

old was lifted up to larger forms and filled with a new, radiant life.

The Teacher's Supreme Satisfaction.

What could be a nobler task for any teacher than to lead men thus from trembling childhood to strong manhood? The teacher sees the disciples in an ideal light, as the enthusiastic gardener sees the perfect flower in the struggling plant. There is no effective teaching without this living interest in men. Paul's "joy and crown" was not in prizes gained on account of his learning, not in splendid churches built, not in brilliant sermons published but in men and women scattered throughout the world who had been brought from heathen darkness to the light of the glorious gospel. In quiet days we are in danger of finding our supreme interest in ideas, schemes of thought, systems of theology rather than in men and women who are fighting the everlasting battle against scepticism, materialism and conventional routine. It is a sign of true greatness to find one's joys outside the narrow circle of self in the life of common apparently uninteresting people. It is possible to utter great swelling words about "the service of humanity" and yet to be destitute of this quick, tender sympathy. It is a proof of a noble nature to contend for a worthy crown, an unfading wreath. This is the crown of the victor, not the diadem of the king; on His head are many crowns but to each faithful follower, each true teacher there is given an appropriate crown. God grant us grace to choose and make our own crown. Because these disciples are Paul's joy and crown they will be such, the love that sees the vision helps to make it real (John 1: 42). This brooding love is prophetic and creative. Words which when unreal, form the most repellent kind of cant are when fresh and living full of encouragement and inspiration. How many drift away towards feebleness and failure because they have no assurance that to some one they are "beloved." God seems to be silent and they cry "No man cares for my soul." It is Paul's joy and crown that he helped men to cherish a lofty thought of God that he brought near to them the tenderness of the Christ, that he made the Cross stand for all that is true and worth striving for, and in doing this he helped forward the higher life of the world. He has taught us that through the lowly service we advance the kingdom of truth more than by large pretentious claims. The epistles remain and we find the key to their deepest meaning in our effort to come into touch with the lives of simple people who like ourselves have suffered pain, shed tears and poured out prayers as they struggled amid sordid surroundings to respond to the quickening, bracing call "Be steadfast in the Lord."

FOR DOMINION PRESBYTERIAN.

Notes Musical.

BY UNCLE "WILL."

On September 4th, 1582, John Durie, one of the Presbyterian ministers of Edinburgh, on his return from banishment was met at the Netherbow port—one of the gates of the city—"by the hail toun." The vast multitude forming in procession, marched up the High street with heads uncovered, singing in four parts the 124th Psalm.

Now Israel may say and that truly
If that the Lord had not our cause maintained,
&c.

Reading such an account as this, one is forcibly impressed with the conviction that over 300 years ago a knowledge of sacred music was much more prevalent than it is to day.

Knowledge of music was not confined to Scotland, for we read during the reign of Elizabeth, in England it was customary in promiscuous gatherings to hand round "parts" (not scores) amongst the company, that the pleasure of concerted music might be enjoyed. Each one took it as a matter of course that he or she should bear his or her part.

These were the days when the "Sang Maister" was held in esteem and "Sang Schules" were warmly supported and patronized and when the practice of singing formed a chief element in ordinary education.

All great religious awakenings have been accompanied by sacred song, and the revival of congregational praise dates from Luther, Calvin and Knox, with a distinct retrograde movement in the time of the Commonwealth and again a revival in the days of the Wesleys.

There is a tendency at the present time to depart from congregational praise, special effort being made to secure high class choir and solo singing. This is to be deplored, as the tendency is more towards the sacred concert than praise, and adoration to and of the Great Triune God. One has only to read the newspaper notices to see that elaborate musical services occupy a much too prominent place in the present day. Waldo Selden Pratt says, page 81 in Musical Ministries in the Church: "It is far better to spend money for a skillful player of tunes for the Church services, the prayer meetings and the Sunday School, and limit the music to hymn singing, than to sacrifice the latter in favor of the most exquisite choir music or the most popular organ recitals," and he further adds: "Instead of imagining that congregational singing is hard to secure and maintain, let us be very sure that in the majority of cases it is simply waiting to be given a fair chance."

"It will fail, of course, in congregations where there is no spiritual earnestness, and religious life that craves expression."

"It cannot assert itself in the face of ministerial neglect or shameful musical blundering. But it responds gloriously when ever the requisite ground is provided for its growth, and whenever it is cultivated with affectionate common sense."

Mr. Pratt lays special stress that all the Church services should have good musical leadership: the Church, the prayer meeting, the Sabbath School. The last should be specially emphasised for is it not the nursery of the Church?

Where will we find a Church in which these three essentials are carried out? Is it that those in charge of this department care not for prayer meeting or Sabbath School? or is it that they think it would be somewhat out of place (where the real heart and soul service of the church is) to introduce the high priced organist and professional soloists?

The man who never makes any mistakes never makes any progress.

Never be discouraged because good things get on so slowly here; and never fail to do daily that good which lies next to your hand. Do not be in a hurry, but be diligent. Enter into the sublime patience of the Lord.—George MacDonald.

True Refinement.

The truest test of refinement is a uniform regard for the welfare and interests and feelings of others. There is a refinement which is by education, but in each case the sure indications of refinement are the same. You can recognize the difference between those who have and those who lack refinement, by their bearing in a crowd. Indeed this difference is easier perceived in a street car, or in a market, or on a thronged highway, than in a drawing room. A person of true refinement takes up the less room, and claims less concession, and is readier to yield position than an unrefined person. The way in which a man carries a cane or an umbrella in a crowd settles the question in his case. And again the keeping of one's market-basket in the way, or out of it, at the busiest market hour, is an infallible test of the bearer's inner grain. And so in many other minor matters.

It is worth one's while to desire refinement, and to know and crave its evidences; for, after all, true refinement is but the expression of the spirit of the Christian life. An unselfish thoughtfulness of others is an outgrowth of the religion of Christ. Each esteeming others better than himself, each seeking not his own but another's good, marks the indwelling and the outgoing of the spirit of the servant of Christ, intent on exemplifying his Master's spirit.—Parish Visitor.

Peter Newell contributes the frontispiece cartoon of Harper's Weekly for March 28, which is a caricature drawing of Signor Marconi in the act of listening for wireless messages. Under the picture is a Peter Newell rhyme:

"A zephyr scarcely stirs the air but that,
unconsciously,
He looks for wireless telegrams from
hands across the sea!"

Sir Gilbert Parker, whose novel The Right of Way has had sensational sales in America, is now at Monte Carlo, where he and Mrs. Parker have been entertaining friends from England and America. Sir Gilbert is still at work collaborating on the dramatization of The Right of Way.

Unpleasant!

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Humors,
Eczema,
Salt Rheum**

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by purifying the

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