

prayer what will not be done without prayer. Low faith in the Church produces slow development of the work of salvation.

The whole earth is the field where the harvest of the Lord is to be gathered. Successful labourers are obtained in answer to prayer.

Patience under persecution for Christ's sake is a sure sign of true discipleship—surer even than miracles. The devil may imitate miracles but cannot inspire patience.

Ministers, in the discharge of their office must have regard to God and the truth of the Gospel, not to the threats of men.—Those who fear to tell the whole truth are false teachers,—neither cold nor hot.

Eternal death is the only evil which really deserves to be feared.

It is prudence to deliver up the body in order to save the soul. This is to cast the lading of the vessel into the sea to preserve the men from destruction. A man loses nothing when he only loses that which must perish.

In the world, great services only receive great reward; in the Kingdom of God the smallest acts of kindness to the humblest persons may secure a very great reward.

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(From the Montreal Witness.)

### IS IT RIGHT TO BE RICH.

PUBLISHED BY REQUEST.

A remarkable tract was published, under the above title a short time ago, by Mr Lewis Tappan, as one of his last services to the cause of Christ and humanity. Mr. Tappan was for many years, in connection with his celebrated brother Arthur, an extensive merchant, and subsequently he founded, and for many years was chief manager of the Mercantile Agency which has since spread all over the continent. He was also, for many years, the chief promoter of the American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, which was the religious wing of the anti-slavery party; and of the American Missionary Association, which was the anti-slavery wing of the Home and Foreign Missionary enterprise in the United States, an Association which, during and since the war, has swelled to gigantic proportions of enterprise and usefulness among the freed men. We mention these facts to show that Mr. Tappan's experience and knowledge of men and things have been very varied, and

very extensive, more especially owing to his connection with the Mercantile Agency, whose very business it is to ascertain the character and history of business men. His long continued and high Christian character, also entitles him to a candid hearing, upon a subject so intimately connected with the amelioration of society, and evangelization of the world, as the right use of riches.

#### COMMON BELIEF RESPECTING WEALTH.

The general belief is, that religious men may pursue wealth in the same way as irreligious men, provided they gave in charity or for benevolent objects more liberally, and leave larger sums to those objects in their wills. This course is advocated sometimes by the religious press and has been even inculcated from the pulpit. Such Christians consider their acquisitions their own; that they have a right to dispose of them as they please, and the true idea of stewardship is excluded from the mind. They seem to forget the voice of the Lord of hosts, "Hear, O my people, and I will speak. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine. And the cattle upon a thousand hills." God is the right proprietor. He does not need rich men but men rich in good works, faithful stewards, those who are to distribute according to his directions. Such stewards are said to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. They shine before men, and thus glorify their Father in heaven. Their course is like the natural sun shining in its strength from the dawn to the close of the day, giving light and heat, imitation of Christ, their glorious leader, who is called the Sun of Righteousness, as the source of light, animation, and comfort to his disciples.

Some say the apostle takes it for granted that there will be rich Christians, for he charges such not to be high minded, nor to trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, etc. The apostle may have addressed those who became rich before the Gospel was announced to them, and who, of course, had never felt their obligations to obey Christ in this regard. Now, the apostle directs them to make a proper use of their wealth. This must be the right exposition, otherwise Scripture is made to contradict Scripture, and we should remember that isolated passages are to be construed agreeable to the general drift of the whole.

#### OBJECTIONS.

Covetous men will be prompt in making objections to the plan of giving above stated. If there are to be no rich Christians, how are church edifices, school houses, academies, colleges, asylums, and hospitals to be built and maintained? How are Missionary Societies, Bible and Tract So-