

fancying that the pen is not only mightier than the sword, but is more potent than the tongue of fire. Such writers, however, might well consider that the press is an outgrowth of Christianity, and should assist, and not impair, its pulpit power. It is true that block printing was known in China before it was practised in Europe. But it was the invention of movable types that gave to printing its great impulse and its almost unlimited power. This invention was made in Christian lands, and was applied almost immediately to the printing and spread of the Bible. To-day, what is the power of the press beyond the limit of Christian countries? Such papers as the leading journals of England and America are unknown in lands outside of Christendom. The men who control the press and give it its power are the children of Christian mothers, the students of Christian schools, and are girt round and sustained by a Christian public opinion. While the press may assist the pulpit, it is the pulpit which indirectly gives life and power to the press. It forms the public mind, incites to reading and study, and prepares a host of readers to receive and enjoy its daily issues. Will any of these men who boast the power of the press establish a printing office among the pagan Indians? Did any of them carry the daily press to the Fiji Islands or to the New Hebrides or New Guinea? Christian missionaries went there; Christ crucified was preached; the people were evangelized; a religious press was established, and a secular press has slowly followed. These gentlemen of the press, with all their excellences and with all their enlightening powers, never undertook to civilize a savage nation by means of the press. They have no aspiration for martyrdom, or to be eaten by cannibals. Even a Stanley, who has been the boldest of the explorers connected with the press, started to find a Livingstone, who had gone with a message from his divine Master, and the discoveries of Stanley have not led to the establishment of a daily paper in Central Africa; but they have led to the founding of missions, and they will soon witness the establishment of a religious press. To-day, everywhere, grand as is the press, it is the religious press that throws its first rays of light across the gloom of heathen darkness, and that religious press is chiefly in the hands of men of the pulpit."

#### MAN NEEDS THE SABBATH.

"The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath!" said the Divine Redeemer. Man needs it. He needs it to recuperate the waste which six days' labour has brought to his physical system. He needs it to rest his mind, which the worry and care of business has more or less depressed. He needs its sacred time to meditate on his relations to God, his fellow-men, and eternity; and to enable him to join with his fellows in acts of devotion to his Creator and Preserver. He needs it that he may have time to cultivate that self-respect and those social endearments which the busy toil of six days forbids.

The Church also needs it that she may observe the ordinances committed to her by her Divine Head, and to afford her opportunity to teach those truths which are essential to her existence, and the welfare of men both in time and eternity.

The State also needs it that her citizens may learn their duties to one another, their obligations to society, and their duty for conscience' sake to obey the laws of the land. And it may be that even the iron on our railroads and in our workshops needs it, to regain that solidity and strength which constant use tends to destroy. The voice of Nature may, therefore, well mingle with the voices of men, and both in unison with our Divine Creator, proclaim, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy!" Yes, we need its hallowing influences to prepare us for the labours and duties of time and for the enjoyment of eternity. And that we may incite you to use your influence to maintain it in our own community, to our country, and the world, we ask you to meditate on some of the results which would inevitably follow its abrogation as a day of rest, as a sacred day, and a non-legal day in our land.

1. Ignorance, crime, and barbarism would be promoted by its abrogation.
2. Demoralization, as respects morals, would ensue.
3. Political demoralization would result from it.
4. Civil and religious liberty would be destroyed.
5. Infidelity and communism would be promoted.
6. The wages of the labourer would be lessened.
7. Disease would be increased.
8. The judgments of God would be brought down upon the nation.

#### "ONLY A SEED."

"Only a seed, but it chanced to fall  
In a little cleft of a city wall,  
And, taking root, grew bravely up,  
Till a tiny blossom crowned its top.

"Only a flower, but it chanced that day,  
That a burdened heart passed by that way;  
And the message, that, through the flower was sent,  
Brought the weary soul a sweet content.

"For it spake of the lilies so wondrously clad,  
And the heart that was tired grew strangely glad,  
At the thought of a tender care over all,  
That noted even a sparrow's fall.

"Only a thought, but the work it wrought,  
Could never by tongue or pen be taught,  
For it ran through a life, like a thread of gold,  
And the life bore fruit,—a hundred fold.

"Only a word, but 'twas spoken in love,  
With a whispered prayer to the Lord above:  
And the angels in heaven rejoiced once more,  
For a new-born soul entered in by the door."

#### CONDUCTOR BRADLEY.

Conductor Bradley (always may his name  
Be said with reverence!) as the swift doom came,  
Smitten to death, a crushed and mangled frame,

Sank, with the brake he grasped just where he stood  
To do the utmost that a brakeman could,  
And die, if needful, as a true man should.

Men stooped above him; women dropped their tears  
On that poor wreck, beyond all hopes or fears,  
Lost in the strength and glory of his years.

What heard they? Lo! the ghastly lips of pain,  
Dead to all thought save duty's, moved again:  
"Put on the signals for the other train!"

No nobler utterance since the world began  
From lips of saint or martyr ever ran,  
Electric, through the sympathies of man.

Ah, me! how poor and noteless seem to this  
The sick bed dramas of self-consciousness,  
Our sensual fears of pain and hopes of bliss!

Oh! grand, supreme endeavour! Not in vain  
That last brave act of failing tongue and brain!  
Freighted with life, the downward rushing train,

Following the wrecked one, as wave follows wave,  
Obeyed the warning which the dead lips gave.  
Others he saved, himself he could not save.

Nay, the lost life was saved. He is not dead  
Who in his record still the earth shall tread  
With God's clear aureole shining round his head.

