

A HINT FOR CHURCHES.

"Never let a church live beyond its income. Yet it should not be forgotten that some people are ever harping on the one string of cutting down expenses, while they only prove their motive to be penurious and selfish, by being unfavourable, and even hostile, to any and every reasonable attempt to increase the income of the church to meet its pressing needs. Some men spend more time, and die meaner, trying to get their wants down to suit their income, than others do trying to get their income up to meet their wants. Every church should do as much as is in its power, but not outrun its ability to close up all accounts at the end of each year."

—*Rev. S. Stoll.*

OBEYING OUR GUIDE.

I went up a great mountain yesterday, more than ten thousand feet high. On my way there was pointed out to me a place where a friend of mine met with a severe accident a few years ago. My guide had also been his.

"How did it happen?" said I.

The reply was: "He did not obey his guide. He would go by a way against which I warned him."

Even so, thought I, we must obey our heavenly Guide, if we would journey safely. Faith is implicit reliance, and this implies unquestioning obedience. We must go only where our Saviour leads us. We are sure to stumble if we leave his side.—*Newman Hall.*

CONDITIONS OF PARDON.

Soon after Queen Victoria had been crowned, while she was but nineteen years old, the Duke of Wellington called on her to sign a death-warrant of a soldier guilty of a capital offence. She shuddered at the thought that she was to bring a fellow-creature to death. She looked imploringly into the face of the Iron Duke and said, "Can nobody say anything good for this man?" The Duke said, "He was so bad he had no friends." "Why," said she, "I never heard of a man so bad that he had no good in him." The Duke studied a moment and said, "I believe I have heard that he was good to his old mother." "Then," said she, "for his mother's sake I will pardon him." But what reasons are annexed to a sinner's plea for pardon.

Nothing but his guilt. His petition is, "I have sinned against heaven and in thy sight." "Pardon mine iniquity for it is great." Pardon without merit. Who ever heard of it anywhere but from the lips of God, and yet it is against this condition that men rave.—*Sel.*

MAKE THE CHILDREN HAPPY.

James Parton says; "The best man or woman is the one who can raise the best child." If this be true, what matters it sisters, that the clothes are folded away rough-dry, and the stove loses its lustre so long as the time we have gained is spent in behalf our children? Thirty years hence, when the little garments shall all be laid aside, we shall look into the past with no regret that any unnecessary work was left undone; but how our fingers will ache to take over again the stitches that were only once a vexation! How we shall long to see the blocks and plaything, as we now find them scattered, and how the noisy prattle that at times threatens to quite unnerve us would then be like the sweetest music to our unaccustomed ears! We can afford to use every effort to make the children happy. And well for us if, when our sons and daughters are reviewing the past, they find no blight for which we are responsible.—*Rhody.*

WHAT JESUS IS ABLE TO DO.

Able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all-sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work. (2. Cor. ix : 8.)

Able to succor them that are tempted. (Heb. ii : 18.)

Able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy. (Jude 24.)

Able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him. (Heb. vii : 25.)

What he has promised, he is able also to perform. (Romans iv : 21.)

Able also to make you stand. Rom. xiv : 4.)

Able to keep that which I have committed unto him. (2. Tim. i : 12.)

Able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified. (Acts xx : 32.)

Able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think. (Eph. iii : 20.)