

PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY.

A good lady employed a deacon of one of our Baptist churches to do some carpenter's work which amounted to quite a large sum of money, and she said when speaking of the job, "I would just as soon hear Deacon — pray now as I would have done before he did that work for me." That's it! We want deacons and all other members of our churches to do in all business relations just that which is right. We believe in practical religion.

Spurgeon asked a young girl, who served as a domestic in one of his families, when she presented herself for membership in his church, what evidence she could give of having become a Christian, and she meekly answered, "I now sweep under the mats." And the renowned preacher said it was a good evidence, and we agree with him. Real religion leads one to do work thoroughly.

MAKING DRUNKENNESS INFAMOUS.

The venerable Rev. Dr. Andrew P. Peabody, late preacher of Harvard University, in a recent letter on the sale and use of intoxicating liquors, says: "I believe that the only remedy for intemperance is to make drunkenness the prime offence, and to bring about a state of public feeling in which drunkenness and all approaches to it shall be looked upon with the same disesteem, loathing and intense moral disapprobation with which the attempt is made to brand the sale of spirituous liquors. Stigmatize the sale and the seller as you please, I care not with how deep a brand, if you will only make one deeper still for those whose vice makes the sale infamous. What the law makes ignominious, society will hold in like disesteem. If a young man of respectable family is liable to be locked up in a House of Correction for coming home drunk from a convivial gathering, not only will he be restrained from excessive indulgence but his parents and friends will be very careful how they start him on the first steps of the evil way. Making drunkenness infamous would do more than all things else toward checking, and to a large degree entirely preventing, the use of strong drink of any kind in families and on occasions of social festivity, and would multiply beyond any other conceivable cause the number of total abstinent."

DID NOT KNOW IT WAS THERE.

A well-to-do deacon in Connecticut was one morning accosted by his pastor, who said, "Poor Widow Green's wood is out. Can you not take her a cord?" "Well," answered the deacon, "I have the wood and I have the team; but who is to pay me for it?" The pastor, somewhat vexed replied, "I will pay you for it, on the condition that you read the first three verses of the forty-first Psalm before you go to bed to-night." The deacon consented, delivered the wood, and at night opened the Word of God and read the passage.—"Blessed is he that considereth the poor; the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble. The Lord will preserve him and keep him alive, and he shall be blessed upon the earth; and thou wilt not deliver him unto the will of his enemies. The Lord will strengthen him upon the bed of languishing; thou wilt make his bed in his sickness."

A few days afterward the pastor met him again, "How much do I owe you, deacon, for that cord of wood?"

"O!" said the now enlightened man, "do not speak of payment; I did not know those promises were in the Bible. I would not take money for supplying the old widow's wants."

CARD PLAYING.

That accomplished writer, the late Dr. Holland, of Springfield, Mass., said:—"I have all my days had a card playing community open to my observation, and I am yet to be made to believe that that which is the universal resort of the starved in soul and intellect, which has never in any way linked to itself tender, elevating or beautiful associations—the tendency of which is to unduly absorb the attention from more weighty matters—can recommend itself to the favor of Christ's disciples. The presence of culture and genius may embellish, but it can never dignify it. I have at this moment," said Dr. Holland, "ringing in my ears the dying injunction of my father's early friend, 'Keep your son from cards. Over them I have murdered time and lost heaven.'"

Fathers and mothers, keep your sons from cards in the home circle. What must a good angel think of a mother at the prayer-meeting asking prayers for the conversions of her son whom she allowed to remain at home playing cards for "pastime."—*M. P. Gaddis.*