred in the face of the workers. In one section, covering several blocks, of the most wealthy people of the city, an agreement was made that no one there would receive these Portions of Scripture, and in some instances priests required the people to sign documents to the same effect, but no violence has taken place. From 2 per cent. to 40 per cent. of the offers made were refused, but the average will not exceed 4 per cent. or 5 per cent. In many instances people appeared glad to get the Word, and instances of direct good are known to have followed this work. The spirit of inquiry has increased, and some persons thus found are now attending the churches.

Getting Something for Nothing.

BY CALVIN S. BROWN, D.D.

A dangerous thing in the moral world is the desire of getting something for nothing. It is this desire that leads the thief to break the house and the highwayman to take the road. It is this desire that causes the gambler to substitute gaming for honest labor, and to try by a lucky deal to become the possessor of the money or goods of others. It is this desire that prompts men to bet on horse races and elections—the desire of getting other men's property without giving a fair equivalent. It is this desire that leads men to reckless speculation in futures and real estate and to the formation of trusts and monopolies. It was this desire run mad that led England into the South Sea Bubble and caused ruin and untold misery to thousands—that led France into Law's Mississippi Bubble, and came near plunging the nation into total bankruptcy. It is this

same desire that is causing the desolation of hundreds of our American homes every year—this desire which is so fatal to the incentive to honest effort.

Let it be put down as an axiom that it is impossible to make something out of nothing. No way has ever been devised, or ever can be devised, of getting something for nothing, in which one party does not suffer to the extent that the other gains. If the thief steals, the owner must lose the goods stolen, if the gamster wins a thousand dollars, his opponent must lose that amount; if a syndicate buys up all the wheat on the market and makes a fortune off of it, somebody must pay dear for flour; if a company waters its stock, somebody must buy water; if people ride on a bubble, they must expect to be precipitated when the bubble bursts. There is but one correct and thoroughly honest business principle, and that is to give value received in every transaction. An equivalent must be given. This equivalent may be in labor, in goods, in money, in what you please; but it must be an equivalent. All else is on a false basis and leads to evil.

This experiment of making something from nothing has been tried time and again by nations as well as by individuals. Kings and parliaments have issued paper money and false coins and inflated currency, and always with one result. History will be searched in vain for a single instance of fiat money which has held its own for any considerable time, and which has not resulted in loss either to the Government or to those who trusted the Government.

"Live or Die, put me Ashore!"

The following interesting story is from the pen of Dr. John Hall of New York in the November *Gleanings for the Young*.

"It is nearly two generations since a boat's crew left their ship to reach the Hervey Islands. One of the passengers upon that boat desired to land, but the boat's crew feared to do so, as the cannibals were gathered together on the shore; but holding up the Bible in his hand, he said, 'Live or die, put me ashore.' They would not go near the land; he plunged into the surf and held high the book. He reached the land. The cannibals did not kill him, but he won their favour, and lived among them, and, for aught I know, he died among them.

"Thirty years afterwards another ship reached the same Hervey Islands, bringing literally a cargo of Bibles. They were all wanted, and were taken with the greatest eagerness, and paid for by these people. This was the result of the labours of that heroic young man who said, 'Live or die, put me ashore.' I was preaching to my people some time ago on behalf of the Bible Society. I mentioned this circumstance in illustration of the fact that it is not so long, after all, between the sowing and the reaping. When I came down from the pulpit and was standing in the middle aisle, there came up to me a tall, manly-looking gentleman, a man that looked as if he might be a descendant of one of the old Vikings, and said, 'You will excuse me for coming up to speak to you and introducing myself; I am Captain So-and-so—I need not give you his name—I am in command of Her Majesty's frigate So-and-so, and I take the liberty of coming to speak to you in reference to what you said about these islands; I was there with my ship; I saw these people, and I saw the circulation of the Bible among them, and I never saw such Christianity in all my life as among the people of these islands.' Said he, 'They reminded me of those people of whom you read in the Acts of the Apostles.'"

Hidden Treasures.

In the green-room at Dresden, we are told, where for centuries the Saxon princes have gathered their gems and treasures, until they become worth millions of dollars, may be seen a silver egg, a present to one of the Saxon queens, which when you touch a spring, opens and reveals a golden yoke. Within the yoke is a chicken. Press the wing, and the chicken flies open, disclosing a splendid gold crown, studded with jewels. Nor is this all. Touch another secret spring and you find hid in the centre a magnificent gold ring! So it is with every truth and promise of God's Word—a treasure within a treasure. The more we examine it, the greater riches do we find. But how many neglect to touch the spring!

We must by careful thought and diligent investigation, touch the spring, and lo, wealth beyond computation will open to our grasp.