

Olivet Baptist Church.

CORNHILL MOUNTAIN AND OSBORNE STREETS.

The following are the regular appointments:
SABBATH:—Prayer Meeting, 10.15 A. M.
 Public Worship and Preaching, 11 A. M., and
 7 P. M. Sabbath School and Bible Classes, 3 P. M.

TUESDAY:—Young People's Bible and Experience Meeting, 8 P. M.

WEDNESDAY:—General Prayer Meeting at 8 P. M.

FRIDAY:—Business Meeting of Church, on Friday before the first Sunday of each month, at 8 P. M.

Young men will please bear in mind the Sabbath morning Prayer Meeting, held at 10.15 o'clock, to which all are invited.

Persons not attending any Sabbath-School, will find a hearty welcome at Olivet. Classes for both sexes.

Young men are especially invited to attend the Bible Classes taught by Brothers Ayer and Graftley.

You are earnestly requested to attend the Young People's Gospel Meeting, held every Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock

THE PULPIT of Olivet Baptist Church for the first two Sabbaths of the year was nobly filled by the Rev. J. W. A. Stewart, of St. Catherine's, Ont., who came not as a candidate but upon an invitation from kind friends to have a defect in his eyes put right. The operation was successfully performed by Dr. Buller, the eminent oculist of this city. Mr. Stewart's sermons were of a practical character, and being forcibly put, cannot but fail to leave a lasting impression for good. He has our best wishes for his future prosperity as a minister of Christ.

THE fifth annual business meeting of Olivet Baptist Church, held on Friday evening, Jan. 16th, was rather a new departure in more senses than one. It commenced with a tea, in Olivet's usual style, and afterwards turned out to be a meeting for praise as well as business.

The announcement, officially made, that the debt on the Church property was settled, and that the current expenses for the year had been fully met by the receipts, caused a deep feeling of gratitude to the Giver of "every good gift and every perfect gift," which found vent in the appropriate act of the whole audience standing up and singing the well-known doxology,

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow," etc.

The Treasurer's report was read, and received with applause. The election of officers for the year, and other business followed, and the meeting closed with prayer.

A LARGE and attentive congregation assembled in the Lecture Hall of Olivet Baptist Church, at the regular Wednesday evening prayer-meeting, on January 21st, the meeting being led by the Rev. J. T. Beckley, of Newburyport. The subject of the Reverend gentleman's remarks was "Personal Christian Work." In an interesting and impressive manner, he showed the value of personal work for Jesus, and the responsibility resting upon us individually to put forth efforts to win souls for Him. The speaker also brought prominently forward the grand results of such work. The discourse was highly appreciated by the audience. Mr. Beckley will (D. V.) occupy the pulpit next Sabbath. May God send home with power to the hearts of his hearers the words our brother shall then speak, and bless him abundantly in his great work of preaching the Gospel.

THE GOLDEN BALL.

REV. R. J. THOMAS, LONDON.

"If you let the golden ball slip by you may never be able to pick it up again." The remark is well worth remembering and improving.

Dear Christian friend, if you let the golden opportunity to work to-day for Jesus slip by, it will be something lost for ever. Like the Roman Emperor, you will have reason to exclaim with sorrow. "I have lost a day; the golden ball has gone to return no more!" Oh, be earnest! If you had only a minute in which to do something the result of which in joy or sorrow were to last a million years, you would not trifle. The longest life on earth reviewed from eternity, only a brief moment shall appear. Improve for Christ each swiftly passing day. Let these words, once written on a triumphal arch, be your life maxim: "No day without a deed to crown it." Forget not that souls saved by your instrumentality shall shine for ever in the Saviour's diadem, and that yours too shall be a starry crown (Dan. xii. 3). Oh! let not then the golden ball of opportunity to speak, to work for Jesus, slip unimproved away. Now, this very day, seize it for our blessed master and send it rolling on for ever.

Dear unconverted reader, we ask you to remember that "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom. vi. 23). Will you, can you, let the golden ball, this glorious gift, unaccepted, pass away? Many have done so, and bitterly lamented their folly when, alas! too late. There are millions who quite intended to be Christians at some "more convenient season," but cheated by the glittering ball of riches, fame, or pleasure, they have lost the crown of eternal glory. Oh, be not thus deceived! "Behold, now is the accepted time: behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Cor. vi. 2). McClure used to seal his letters with the emblem of a setting sun, and over it this motto: "The night cometh." Soon, dear reader, your sun may set. Soon your opportunities to receive the Gospel may have fled for ever. Oh, then, decide for Jesus now. Trust Him as your only Saviour. "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved;" receiving the more than golden blessings of the gospel—eternal life and joy. Delay not a single hour! You have no time to lose.

