

THE Canadian Epworth Era

Published Monthly in the Interests of Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies of the Methodist Church.

Subscription Price: 60 cents a year. A Club of six, \$3.50. The Paper will not be sent after term of subscription expires.

Subscriptions should always be sent to the Publisher, WILLIAM BASSON, Wesley Buildings, Toronto, Ont. All other matters concerning the Paper should be sent to the Editor, Rev. S. T. BARTLEY, 50 Richmond St. West, Toronto.

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Two Epitaphs

The estimate of a man's life, after he has passed away, is based not upon his creed, but upon the life he has lived, the work he has done.

There are two remarkable epitaphs to be seen in England but a few hours' journey apart.

Near the village of Leamington, Warwickshire, in a small country churchyard, connected with a beautiful brick-covered church, may be found a stone on which is this inscription:

"Here lies a miser who lived for himself, And cared for nothing but gathering pelf.

Now, where he is, or how he fares, Nobody knows and nobody cares."

How little this man's neighbors cared for his creed, and how much impressed they were with his life, this epitaph shows.

The other epitaph is in St. Paul's Cathedral. Among the many monuments to Britain's heroic dead, which this building holds is one which at once arrests attention by its simplicity and beauty. It is a plain sarcophagus, on which rests a recumbent statue of noble presence. Beneath the figure are these words:

"Sacred to the Memory of

General Charles George Gordon, who at all times and everywhere gave his strength to the weak, his substance to the poor, his sympathy to the suffering, his heart to God."

Was there ever a more beautiful and significant epitaph? Not a word is to this man's creed, but what volumes as to his life!

A writer tells of a Scottish village conversation which he once overheard. Husband and wife had had a slight disagreement, and Sandy was reproaching his good partner.

"Awa!" said he. "When ye marrit me, a' ye brought was a keg o' whiskey and the auld Bible."

"Well, Sandy," was the response, "gin ye had paid as muckle attention to the Guild Book as ye did tae the whiskey, ye'd ha'e been a meenister of the Gospel the noo, an' a better husband!"—*Ser.*

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