

eous body with one heart and one mind. In us the truth is verified, that unity is strength. And united we not only stand but we move forward with irresistible power, bearing down upon ignorance and unrighteousness, and clearing the country of these marauders of our happiness and prosperity.

As preachers of the Gospel we strike hands this day with the men and women of our churches over the good work we have to do, and all together let us offer our lives upon the altar of unselfishness and of unworldliness, the altar consecrated to the greatest possible usefulness.

We shall best serve both the present generation and our future posterity also, by doing daily with our might what our hands find to do. It is a patient and faithful performance of the duties at hand that make individuals and multitudes strong in character and prosperous in circumstances. As in secular matters the details of business must be carefully looked after in order to secure prosperity, so in religious matters the small duties contribute to the sum of success. Nothing that enters into the formation of character, or imparts instruction, or promotes faith and love, can be neglected. Hence we must give diligence to be industrious, economical, generous, prayerful, joyous. Hence the importance of private and of family devotion, of social prayer and fellowship, and of regular attendance upon the preaching of the Word. Carelessness in acts of devotion is like a parching wind in summer and like mildew upon the corn. Carelessness dries up the succulence of nutritious life, and withers the promise of the luscious fruit. But daily converse with the Word, and daily communion with God, keeps the heart warm towards God and man, and keeps the hand open to every good work.

We might again remind you that there are perennial evils which threaten to invade our homes and our country, which do indeed now, as ever, contend for the mastery of the family and of the state. The holy Sabbath is set at naught; a few set it at naught by precept, while the name of those who do so by example is legion. Intemperance buries its victims as of yore, and recruits its besotted ranks from the children of our firesides. Immorality is still a wound that will not heal; love of money is still a flattered vice, and love of place and power an idol before which mighty men still bow the knee.

And though our civilization is the most advanced of any in the world,⁴ yet the sins of the Canaanites and of the cities of the plain are not extinct; and the devil goeth about as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour.

Let us be true to the traditions of highest chivalry, and prove ourselves faithful knights of the holy cross. For he that stands for humility and for honesty, and for purity, and for sobriety, and for reverence, stands also for his family, for his country and for his God; and is a worthy father and a faithful citizen, and a true Christian, and shall bring in a reign of domestic felicity, of national happiness and of eternal life.

The Methodist Church throughout the world has been, perhaps, the most potent power in waking up the conscience of mankind on the social and economic questions which are everywhere in such prominence to-day; and it is gratifying to know that it is the Gospel which has proclaimed this war. It is the Gospel which shall also proclaim peace. But what

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