

Contributions.

To Please the Gray-haired Boys.

On New Year's day I was indulging in what I thought was a look back a short way over the years that had gone, but on commencing to call up events that stood out as milestones to mark the way, to my surprise I found I had been looking back just thirty years!

O for one hour of youthful joy, Give back my twentieth spring, I'd rather laugh a bright-haired boy, Than roign a gray-haired king.

Off with the wrinkled spoils of age, Away with learning's crown, Tear out life's wisdom written page And dash its trophies down.

One moment let my life-blood stream From youth's bright fount of flame, Give me one giddy, reeling dream Of life all love and fame.

My guardian angel heard the prayer, And calmly smiling said, "If I but touch thy silvery hair Thy hasty wish has sped.

"But is there nothing in thy track To bid thee fondly stay? Ere the swift seasons hurry back To find the wished-for day."

"Ah truest soul of womankind, Without thee what were life, One gift I cannot leave behind, I'll take my precious wife."

The angel took a sapphire pen And wrote in rainbow dew, "The man would be a boy again, And be a husband too.

"But is there nothing yet unsaid Before the change appears? Remember all their gifts have fled With those receding years."

"Ah yes! I'd not forget My fond paternal joys, I could not bear to leave them all I'll take my girls and boys."

The smiling angel dropped his pen, "Why this will never do, The man would be a boy again, And be a father too."

And so I laughed; my laughter woke The household with its noise, I wrote my dream, when morning broke To please the gray-haired boys.

"That Question."

DEAR BRO. MUNRO,—I see by the last EVANGELIST that you are somewhat anxious to see some replies made to that question propounded by Bro. James Medard. The question is, "In what manner and to what extent may the Disciples of Christ work with the denominations around them?"

"Happy is he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth" (Rom. xiv. 22). To him that considereth anything a sin to him it is a sin, if he do it. So my real impression is that "That Question" cannot be definitely decided the one way or the other, but let each party decide for himself or herself as in the sight of God. A. BELL.

"The Canadian Evangelist" Premium.

I have been reading the lives of Jesus the Christ and Paul the Apostle, written by Canon Farrar, and wish to say to your readers that I think it an excellent book, and one that should be in the hands of every student of the Bible.

Some have made objections to it, and have said that they would rather trust the records given by the apostles and evangelists. But there are several reasons why we should use and appreciate the book. It does not aim to set aside the Bible narratives, but to collect together the fragments there given us and to help us to understand them.

Many learned and talented men (Canon Farrar included) by visiting the countries in which these lives were spent, making themselves familiar with the very localities referred to, the manners and customs of the people, scenes similar to those described, the history and geography of the country, also the condition of the people morally, physically and religiously, are better able than we to link the threads of the several sketches together and to weave them into connected biographies; and why should not we, instead of tangling those threads and getting them into such hard knots that we could not loose them, avail ourselves of their studies and researches to gain a more perfect knowledge of the earthly life of the most August Being that ever lived and walked and acted and talked upon this earth, and also of one of the chief of His Apostles or ambassadors? thus strengthening our faith in Jesus of Nazareth as the Son of God and the Saviour of men, enlarging our conceptions of His work and enabling us the better to meet the objections of the sceptic.

The suggestions and explanations of the book do not assume authority over the faith and practice of Christians—that would be presumption—they are not even sectarian, and therefore perfectly safe to be put into the hands of young or old, and will be found helpful to teachers and taught. Then I say, get the book and help to circulate THE CANADIAN EVANGELIST, and you will be benefiting yourselves and others, and have the satisfaction of doing good. W. M. CREWSON.

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It is only by comparison that we can judge of anything. Absolute knowledge is not given us to possess. The knowledge of truth, especially of the highest truths, must be progressive. Let us then not quarrel with the slowness of our progress, or with the imperfection of our convictions; but doing what we can to improve them, let us wait with patience for their final accomplishment.—W. Dana.

Farrar's "Life of Christ and St. Paul" is indeed an excellent work. The descriptions are grand. Each chapter is a sermon in itself. J. P. WALLS, Aurora.

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