

Samsons Under the shears.

In all the Scripture gallery of characters one of the most unique is Samson. As one of our Princeton professors used to say, "he was a queer sort of Christian."

A rude, stalwart, jovial frontiersman, such as our Western life once produced; his name, which signifies "sunlight," or "sunny," describes his merry humor, and the enthusiasm with which he heartened his countrymen in the dark days of Philistine invasion.

Delilahs are alive yet, and as busy as ever. The tempter hath his snare for all, and for none more surely than for those who have risen to prominence in the religious world, or have disturbed him with their zealous activity.

Sometimes the temptress approaches the Christian from the other quarter, and beguiles him with cunning phrases about "prudent provision for a rainy day," or "dangers from competition," or "the pressing claims of business," until he becomes a perfect slave of Mammon.

The Delilahs are legion. Pride is one. Self-confidence is a peculiarly artificial Delilah, for it shears away a Christian's humility and sense of dependence on the Holy Spirit.

"I'm your guest, and I'm going to be have myself, but while I'm in the pulpit I'm going to say a few things, and if you know the way things go, you know the way out."

There are women in this world who haven't struck a lick of work with their hands for years. They board and lay around and about; all they do is shop, shop, shop. Heavens! full of such women as that! That sort cannot go to heaven.

When fallen Peter be came penitent Peter, he was on his feet again—a wiser man for his bitter experience. Conscience, and begin a new life as a reconverted man. There may be time enough yet to do some noble work for Christ before your sun goes down.—Congregationalist.

On Stilts.

BY SENEX SMITH.

When I was a boy one of our sports was walking on stilts. We thought it was grand to be six feet high, even if two of the feet were of wood. We would hobble about and get many a fall, and yet we enjoyed it.

So we came out of church, old Elder K. said to me, "Bro. Smith, do you think that young man ever expects to get up another sermon?" "I suppose so, but why do you ask?" "Because he has tried to tell us everything, and to solve all the problems of theology, in this one."

When the illustration of the Incarnation is quoted, we remark upon it that the Godhead was not deprived of any of its moral attributes by its union with manhood; and even so, in the union of the divine and human in the inspired Word, the thoughts of God are in no degree perverted by being uttered in the words of men.

Get Up and Get Religion. THAT IS WHAT REV. SAM JONES SAYS THE WORLD WANTS.

There is a man in ten of you here who cares a rap whether a man gets a place to eat or sleep just as long as you and your wife and children get enough. Yes, that's so. God is not going to do much for a man like this, I tell you. He thinks too much of himself to mix with that class.

There is a man in ten of you here who is pouring his whiskey. Christ and whiskey won't stay in the same lid at the same time.

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Johnny and the New Year's Moon.

BY SENEX SMITH.

"Hurrah! Hurrah! In fourteen hours more, I'll be calling out 'Happy New Year!'" Johnny tore through the halls after tea, thinking of nothing except his own gladness.

"You mean to be as good as we ought to be, mamma?" "Yes." "You have, I know," said Johnny, patting her cheek lovingly. "But I haven't! I've done a good many naughty things."

"I'm afraid not, Johnny; I don't think we can begin the new things fair and square until we wipe the old things away, do you?" "I was mean to Jack Pratt," said Johnny slowly, "but he has been hateful to me lots of times. I think it's a good deal nicer to be good to nice people than to be good to you, and let the others alone."

She hath done what she could. She hath done it herself. She has not exhorted somebody else to do it. She has not organized a society for the purpose of doing it.

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