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Light.

Along the eastern sky before the break of day
Mountains of leaden clouds in threatening masses lay.

The sun rose up behind the clouds, and then behold,
The mists were all transformed to hues of red and gold.

And even so our lives are drear and dark unless
They glow with light from Christ, the Sun of Righteousness.

OVER LAND AND SEA.

The thing we have most to fear from, says Dr. Parkhurst, is not the liveliness of the sinners, but the deadness of the saints—that remoteness from God, that inexperience of the great realities that makes God a name and a report rather than a felt person, and the superb verities the possession of the few rather than the realization of the many.

Concerning one's amusements, the Christian Commonwealth wisely propounds these questions.

"First, do they rest and strengthen or weary and weaken the body? Second, do they rest and strengthen or weary and weaken the brain? Third, do they make resistance to temptation easier or harder? Fourth, do they increase or lessen love for virtue, purity, temperance and justice? Fifth, do they give inspiration and quicken enthusiasm, or stupefy the intellectual and harden the moral nature? Sixth, do they increase or diminish respect for manhood and womanhood? Seventh, do they draw one nearer to or remove one farther from Christ?"

Bob Burdette answers the question "May Christians Dance?" in his usual unique fashion. "May a Christian dance? Of course he may. He may swear, and lie, too, but it would not make him a better Christian. Surely, Christians, you may dance, but dancing will never identify you as a Christian. What puzzles us is that you ask the question so often. Christians, dance if you can't live without it. Join hands with Salome, Herodias, and Herod, and circle to the left. But don't be surprised if you are mistaken for a goat. That is the side they are on."

More and more there is growing up a disposition among parents, says Bishop H. C. Potter, to permit all matters of religious observance to be with their offspring mere matters of choice or preference. Your child must learn French or German and drawing, but he shall learn his catechism and his Bible lesson and a reverent observance of God's holy day if he chooses, and not otherwise. A more dismal and irrational folly it is not easy to conceive of. I do not say that there may not have been folly in another and in an opposite direction. But surely we can correct the excess without straightway flying to an opposite and worse one. And so I plead with you who are parents to train your children to ways of reverent familiarity with God's word, God's house and God's day.

The graduating class in McCormick Theological Seminary this year numbered seventy eight members. This is perhaps the largest class that has ever issued from any Theological Seminary in the United States.

It is stated that the total amount given to church, schools, colleges, libraries, and other public charities in America, during 1894, was \$19,967,116, and that in 1895 this was increased to \$28,943,549.

Princeton College is to receive the gift of a new Library Building. At the meeting of the Board of Trustees, held lately, the offer of a new Library Building was made from a generous donor whose name, for the present, is withheld. He proposes to erect a fine stone edifice, which will cost from \$300,000 to \$500,000, and to bear the entire expense of the erection himself. The gifts to the College in this memorial year are likely to be large. Judging from what has already been promised, we suppose that more than \$1,000,000 will be added to the endowment of the College.

A newspaper published in Jerusalem, printed in the Hebrew language, states that Dr. Bliss, Supervisor of the Palestine Exploration Fund, has lately discovered, near Mount Zion, the exact course of the city walls of Jerusalem built before and during the Roman era, also a number of vases and mosaics of high historical value.

Dr. Alexander, the new Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of Ireland gave his first address in that capacity at the opening of the General Synod of the Irish Protestant Episcopal Church in Dublin on the 14th April last. It was characterized by all the eloquence for which he has long been famous, but even more gratifying to the majority of the Synod than the eloquence was its decided Protestant tone. This was all the more satisfactory that he had been suspected by many of a tendency towards ritualism and Sacramentarianism. Irish Episcopalianism lives too near a dominant and degrading Romanism to be much enamoured of its priestly theories or superstitious practices.

A Salvation Army exhibition is to be held in London from the 1st to the 10th of August. The intention is to present a series of living pictures of the Salvation Army in all lands, and to have a gigantic sale of all kinds of merchandise for the benefit of the social work of the Army.

The annual general meeting of the Royal National Lifeboat Fund was held recently in St. Martin's Town Hall. The Duke of York was in the chair, and was supported by a distinguished company. In the course of an admirable speech, his Royal Highness alluded feelingly to the disaster which befell the Kingstown lifeboat on Christmas Eve. He drew attention to the fact that lifeboats were launched 437 times during the past year, and 533 lives were saved by them. Since the Institution was founded in 1824, it had been instrumental in saving 38,354 lives. Last year the sum of £16,800 was collected for the Lifeboat Saturday Fund. May 16th would be the first Lifeboat Saturday in London, and H.R.H. the Duchess of York had consented to be the President of the ladies auxiliary branch.