

the balance of the world if we are light-weight in the scales of God. In the one scale place your unworthy life, and in the other yourself. You stand high in air, and cannot bring up the other scale, until you ask Christ to stand along with you, and your scale comes down as if the other were empty. Think on this fact, that only he who is weighed with Christ the Lord is full-weight in the balances of God.

Gems From Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809-1894.)

Sin has many tools, but a lie is the handle which fits them all.

Even now and then a man's mind is stretched by a new idea or sensation, and never shrinks back to its former dimensions.

Why can't somebody give us a list of things that everybody thinks and nobody says, and another list of things that everybody says and nobody thinks?

Nobody talks much that doesn't say unwise things—things he did not mean to say; as no person plays much without striking a false note sometimes.

A thought is often original, though you have uttered it a hundred times. It has come to you over a new route, by a new and express train of associations.

A sick man that gets talking about himself, a woman that gets talking about her baby, and an author that begins reading out of his own book never know when to stop.

The whole essence of true gentle-breeding (one does not like to say gentility) lies in the wish and the art to be agreeable. Good breeding is surface Christianity.

Every human being is individualized by a new arrangement of elements. His mind is a safe with a lock to which only certain letters are the key. His ideas follow in an order of their own.

Some books are edifices to stand as they are built; some are hewn stones ready to form a part of future edifices; some are quarries from which stones are to be split for shaping and after-use.

World of Missions.

Miss Leach writes from Mhow, Oct. 3rd. You will know ere this time that the rains in Central India have failed this year, and that instead of ninety inches, we have had only sixteen. The rivers, pools, and streams are hardened mud beds, and the country looks as though not a drop of rain had fallen. The seed which is sown at the close of the rains, and which depends for its nourishment upon the moisture in the ground, has not been sown, and will not be, and that means no crops in March, 1902. There is no prospect of any more rain until next July. Prices have already gone up, and everything is pints, not only to a grain famine, but to a water famine. A station order came round on Saturday, warning us to be very careful in our use of water. The Mall which is always kept beautifully green, is now parched, and burned and yellow, a sure sign that the authorities realize the gravity of the situation. It is not likely that the distress will be very marked till the spring of 1902.—S. M. Tidings.

The world will never become wholly Greek, nor wholly Roman, nor wholly Protestant, but it will become wholly Christian, and will include every type and every aspect, every virtue and every grace of Christianity—an endless variety in harmonious unity, Christ being all in all.—Philip Schaff.

Our Young People

Imperialism of Christianity.

Topic for December 15 :—Scripture Reference: Dan. 2 : 44, 45.

A World wide, Everlasting Dominion.

BY ARTHUR W. KELLY.

It would seem to be a matter of course that a religion that is true must be not for one people, but for all. But that has by no means always been recognized. Nation after nation has held its faith as good, and has been ready to own that for another nation another belief was good. Love of dominion, pride in power, or political reasons could dictate a course like Nebuchadnezzar's attempt to force worship on conquered peoples, but the religious motive has been more rare.

But the true religion never accepts any limits, national or racial. The Jew did not put Jehovah on a par with the gods of the nations, even when the missionary spirit was almost wholly wanting; the Christian that has a genuine faith never thinks of Christianity as only one among the world's religions. It is only heathen indifference and scepticism, which may sometimes masquerade as liberalism, that rear "pantheons." "There is none other name," "Other foundation can no man lay," are watchwords of Christ's church in every age.

Faith in Christ as the one Saviour and Lord of all cannot be held as mere theory. It forces the believer to assert his Master's claims and to offer his Saviour's love to all. It is by its nature an aggressive force; it holds that Christ's sceptre must have sway in every sphere of human thought and action, that its authority reaches not all men, but all of man; and it impels believers to make this ideal a reality.

What Christ wins He can hold. Of His empire there can be no decline and fall. Its steadily growing greatness means not weakness, but strength. Each citizen of His kingdom becomes such through love for his Lord, and that common bond knits together as one the widely different elements that make up the empire that shall endure forever.—C. E. World.

Daily Readings.

Mon., Dec. 9.	—God as sovereign. Ps. 24 : 1-10
Tues., Dec. 10.	—God's kingdom. Dan. 4 : 3 ; Luke 1 : 32, 33
Wed., Dec. 11.	—The law of the realm. Ps. 78 : 1-8
Thurs., Dec. 12.	—The royal Prince. Rev. 1 : 1-6
Fri., Dec. 13.	—Our King's edict. Matt. 3 : 1-5, 13-17
Sat., Dec. 14.	—The conquering sign. 1 Cor. 1 : 17-24
Sun., Dec. 15.—TOPIC.	Imperialism of Christianity. Dan. 2 : 44, 45

Christians generally do not consider Gibbon's "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire" an authority concerning the spread and power of Christianity, but its author said a true word when he wrote : "Our curiosity is naturally prompted to inquire by what means the Christian faith obtained so remarkable a victory over the established religions of the earth. To this inquiry an obvious but satisfactory answer may be returned—that it was owing to the convincing evidence of the doctrine itself, and to the ruling providence of its great Author."

The age of martyrdom is not past. The following case as reported by the London Christian World shows that Christianity has not lost its power : U-Wen-Yin, a native Chinese convert, who was manager of his village, was arrested and summoned before the mandarin. Before leaving he went on his knees before his aged mother to bid her a last farewell. The heroic mother exclaimed : "If thou diest for the faith, God will take care of us; do not trouble about me or thy children. If thou deniest thy faith, I will no longer recognize thee for my son." "Mother," he replied, "be at ease; by God's grace I will never apostatize." On his being summoned to deny his faith, and refusing to do so, the mandarin ordered him to be bastinadoed till he lost consciousness. On his coming to himself, the mandarin again offered him the same choice, with the same result and the same cruel punishment. He was then hung up in a wooden cage, upon which he said to the judge : "When I shall be no longer able to speak on account of the pain, and you see my lips moving, don't think I am pronouncing the words of apostasy; they will be prayers." A few minutes later his features altered, he was cut down and found to be already dead! Surely such scenes are worthy of the days of early Christians.

A writer tells us that while the Tyrolese were groaning under the Bavarian yoke, one day a mountaineer came down to Innsbruck and stopped to gaze at the Bavarian colors, blue and white, where the Austrian black and yellow used to float. A passing Bavarian official asked him if he did not think the new colors prettier than the old. "Oh, certainly," cried the peasant, "they are fine, but they will not last; in time the blue will turn yellow and the white black." With similar faith the Christian may view the flouting colors of the enemies of the cross. They will not last. Time will change them. At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father."

To you, my little lassie, it is of infinite importance how to behave; were you to get a kingdom or twenty kingdoms, it were but a pitiful trifle compared with this, whether you walked as God commands you and did your duty to God and to all men.—Carlyle.

What Christ *has* done is a pledge of what he *will* do; and the fact that His name is now known and worshipped by at least one-third of all the race of man is a prophecy to us that ere long "the glory of the Lord shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea." If there be not *this* hope for the human race, there is assuredly no other.—Dean Farrar in "The Life of Lives."

Life is a building. It rises slowly day by day, through the years. Every new lesson we learn lays a block on the edifice which is rising silently within us. Every experience, every touch of another life on ours, every influence that impresses us, every book we read, every conversation we have, every act of our commonest days, add something to the invisible building.—J. R. Miller.

Be loving and you will never want for love; be humble and you will never want for guarding.—Dinah Mulock Craik.