

Messenger and Visitor.

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WEDNESDAY, NOV. 20th, 1896.

CHURCH UNION AND CHRISTIAN UNITY.

The subject of Church Union or Reunion has been prominent in religious discussions during the present year. The Pope has given it consideration and has professed profound desire to see the Christian world reunited.

A clear distinction should be made between Jewish worship and Christian as to forms and ceremonies and other conditions. In the mind of the Jew and in accordance with the teaching of the Old Testament, Jerusalem was the place where men should worship.

There are some other points in connection with this subject which we had intended to touch, but as this article has already grown too long we must reserve them for consideration at another time.

Other Year Book Points. 1. The proposed alteration of the Constitution, p. 21. It must be obvious that inasmuch as the Constitution requires "written notice" of intended alterations, no amendment can be made beyond the scope or even the very words of the notice itself.

2. Articles of faith and practice and church covenant. A committee on this subject was appointed some years ago but no report has yet been made.

3. Tithing. The house is divided on this subject. Those who advocate the giving of a tenth of one's income are many and they have a seal and activity in promoting their views equal to that displayed frequently by those who hold untenable doctrines.

4. The question as to whether entertainments and other matters, touching the social side of Christian life rather than worship, may properly find place in the house set apart as a church building.

5. Organic reunion of the sects of Christendom. There probably will not be until the new heavens and the new earth appear, possibly not then.

unity of all true believers in knowledge, life, love, service and holy fellowship in Christ, is that for which we all must pray and confidently hope. Reaching upward and clasping hands in holy spiritual fellowship and service the children of God shall realize a unity of spirit and life so large and fruitful as to make their differences as to creeds and forms of worship seem insignificant.

THE CHRISTIAN HOUSE OF WORSHIP.

A correspondent writing in another column in regard to church amusements pursues a line of argument with which is some particulars, we presume, many of his readers will not be able to agree.

We presume that brother Cosman is right in thinking that things sometimes find their way into the church which have no legitimate place among its activities. Certainly no intelligent Christian could wish to defend the introduction of anything which tends "to sap the vitality of the children of God" and minister to "the unholy cravings of the human heart."

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is to be taken into account. It is quite possible that there are things, innocent in themselves and even important to the life of the church, which it would not be wise to introduce into the room. It is well to heed the injunction of Paul "Let everything be done decently and in order."

There is abundant need of raising the standard of benevolence and nothing could be wiser than to make ourselves sure that the Bible teaches on the subject.

The Bible conception of this beautiful subject is grander and deeper than the grasp of the human mind and can only be studied to the benefit and extreme delight of the earnest enquirer.

We must not attempt to profane the courts of the Lord's house, with secular or semi-religious entertainments, or fanzanges that always sap the vitality of the children of God.

Church Amusements.

My attention has been specially called of late to the subject at the head of this article. I received a few days ago from a Christian brother in Boston, a letter enclosing a programme of entertainment provided by the Y. P. S. C. E. of the church of which he forms a part.

There is no sensible reason why a Christian community should be barred against entertainment.

In closing this article I ask the pardon of my readers if the occasion of these few rambling remarks extorts the confession from me that when I turn my feet and lift up my eyes towards the place where Jesus has promised to be in the midst of his dear children, a holy joy wells up in my heart, and gladness fills my soul.

Foreign Missions. It is said that there are about 1,500,000,000 of people in the world to-day. In India alone the population exceeds 288,000,000, and out of this vast number only about 400,000 have avowed themselves to be Christians.

There are not many of us who can do just as that man did, but there are brethren all through these Provinces who could double and quadruple their offerings for Foreign Missions.

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A very interesting article in the evening connection with Geo. A. Laws, devotedness of the late church, and very appropriate Luke 8:15, "The sower sows the seed, and the seed falls on good soil, and it brings forth a crop."

Rev. W. C. C. who is preaching church for a installation prayer, S. B. Kempton church, after called on, friends present, that was before prayer was offered of Dartmouth.

The West End out a pastor at S. March, more that has struggled courageously, services and men from Ac...

When practicing men from Ac, secured, with Baptist pastor, Lawson was Hall at the West End church with him, and services, furnished, Mr. L. he has recently look before the indications are in his view. A over which he church is in a hope is devoted, one "may become"

As your reader has been included weeks with a ecia. He is still what, so as to be still in service, other men absent from Lawson. In the perity of the always shown

The North supplied for some Goucher, church services are church and co is still hoping direct them in and out before

OTTAWA The W. B. M. and Dartmouth meeting in Spr day afternoon, number will be at the close. Meeting was delivered by Rev. Lawson, A. C. mon. A paper lowly. A collection of missions.

The City Bapt to hold a limit in the Tabernac giving day at 1:30 son will preach. Rev. A. C. C. occupied the B. occupied the day last. Rev. Wolfville, sup church. Being a week in North Baptist ing last Rev. young man in North Baptist brings with him, and pre under his lead ing will occur evening, 24th.

The lady meet tic church held sale on Tuesd number from proceeds from The Blooms management of a tea and evening, proceeding of the building is being done by Tabernacle night, usual con The late Prof suddenly. We men. His fune Dr Sanders recovering from The talk of and the main

J. W. LAWSON.