We bow as in the dust, with all our pride  
Of virtue dwarfed the noble deed beside.  
God give us grace to live as Bradley died!

J. G. WHITTIER.

CARLYLE says that one cannot move a step without meeting a duty, and that the fact of mutual helplessness is proved by the very fact of one's existence. No man liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself.

THE most agreeable of all companions is a simple, frank man, without any high pretensions to an oppressive greatness; one who loves life, and understands the use of it; obliging alike at all hours; above all, of a golden temper, and steadfast as an anchor.

HE is a fool that grumbles at mischance. Put the best foot forward is an old maxim. Don't run about and tell acquaintances that you have been unfortunate; people do not like to have unfortunate people for acquaintances. Add to a vigorous determination a cheerful spirit. If reverses come, bear them like a philosopher, and get rid of them as soon as you can.

#### A HINDOO HOSPITAL FOR ANIMALS.

While in India a recent traveller saw much of the Hindoos, where they are numerically stronger than the Christians in the United States. He says that religious ideas manifest themselves in many ways which challenge our respect for their consistency. In their eyes all life is sacred, because it emanates from Deity; the life of beast and bird—nay, of reptile and insect, as well as that of man. To carry out this idea, they have established a Hospital for Animals, which is one of the institutions of Bombay. It is on a very extensive scale, and presents a spectacle such as perhaps cannot be seen anywhere else in the world. In an enclosure covering many acres, furnished with sheds and stables, are gathered the lame, the halt and the blind—not of the human species, but of the animal world—cattle and horses, sheep and goats, dogs and cats, rabbits and donkeys, beasts and birds of every description. Among them are to be found even sick little monkeys, whose ailments have made them forget their usual pranks. Long rows of stables were filled with broken down horses, spavined and ring-boned, spending the remnant of their lives, in comparative ease and comfort. In one pen there was a number of emaciated kittens, supplied with plenty of milk to restore them to health. The Hindoos send out carts at night through the streets of Bombay to collect all abandoned animals and bring them in safety to the hospitals. Rabbits, whom no one would own, are furnished with comfortable warrens. In a large enclosure were a hundred dogs, more wretched-looking if possible, than the "whelps and curs of low degree" to be found in Constantinople. These poor creatures, so long the companions of men who starved and kicked them alternately, still apparently longed for human society, and when visitors entered gave feeble signs of recognition and welcome. Then there are birds undergoing reconstruction—dilapidated chickens; sick crows, cranes with broken legs, and even sea-gulls with wounded wings, to be nursed until they can once more sweep over the boundless sea.

#### CAT STORIES.

Cats do not like to be transplanted from one place to another, as the following anecdote will show. A family named Shuker lived at Dawley, in the county of Salop, but had occasion to leave and go to Nottingham. They of course removed all the household goods, including a fine cat, which had been in the family for years. Arriving at Nottingham, the cat showed signs of dissatisfaction with her new abode and after a few days disappeared. Shortly afterwards the cat walked into the old house at Dawley to the great surprise of the neighbours. As might be expected, she was very footsore and lame. When it is considered that the distance travelled on foot by the cat from Nottingham to Dawley is over seventy miles, the feat seems very wonderful. Hundreds flocked to see the four-footed pedestrian, and large sums were refused by the owner for the favourite.

A lady residing in Glasgow had a handsome cat sent to her from Edinburgh; it was conveyed to her in a close carriage. The animal was closely watched for two months, but having had a pair of young ones at the end of that time, she was left to her own discretion, which she very soon employed in disappearing with both her kittens. The lady in Glasgow wrote to her friend in Edinburgh deploring her loss, and the cat was supposed to have found some new home. About a fortnight, however, after her disappearance from Glasgow, her well-known mew was heard at the street-door of her Edinburgh mistress—and there she was with both her kittens, they very fat, she very thin. It is clear that she could carry only one kitten at a time. The distance from Glasgow to Edinburgh is forty-four miles, so that if she brought one kitten part of the way and then went back for the other, and thus conveyed them alternately, she must have travelled one hundred and twenty miles at least. She also must probably have journeyed only during the night, and must have resorted to many other precautions for the safety of her young.

#### WHY THEY DRINK.

MR. A. drinks because his doctor has recommended him to take a little. Mr. B. because his doctor has ordered him not, and he hates quackery. Mr. C. takes a drop because he is wet. Mr. D. because he is dry. Mr. E. because he feels something rising. Mr. F. because he feels a kind of sinking. Mr. G. because he is going to see a friend off to America. Mr. H. because he's got a friend home from Australia. Mr. I. because he is so hot in the evening. Mr. K. because he is so cold in the morning. Mr. L. because he's got a pain in his head. Mr. M. because he's got a pain in his side. Mr. N. because he's got a pain in his back. Mr. O. because he's got a pain in his chest. Mr. P. because he's got a pain all over him. Mr. Q. because he feels light and happy. Mr. R. because he feels heavy and miserable. Mr. S. because he is married. Mr. T. because he isn't. Mr. V. because he likes to see his friends around him. Mr. W. because he's got no friends, and enjoys a glass by himself. Mr. X. because his uncle left him a legacy. Mr. Y. because his aunt cut him off with a shilling. Mr. Z.—We should be happy to inform our readers Mr. Z.'s reasons are for drinking, but putting the question to him, he was found to be unable to answer.—*Homeopathic World.*

WE may lose heaven by neutrality as well as by hostility; by wanting oil for our lamps, as well as by taking poison. The unprofitable servant will as surely be punished as the disobedient and rebellious servant. Undone duty will undo the soul.—*Bowes*