

Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

John i. 29.

We have been enabled to give desired information, counsel and assistance to each of the applicants, excepting only Nos. 6 and 9 of personals, and No. 3 of correspondence. Our "financial position" forbidding any *permanent* investments, we were compelled to decline.

In the work we meet with a mixture of sadness on the one hand, and the ludicrous on the other.—The sorrowing mother.—The needy prodigal. The conscience-stricken criminal.—The would-be suicide.—The trembling drunkard.—The hungry stranger.—The anxious father. All these have been met with in our office; and to the Association these troubled come, to pour out their sorrows and ask advice; and at times our hearts become saddened and our sympathies are keenly aroused, as with them we bow at the throne of grace, there to find grace to help in time of need.

On the other hand, is the cool impudence of the professional tramp. The skilfully contrived tale of trouble,—the well-worn "pledge card," shewn to convince us that *drink* is not the trouble,—the air of injured innocence put on when we venture to suggest that said card has no apparent effect on the present *breathings* of the applicant. All these, and numberless other ruses, cause us at times to sit in a sort of half sad, half amused state,—for while we cannot but pity the poor men, we are amused at the cool manner in which they present their plea for assistance.

If any person has a special desire to study human nature in all its phases, he might with profit occupy the Secretary's chair for a week or two.

YOUNG MEN'S BIBLE CLASS

Every Monday Evening,

AT 8 O'CLOCK.

ALL INVITED.

GOSPEL AND SONG SERVICE,

Every Sunday Evening, at 8 30.

GOOD SINGING. SHORT GOSPEL ADDRESSES.

COME.

BAILING OUT.

BR. ROBINSON, in his book entitled, "Sermons from Neglected Texts," devotes a chapter to comments upon John vi. 17. He represents the disciples as, 1st. They were rowing. 2nd. They were trying to keep the head of the boat toward the point to which Jesus told them to go. 3rd. They were bailing out the water. 4th. They were cheering each other. 5th. They were looking for Jesus to come.

Under the third head he says:—"Among all the sea-going vessels, little or large, which have sunk in the waves, and are now lying down on the solemn floor of the ocean, not so much as one ever since the dawn of creation, was foundered by the storm as long as the water kept on the outside of it; it was always the water inside which made the trouble. And of all the churches which have perished since the day when the seven that received the letters in the Apocalypse went out of existence, not one ever was destroyed by the world beating upon it from the outside; it has been the rush of worldliness, stealing in little by little, that has finally overwhelmed it. Our duty is to watch our own hearts cautiously, and help those around us to press back the stream."

We utter a hearty *Amen* to every word of this, and we sincerely pray that God may enable those who have charge of our *Association vessels* to fully act up to the plan which the disciples are represented as having adopted.

Above all, dear brethren, keep close to Nos. 2 and 3. These are weak points at present. "Keep her head right," and "keep the water out."

He that heareth My word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.—John v. 24.