

Selected Articles.

HEAVIER THE CROSS.

Heavier the cross, the nearer heaven; No cross without, no God within!

Heavier the cross, the better Christian; This is the touchstone God applies.

Heavier the cross, the stronger faith; The loaded palm strikes deeper root.

Heavier the cross, the heartier prayer; The bruised herbs most fragrant are.

Heavier the cross, the more aspiring; From valleys we climb to mountain-croquet.

Heavier the cross, the easier dying; Death is a friendlier face to see;

Thou crucified! the cross I carry, The longer, may it do me good;

HELPERS FROM OVER THE SEA.

When goods are imported into our market from far distant countries, it is natural, and to our interest, to inquire into the peculiar merits that entitle them to this consideration.

There are certain vacancies occasionally occurring, which it is almost impossible to fill to the satisfaction of everybody, and where the occupant has been faithful to his duties, and ardently beloved, whether his position be that of teacher, friend, or companion, it is difficult for the heart to yield its allegiance to any new incumbent.

We remember, as children, how we dreaded promotions that took us away from the teacher who understood us, and whose pupil we were anxious to remain.

Good men fall away from us, and we mournfully say, "we never shall look upon their like again!" but God's treasury is not exhausted, neither is his hand weary of being stretched out in our behalf.

No one can deny that there was no mistake made when Dr. John Hall was called from Dublin, to take possession of a New York pulpit, although considerable curiosity was aroused at the time, to know why he should be chosen in place of many another candidate.

The next importation was Dr. Ormiston, from Scotland, or, more directly from Canada, a man who need not speak to betray his nationality.

The newest incumbent is the Rev. Wm. M. Taylor, who was called from

England to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Dr. Joseph P. Thompson, from the pastorate of the Tabernacle Church, where he had preached acceptably for at least a score of years.

Mr. Taylor's style is emotional. He preaches much with his arms. He abounds in figures of rhetoric, and his word painting is so intense in color, that one is really dazzled and bewildered by its brilliancy.

Mr. Taylor's pastoral requests to his people are unique, and deliciously fresh and frank, and whatever else he may do or fail to do with them, or for them, there is certainly no danger of his losing his way to their hearts;

It seems a little singular that neither of these three preachers, have anything in their personal appearance, that would recommend them to the people. Not themselves, but Christ, is their Alpha and Omega; and He, himself, hath baptized them to do a great work in their day and generation.

Now, all hail to this honored "trio." It has been a peculiar pleasure to us to see how warmly and quickly their hearts have beat in unison with the Christian heart in America; how quickly they have responded to the calls that have identified them with the great movements of the church, in her active aggressive work for Jesus.

Their gifted pens, too, have been kept busy in the same good work, and we shall not be thought egotistical, if we congratulate our readers on this fact. Our noble brethren from across the sea have not thought it beneath them to enter at once into the children's cause, and through the columns of our paper, to help in pushing on the glorious car of our American Sunday-school progress.

SELF-KNOWLEDGE.

At the basis of all success in life lie knowledge, education, training. If a man attempts to be a merchant, he must have an education for it, must be trained for it.

No man can live for me, for no man is like me; and it would be very unsafe for me to take any human being for my absolute pattern. God has given me an individuality, and there are some things in which I am unlike any other individual who ever lived, or ever will live;

Carpenters in New York, having obtained eight hours' work, now strike for four dollars a day.

THE RIVERS OF THE NORTH-WEST.

The greatness of a country depends largely upon the facilities for internal navigation. Where natural facilities are insufficient it is found necessary to the prosperity of a country to create artificial channels of communication.

Table listing rivers and their lengths in miles, including Red River (100), Assiniboine (500), Qu' Appelle (275), Souris (800), Lake Winnipeg (280), Lake Manitoba (120), Its Outlet (30), Lake Winnipegosis (120), Its Outlet (60), Red Deer (200), Swan (500), Winnipeg (275), English (775), North Saskatchewan (272), South (810), Root (240), Battle (430), Nelson (433), Red Deer (west) (500), Beaver or Churchill (825), River to Sea (275), Athabaska (200), Lake Athabaska (200), Pembina (250), Peace (1015), Peace, Upper South Branch (253), Slave (200), Slave Lake (800), River McKenzie with part of Lake (1200), River of the Mountains (900), Hay (400), Rupert (400), Notaway (350), Harricana (880), Moose, to source of Athabaska (490), W. Missinabi (350), East Branch do. (250), Frederick House Branch (210), Albany River (770), English Branch (250), Atta Wapiska (270), Pelly or Youcan (700), Branch of do. (860), Francis of Stikine (320), Simpson or Skeena (384), Fraser (864), Thompson (200), Quesnell (200), Chilcooten (200), Stuart (300), Part of Columbia (550), Part of Kootany (230), Jarvis and Inlet (161), Part of Okanagan (118), Dilovet (190), Douglas Canal (140), Belakool and Inlet (200), Dean or Salmon (238), Bute Inlet and River (200), Nechaco (288).