Like the rivers, time is gliding:
 Brief the hours have no abiding;
 Use the golden moments well:
 Life is wasting, Death is hastening:
 Death consigns to Heaven or hell.

RULES FOR SPOILING A CHILD.

1. Begin young by giving him whatever he cries for.
2. Talk freely before the child about his smartness as incomparable.
3. Tell him he is too much for you, that you can do nothing with him.
4. Have divided counsels as between father and mother.
5. Let him learn to regard his father as a creature of unlimited power, capricious and tyrannical; or as a mere whipping machine.
6. Let him learn (from his father's example) to despise his mother.
7. Do not know or care who his companions may be.
8. Let him read whatever he likes.
9. Let the child, whether boy or girl, rove the streets in the evenings—a good school for both sexes.
10. Devote yourself to making money, remembering always that wealth is a better legacy for your child than principles in the heart and habits in the life; let him have plenty of money to spend.

11. Be not with him in hours of recreation.
 12. Strain at a gnat and swallow a camel; chastise severely for a foible, and laugh at a vice.

13. Let him run about from church to church. Electionism in religion is the order of the day.

14. Whatever burdens of virtuous requirements you lay on his shoulder, touch not one with one of your fingers.

These rules are not untried. Many persons have proved them with substantial uniformity of results. If a faithful observance of them does not spoil your child you will at least have the comfortable reflection of knowing that you have done what you could.

A YOUNG MAN having embraced the Gospel, made open confession of it; his father, who was much offended, gave him this advice: "James, you should first get yourself established in a good trade, and then think of and determine about religion." "Father," replied James, "Christ advises me very differently—He says: 'Seek ye first the KINGDOM OF GOD and His righteousness: and all these things shall be added unto you.' Are not these words of Jesus enough for any man or family to live upon and be guided by?"

"THE BIBLE FIRST, PAPA."

About forty years ago (an American clergyman tells us) a now famous engineer was seated by his fireside; near him, playing on the floor, was his only child, a fine little boy of rare intelligence and gentleness. It was early. The day's work had not yet begun; and the father took up the daily paper to read. The child, climbing on his knee, and snatching at the paper, exclaimed, "No, no, papa! the Bible first! the Bible first, Papa!"—a recollection of his departed mother's deathbed. It was fresh confirmation of the olden Divine promise, "Out of the mouth of babes . . . hast thou ordained strength" (Psalm viii. 2). The child-hand was stronger than the man's. The child-words were, under God, the turning point (it is believed) of the father's life. He there and then resolved that, by Divine help, the Bible should be "first," before any business or pleasure. Very soon his child was taken from him; but the little preacher's little sermon was never forgotten. In the crush and throng and engrossment of a daily-increasing and ultimately enormous business, the father went forth to his daily work with recognition of a higher Master. "The Bible first, papa!" was ever ringing in his ears. It became his watchword. It ennobled and transfigured his life.

- "The Bible first, papa!" thus spake a five year'd child, With look of wistful eagerness, but in his accents mild;
- "The Bible first, papa!" for so dear mother said, When with white lifted hands she pray'd upon her dying bed.
- "The Bible first, papa: oh, put the news away! The holy pages read, and with God begin the day;
- The Bible first, papa: forgive the starting tear— With mother's wish you promised that naught should interfere."
- "The Bible first, papa": 'twas but a child's poor word; A little child, like Samuel, unconscious of the Lord.
- "The Bible first, papa!" a saying simply spoken: But by that little word the spell of the world is broken.
- "The Bible first, papa:" it went to the father's heart; Up from his thick-strewn papers arose he with a start.
- "The Bible first, papa!" "Yes, Willis, darling child! God help me, ne'er again shall I be so beguiled."
- "The Bible first, papa." 'twas the Lord's own rescuing word: The Heavenly Father gave it, the earthly father heard.
- "The Bible first, papa:" brief weeks, and the child is gone; One little sermon preached, but a great life-work done.
- "The Bible first, papa:" 'tis the watchword of each morn;
- Be it busy, be it idle, be it joyous or forlorn.
- "The Bible first, papa:" not a paper now is stirr'd Until God's word is ponder'd, and the voice of prayer is heard.
- "The Bible first, papa:" still 'tis ringing soft and low, As God's own will within him wherever he may go
- "The Bible first, papa:" he is doing service grand; A merchant prince, aye, more, heir of the "Better Land."
- "The Bible first, papa." 'ye men of the world, oh, listen! Nor blush if tears, unbidden, on cheek or eyelids glisten.
- "The Bible first, papa:" "Alas! 'tis forgotten sadly; As gains, and wealth, and pleasure, earth's children follow madly.

—Blackburn. ALEXANDER D. GROSART.

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