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One grand concern with buyers is to obtain garments that will last—garments whose fabrics will not waste, and whose colors will not fade. There is one seller in the great market of the world who assures the permanence of his wares. Hear ye him! "Buy of me gold tried in the fire, that ye may be rich; and white raiment, that ye may be clothed." In this apparel the redeemed shall shine, when the sun shall have grown dim with age, and the stars fallen from heaven like un-
—*Arct.*

In India last year snakes killed no fewer than 18,670 human beings, while wild cats destroyed 2,759 more. Further, 20,000 head of cattle were killed by the same agents.

SPURGEON ON OPEN COMMUNION.

There is not a Christian beneath the scope of God's heaven from whom I am separated. At the Lord's table I always invite all Christians to come and sit down with us. If any man were to tell me that I am separated from the Episcopalian, the Presbyterian, or the Methodist, I would tell them that he did not know me, for I love them with a pure heart, fervently, and I am not separated from them. The pulse of Christ is communion; and woe to the church that seeks to cure the ills of Christ's church by stopping its pulse. I think it is a sin to refuse to commune with any one who is a member of the church of our Lord Jesus Christ. I should think myself grossly in fault, if at the foot of these stairs I should meet a truly converted child of God, who called himself a Primitive Methodist, or a Wesleyan, or a Churchman, or an Independent, and I should say, "No, sir; you do not agree with me on certain points; I believe you are a child of God, but I will have nothing to do with you." I should then think the text would bear very hard on me, "These are they who separate themselves, sensual, not having the spirit."

—Maine has abolished capital punishment, and the roll of murderers grows steadily longer. In 1870 the convicts undergoing life-imprisonment for murder were 6 per cent. of the whole number; in 1876, 10 per cent.; in 1882, 25 per cent. Nearly forty men are now in prison under this sentence, and the number bids fair to go on growing. Commenting on this the *American of Philadelphia* says:—"It is rather curious that, with the decline of the belief in everlasting punishment in the future life, grows the unwillingness to pass the worst criminals on to what people now profess to regard as another stage of probation. Is it because people doubt the validity of their own reasoning that, like Voltaire and Diderot, they feel no certainty that there is no endless hell, and therefore incline to act as though there were one? Or is it that both the disbelief in hell and the disuse of capital punishment have the same root—more vivid appreciation of physical suffering than of moral degradation?"

P. P.

Twenty Christians can fight heroically where one can suffer greatly and be strong and be still.—*Dr. Cuyler.*