Nothing can possibly more impress the ordinary reader with the greatness of our western territory than this exhibit of its water courses. When the banks of those streams, 56,000 miles, and the banks of their unenumerated tributaries, are peopled, as they are sure to be at no distant day, our population will entitle us to a place among the great nations of the earth.

When we consider this vast country so recently added to our dominion, and realize the elements of grandeur it contains, we are more impressed than ever with the absolute necessity that exists for the building of a through line of railway across the whole extent.

painting no imaginary picture. Circumstances are such that no other result is possible. With the elements of greatness and the disposition to develop them, nothing can prevent our advancement.

CONGREGATIONAL SINGING.

ITS EARLY HISTORY.

From Dr. Hart's Manual of English Literature, we gather some highly interesting items in regard to the introduction of psalm and hymn singing into the church, in its present form, which may not prove uninteresting to the readers.

Psalms and hymns are not new in religious worship. They have been used in all ages by the Christian Church and in heathen as well as Christian worship, but in mediæval times it was something belonging to the choir and not to the congregation. The choral hymns were in Latin and many of them surpassingly beautiful.

Clement Marot, a valet of the bed-chamber to Francis I., was in his day the favorite poet of France, and embellished in various ways the French poetry which has been hitherto little cultivated. He distinguished himself by rondeaux, madrigals, pastorals, ballads, fables, elegies, epitaphs, and poetical versions from the Italian and the Latin.

Marot's psalms soon eclipsed his madrigals and sonnets. Psalm-singing became the general mode of domestic merriment. It was the common accompaniment to the fiddle. In the splendid court of Francis I., of a sudden, nothing was heard but the new psalms. The sagacious mind of Calvin turned to account this new fashion.

But the first psalm-book or metrical version of the whole Psalter was made in English, as in French, by a layman, a courtier, and a court-poet—Thomas Sternhold, who was Groom to the Robes to Henry VIII., and afterwards to Edward VI. The Scotch version of the Psalms was made in 1645 by Francis Rouse, an English Statesman.

Beware of slander in its every form. There is much of stern and wholesome reproof, as well as sarcasm in the remark, "A slanderer felt a serpent bite his side; What followed from the bite? The serpent died!"

A SPHERE FOR WOMAN.

Women are naturally good economists. They are apt at understanding how to make limited means go as far as possible. The man and wife are united in the desire to get rich; the man is likely to think more about earning money, the wife will attach more importance to saving it.

Almost every American earns money enough to be well off, and in time to be rich. If he does not become so, it is, in many cases, because he has no wife, or because he does not take her into his counsels. He is full of enterprise and makes an income, and if he does not prosper, it is often because he does not hold on to it.

In continental Europe, book-keeping is a part of the education of well-taught farmers' daughters, and the wife presides over the finances of the establishment. With us woman's aptitude in the promotion of material prosperity is too little thought of; and a woman, who, as a girl, was untaught in respect to judicious economy, makes an expensive wife.

Marriage would be easier and happier if young women were taught the principles of account-keeping, and systematic habits in respect to finances; and if the young husband would take his young wife into his confidence, and make the income and outgo, and the accumulation of the first few thousands of dollars, a matter of common interest.

LIGHT WILL COME.

Let us thankfully rejoice in the light and reverently submit to the darkness. And let us welcome that gradual widening of the region of light, of which we have experience, the retiring of the circle of encompassing darkness. How far remaining darkness may yet give place to light, now or hereafter, in the endless eternity before us, we know not.

FREE SEATS.

The Presbyterian of Charlottetown P. E. I. has the following; Our readers might have noticed that at the annual meeting of St. James' congregation (Kirk), it was unanimously resolved to do away with the old system of pewrents, and to leave the support of the Ordinances entirely to the free-will offerings of the people, carrying out the Apostle's injunction in 1. Cor. 16: 2.