

THE CHRISTIAN.

FAITH COMETH BY HEARING, AND HEARING BY THE WORD OF GOD.—Paul

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NOTES AND NEWS.

WANTED!—More models and less critics."

It was said of a certain preacher, "that he had a well balanced mind; with one-half his mind he thought he would and with the other half he thought he would'nt."

WEEDS.—1. They grow without cultivating. 2. The longer they are left the harder to get rid of them. 3. They hinder the growth of the good. 4. They will eventually destroy the good.

To love God is the greatest command. It follows, therefore, that the greatest sin is to reject this command. Many who count themselves morally good are desperately wicked, when they refuse to obey the commands of God.

In our church work we should be more anxious to convert a few than to please the many. As another has said: "Our aim should not be to draw a crowd but to construct the church." "A living church is the best proof of a living Christ."

Here is a wise saying from J. W. Longley, of Halifax: "The first law in the natural world is self-preservation, but in the spiritual the conditions are exactly the reverse, as we find in the spiritual world the first law is self-sacrifice and self-effacement."

The *Commercial Tribune*, of Cincinnati, says, that "the Convention was the largest gathering of any one religious denomination in all history. There have been greater numbers at the conventions of the Christian Endeavorers that are interdenominational, but never before have so many people of any particular church been brought together. The joint agent of the Central Passenger Association stated to a *Commercial Tribune* reporter last night that 14,000 tickets had up to that time been deposited with him. Counting those to come, the Sunday excursions, ministers that came on special rates, and those who came over roads, not in the association, it is a safe estimate to place the number in attendance at 20,000."

Frances E. Clark, says: "We must be something in order to do something, but we must also do something in order to be something. If we find it hard to do good, let us try to be good; if on the other hand we find it hard to be good, let us do good; being leads to doing and doing leads to being."

Fifty years ago 200 disciples met in Cincinnati and organized the Missionary Society and raised that year about \$2,000, and the number of Disciples then were about 200,000 members. Now they number 1,118,000 and instead of raising \$2,000 they have raised last year for missions, educational and benevolent purposes, over half a million dollars.

If any are not able to see the need of missions, and the wonderful success of both Foreign and Home Missions, it is because they are not looking for it. "Two men went to India, one a missionary to save souls, the other to hunt tigers. The tiger hunter said he had been in India two years and never saw a convert to Christianity. The missionary replied by saying that he had been in India two years and he never saw a tiger." We generally see what we are looking for.

There is much talk about crossing the "dead line." A busy, live, studious man, who keeps in touch with the wants and interests of others, knows nothing about a dead line. We have old men to-day who have young hearts and keep in touch with in the young. It is not the young man who is demand because he is young, but because he is fresh and new in thought and deed, which should be as true of the old as the young. When one loses his interest in the living issues of the day, and ceases thinking and reading, he is over the "dead line" whether young or old.

How beautiful the life of those whose hearts are stayed on God, whose earthly days are almost numbered. Such a life is like the foretaste of the divine life, who are on the "border line," where they seem to hear and see things strangely grand and beautiful, and that carry them beyond the seen, and fills their souls with inexpressible delight. Here they find the fulfillment of the promise of our Saviour, who said that those who loved Him should be loved of His Father, and that He would love them and manifest himself to them. May not this vision of the heavenly light that is revealed to those who stand on the border of the new life, be the manifestation that fills the soul with the "gleam of immortality."

We need to be doers and not hearers only. The reading and study of the Bible is necessary, but unless we work out in our lives what we receive in our heads and our hearts, our lives will be fruitless. We need to make a special effort to have the light that is in us shine out in our lives. It is when our spiritual vitality ripens into good words and good works, that our Christianity becomes a blessing to the world and a tree in God's garden that will be a great blessing to his cause.

The benefits of friendship with the good and true is beyond all wealth or wordly honors. "To become attached to noble souls is to be in a measure true and noble and generous ourselves."

We heard a brother once say, "that if there was only one person saved, he wanted to be that one." Had he the right idea of Christian life he would have said: *If there is only one person to be saved, I want to be the one to save him.*

"We are not asked to devote all we have to the Lord, but to share it with Him. We hold only in trust what we possess. The little we appropriate of our possessions will multiply a hundred fold and be a perpetual reaping in the harvest time." "Not how much of our income shall we give to the Lord; but how much of the Lord's income shall we appropriate to ourselves."

The only possible way to be saved is by seeking the salvation of others. We will be seeking out the faults of others if we are not seeking their salvation. The anti-missionary spirit is against the spirit of Christ. Bro. Richardson has wisely said "That growing zeal in missions has prevented many divisions among us." We must either cultivate souls or we will cultivate divisions.

"Mountain-top Christians are always smiling. They can't help it. Do you know how to get others to smile on you? Smile yourself. Let one snarling, snappy person dwell in the bosom of a family, and he will get the whole family to snarling. I met a man the other day who had cut his thumb very nearly off. It was hanging just by a little bit of skin. The next time I met him I looked for his harp to be hanging on the willow. He came walking into church and there was his old smile. He had not lost it. "I cut my thumb the other day," he said, "but I didn't cut it off, praise the Lord." One of the great needs of the times is smiling, thankful Christians."

We have no words sufficient to express our regrets and our disappointment and sorrow over the loss of Bro. Stewart from the pages of THE CHRISTIAN. While we hope to hear from him occasionally, through its pages, yet the first page that he so wisely and ably edited, must be given over to others. His kind, careful, thoughtful and faithful management of his department of THE CHRISTIAN have won the unbounded confidence of all its readers in his integrity and love for the cause of Christ. We hear nothing but regrets from the readers of THE CHRISTIAN that he was obliged to relinquish this work. But to have been in touch with so pure a spirit and such a kind, exalted and heavenly nature, will be held in sacred memory by us all. May the dear Lord spare his life and bless his labors, and permit us to meet again on earth. But if this shall not be our joy and pleasure, may we meet in the unmeasured future where we shall be able to complete what we have here begun; where we shall finish our broken lives and realize our ideals and longing desires.