

Baptist Belief.

happening to preach a sermon on "Obedience," a few days back, I estimated that notwithstanding the mist that, in some people's thinking, is connected with Baptist belief, we do as a people unswervingly hold to the necessity of righteous living as a result of accurate and Scriptural thinking. And the next week, to my great delight, some kind friend forwarded to me the minutes of an Association held in Hillsboro in the year 1876. Then for the first time I read the expressed creed of the Association in which I've been enrolled as a preacher for some three years. I have thought since reading that declaration of faith, of the many who have never seen it; and believing every Baptist in this Association should become acquainted with it, and should by earnest thought and careful comparison with Scripture, obtain a definite, clean-cut and well-grounded belief. I have taken the liberty of forwarding you the said declaration, and I certainly think it will be of interest to our people; especially to those who continually join us from other communions, and also to our young people in the home, and the Sunday-school, and the church. And by some means (through the Messenger and Visitor, should the editor see fit.) I want to say some few words concerning this expression of belief, for if we are to earnestly contend for the faith, it is certainly essential that we understand the faith, and of giving prominence to the truths we believe to be of God should emanate from us some who now sympathize with us, for our support and aid—we may remember, that the scattering of the chaff by the wind of Gospel doctrine can in no wise endanger the standing or security of the good grain.

W. B. HINSON.

A DECLARATION OF FAITH, PRACTICE, AND COVENANT OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST, COMPILING THE EASTERN NEW BRUNSWICK BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

ARTICLE 1.—We believe that there is but one living and true God, who is spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable in His being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth; Deut. 10: 14; Job 1: 17; 1 Tim. 1: 17; Mark 10: 27; Isaiah 6: 3; Deut. 32: 4; Ex. 15: 11, 24, 26.

13. That the life of religion consists in the knowledge of God, and conformity with Him in the inward man, which necessarily produces an external conformity to His commands, and brings us to live in obedience to His holy will in all our ways, and in our several places and relations; John 17: 17; Rom. 13: 8, 9; 1 Cor. 10: 31; Eph. 2: 10; Gal. 3: 2, 3; Gal. 2: 20; Rom. 12: 1, 2.

14. That true believers being united to Jesus Christ, shall never perish, but live and reign with Him for ever. They have communion with God, and by His Spirit are united with each other, and have communion one with another, whereby they are made partakers of each other's gifts and graces; John 6: 39; 10: 28; Rev. 3: 21; John 17: 7, 11, 21; 14: 3; Rom. 8: 28, 29; 1 John, 1: 2.

How to Help Your Pastor.

Among the most faithful and self-denying men among us are the pastors of our churches. The large majority of them are men who are literally "spending and being spent," for the benefit of others. So far as pecuniary compensation is concerned, many of them are men of such capacity as to command a larger income than their salaries afford. Most of them are men in moderate circumstances, and some in quite humble circumstances. Many of them are not able to lay up anything for old age, much less to make provision for their children when they are dead. They have many burdens to bear that the layman knows little or nothing about. They are compelled to be long-suffering, patient, and to endure hardness as good soldiers of Christ. They have at best many cares and anxieties from which others are more or less free. They have to watch for souls as those who are to give an account to God. They have to comfort the feeble-minded; warn the unruly; rebuke the forward; build up their people in their most holy faith; besides the great weight of the power and sinners to flee from the wrath to come.

The Joy of Being in Christ.

BY REV. THEODORE L. CUYLER.

The Bible description of a true Christian is a man "in Christ." This was Paul's description of himself. That bunch of Concord grapes before me did not come from the vine; it really came out of it, for it was originated in the vine, and was a part and parcel of it. Union with Christ is the beginning, the source, the support, and the very essence of the Christian life. There are several things that flow from this delightful union.

Rob's Opportunity.

BY MARGARET J. LANGSTRE.

Rob Dayton was patting himself inside the overcoat which, as his mother saw with some concern, was daily growing too small for him. Perhaps it would be more correct to say that Rob was growing too large for it. Certainly his legs and arms were pushing their way in the world vigorously, and the boy gave promise of becoming a tall fellow, as his father had been; strong too, and able to hold his own.

What To Do In Temptation.

Fred was a little fellow, who had been told not to go through a hole in the hedge into a neighbor's garden. He muddled pretty well usually, often "speaking through" it is true, but keeping the letter of the law faithfully, till one day when he heard his mother's voice speaking at that forbidden side, and his sharp eyes caught a glimpse of her blue dress as she stood, talking with her neighbor. Then began a tug and tussle with temptation. Oh, he wanted so, so! But mamma said no! Oh, but he couldn't help it! Mamma said no!

Vivid Writing.

A little descriptive piece entitled "Over the Guns," from the Detroit Free Press, of which we give a paraphrase, reminds us that great advertisers, like H. W. Warner & Co., proprietors of Warner's celebrated safe Cure, might get a hint from it.

One By One.

The late Dr. Goodell returned from his vacation in one of the later years of his life with the purpose to reach a hundred persons that year with the Gospel, to convert them and bring them into the church. What encouragement had he to set his mark at so unusual a number? He had, one may say, the promises of God, the examples of the first Christian century, the occasional experience of past generations and churches in our time. All these things he had; but, probably, as a practical man, he counted more upon these facts: that he had under his direction a church of 700 members, a band of devoted teachers, another band of earnest young men, another of mothers and devoted women, another of consecrated men. He counted also upon the fact that, with health, he could make, during the year before him, several hundred pastoral visits. But, in applying this principle, a question meets us at the threshold: "How will you get your one out?" For want of a proper consideration of this question very much earnest labor has been misapplied and wasted. It is not so difficult to get a million souls, or a thousand, or a hundred, or ten, or two. The missionary can find a nation easily; the philanthropist, a city; the teacher, a congregation; the lawyer, a class. But men are not converted by numbers, or by cities, or by congregations, or by classes, or by tens and threes. If converted at all, it is one by one. How will you get your one? By some process of isolation, evidently. The missionary must know how to detach some one heathen man; isolate him, as fully as possible, from his heathenish surroundings, entanglements, and supports, and get him alone. The boy says to his enemy, "Let me catch you alone." The missionary, if he would catch men, must catch them alone.

Rob continued to grow larger and stronger. His mother was daily growing too small for him. Perhaps it would be more correct to say that Rob was growing too large for it. Certainly his legs and arms were pushing their way in the world vigorously, and the boy gave promise of becoming a tall fellow, as his father had been; strong too, and able to hold his own.

One by one, he was reaching his goal. The late Dr. Goodell returned from his vacation in one of the later years of his life with the purpose to reach a hundred persons that year with the Gospel, to convert them and bring them into the church.

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