

Words for the Wise.

Christ himself has given a definition of a Christian. He said, "If a man loves me, he will keep my words." At another time he declared, "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me." Here is the test and touchstone of Christian character. A personal love for a personal Saviour underlies all genuine purity. That heart love must be attested by the daily life. Obedience to Christ is the highest evidence of faith in Christ, and without such faith the soul is lost.

Success cannot be had without exertion. God helps those who help themselves. We must work. The success of a company composed of numerous individuals, is secured by each of these individuals doing something; and though the exertions of each one seem insignificant in comparison with the great mass to be moved, remember that a union of many hands makes a mighty force; that we can take little drops of water—each powerless alone—collect them together under favorable conditions for co operation and we have a power almost infinite.

Is there not a cause for earnestness and anxiety, as David, the shepherd lad, said when he heard the vaunting of the Philistine giant and saw the timidity and confusion of Israel's braves? We want for Christian service to day, men and women who will not trust, as Saul did to his own shame and disgrace, in a coat of mail and a sword, wielded by an arm of flesh, sustained by a heart too cowardly to strike the braggart the first blow. The truly brave trusting in God will use the spiritual and tried weapons of our faith. One thing is certain—as Professor Rogers put it—that even in the present day of great profession, of unparalleled advances in science and literature and almost universal outcry for a more educated ministry, the professedly cultured are not achieving any remarkable success; the real work is being done more prosperously, more thoroughly, and more permanently by those who depend less upon the wisdom of man, and more upon the power of God. His work must be done in His own way, not in ours.

Sensible Nonsense.

FORSAUGHT Miss Edith (aged six) "Mamma, they say the Gibbsses have come into a whole lot of money. Ella Stanford says they are real common and vulgar, but I think we had better be very nice to them, as there are two boys in the family about my age, and when I grow up something might come of it, you know."

MISTRESS. "Bridget, I cannot allow you to receive your sweetheart in the kitchen any longer." Bridget: "It's very kind of you, ma'am, but he is almost too bashful to come into the parlour."

"WHY did you put that nickel with a hole in it into the contribution box?" asked one man of another. "Because I couldn't put the hole in without the nickel and I had to put in something."

THE American Bible Society has issued, during sixty-seven years, 42,083,816 Bibles, in 42 languages and dialects. Its work proceeds so methodically and noiselessly, that its magnitude may easily fail to be appreciated.

The Study Table—New Books and Exchanges.

*One of the Maze*, by C. H. Spurgeon; Passmore & Alabaster, 1 shilling. This book is enjoying, and must enjoy, a very large circulation. It will be popular from the very attractiveness of itself; the get up is enough to tempt any one to enter the maze. Strange to say, this maze is not intended to lose and perplex, but contains the threefold cord of love to guide others out of the mazes of spiritual doubts and infidel insinuations.

*The Telephone*, a neat little publication in the interest of the W. C. T. U. of the Maritime Provinces, made its first appearance this month.

*Readings and Recitations—No. 4*, by Miss L. Penny. National Temperance Society, New York. It contains old time favorites and some newly written, which will push the old time pieces for favorite places. The subject of temperance is to-day occupying a conspicuous place, and we welcome this and every other good work which gives it prominence.

*The Gospel of Grace*, by A. Lindesie Cassell & Co., London. Not written from our standpoint, or according to our understanding of the Trinity in unity. Nevertheless, it is well and ably written, and the author evidently desires the good, welfare and salvation of others. It is well always to remember Divine ends are accomplished by human means in proportion as the means themselves are ordained of God.

*The Missionary Review*. Published at Princeton, New Jersey, U. S. Rev. R. G. Wilder is evidently watching the field which is the world in the interests of the King.

*The Biographical Magazine*. Published by the Pictorial Associated Press, New York. It is a living encyclopædia up to date, giving each month biographical sketches of prominent men, and by pictorial illustrations make their features, as well as their characters, familiar to all.

HERE is a matter of interest to young ladies who are willing to venture matrimonial alliance with drinking men. John York and Susan Mosier were married, the latter previously stipulating a pecuniary provision in case of the former's death. York was a drunkard and his wife left him. Shortly after the man died and the widow could recover nothing, the decision of the supreme court of Iowa being "His failure to keep his promise did not justify her deserting him. All the world knows that such promises made by a drunkard are always broken. In a few words, as she knowingly married a drunkard she must be content to be a drunkard's wife." A harsh decision but a just one. A woman who accepts a man who drinks, even though he be not a drunkard, does so with her eyes open to the fact that all curses which drink brings are the possibilities of her married state.

A TEACHER asked his class, "How do you pronounce s-t-i-n-g-y?" A smart boy stood up and said, "That depends a great deal on whether you mean to use it on a man or a wasp?"