

When darkness thick reigned over all the deep,

When mist and chaos over eart<sup>1</sup> did 'eep Their formless shadows ever veiled in night God said, "Let there be light !"

- When men in sin and shame were weighted down.
- And groveled like the serpent on the ground.
- O'er all gross darkness, with its deadly blight, God said, "Let there be light !'

When in the fullness of the glorious day Christ came, the sting of death to take away, The angels gladly sang o'er Bethlehem height.

He comes ! Behold the light !

Rejoice! Rejoice, O men of earth, and sing, other people have felt bound to res-Hosannas shout for tidings that we bring; No more need you in sadness sit; and,

night, A wake ! Behold the Light !

-New York Observer.

## Zion Languishing.

A good cause may languish. Re ligion may sometimes decline. Although it is the special charge of the Almighty and He stands pledged for its final triumph over all the earth, yet there have been times when Christianity reached a very low ebb. This may occur again, and it is true now of many places that the work of the Lord is in a languishing condition. Professing Christians do not like to be reminded that religion is at a low ebb in the Church to which they be long. Sometimes they resent such a declaration when it is true. Few persons are willing to hear that the work which has been specially committed to them has been neglected It is best, however, to face the facts.

There are different degrees of spiritual decline. In some cases Zion languishes, but still much of the life and power of God remain in the hearts of her people. In other cases the Church is almost dead. Error has taken the place of truth, faith has declined and love grown cold, prayer is neglected and the Bible almost forgotten. Christian people yield to the tide of worldliness and are carried downward. The Church is covered with reproach. Infidels mock at the inconsistent lives of those who profess to be children of God. The beauty and strength of Zien are gone and her garments are defiled. One symptom of a decline in religion is thoroughly alive to this fact, the is seen in the pulpit. When preachers advent of a fresh worker is hailed Christian Herald. leave the pure word of God and begin with delight. The different groups vie to speak on the Sabbath day on purely with each other to secure the addition secular topics, merely to attract a al help, and the new-comer speedily crowd and arrest the declining interest finds the one that is congenial. But of the people, the case is serious. It this is possible only where the desire is right that the ministers and churches is for Christ's gain and not for personal should take an interest in political and pleasure in the common work of the civil affairs, but the opportunities of congregation. the Sabbath are too important and too few to be laid aside for secular matters. There are preachers among us who preach the preaching which the Lord tells them as faithfully as the best of the prophets ever did, but there are in dungeons, some pierced through by others who do not. The painful the tongue of slander, some pinioned straining of the pulpit after something by the pen of criticism, and some popular in these days tells a sad story. thrust through the heart with the Symptoms of a languishing condition pangs produced at their received enmay be seen among laymen as well as ministers. There are laymen in the churches now who are as true and tion. good as any that ever lived. If they should die to-day they would go faithful servant of the Lord it only straight to heaven, and if they live proves the truth of his Word : "Belong they will continue to live to the cause ye are not of the world, thereglory of God. But this is not true of all. Some do not love their brethren. The Bible says, "Little children, love one another." Jesus said, "Hereby shall all men know that ye are My disciples, if ye have love one toward the ordeal. On having faithfully done another." But some do not act kindly toward their brethren nor speak charitably of them. They have no confi-

# RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

the salvation of men The time of Well, what has he, then which the went upstairs, and it strikes me you One often hears this remark from reward is not yet. This is service commonest sinner has not?

members who have come into a con- time. Let it be faithfully improved. gregation after the congregation has What though men do fail to appreciate roll. been for some time organized. I went your work ? What though the world to the church services, I went to the do frown and tribulation be your por- contributing members. prayer meeting, I have been attending 'tion ? The time of triumph will come | both for some months, and "not one by and by. For "these are they has spoken to me." Now that, if true which came out of great tribulation,

"No One Spoke to Me."

been approachable, and has not, by

look and gesture, repelled every ap-

proach make, then there is something

wrong with that minister and that

people. But if five cases out of six

there has been a "I-want-to-be-left

alone, air about the new-comer, that

pect.

indicates a lamentable condition of and have washed their robes and made affairs in that congregation, or in the them white in the blood of the Lamb. character of that person, or both. If -The Telescope. the person who speaks in this way has

## Indigestible Religion.

It requires a great deal of ingenuity to build a house or fashion a ship, of a child's character and launch it on the great ocean of time and eternity. Where there is one parent that seems qualified for the work there seems to

There is a tendency, especially in be twenty parents who miserably fail. large congregation, to separate, and Here is a father who says, "My child seek congenial companions in church shall know nothing but religion." work. Just as in a large field filled The boy is aroused at six o'clock in with workman, those who are kindred the morning to recite the Ten Comspirits will inevitably gravitate to one mandments. He is awakened off the another, so in Christian work, where sofa on Sunday night to see how much it is not necessary that every one on he knows of the Westminster Catethe force should lay hold to help along chism. It is religion morning, noon, each enterprise, the workers will inand night. Passages of Scripture are stinctively group themselves to their plastered on the bedroom wall. He individual tasks. So there comes to looks for the day of the month in a religious almanac. Every minister be what are sometimes called "clithat comes to the house is told to take ques," formed with no attention of the boy aside and talk to him, and tell carrying a particular point, or of some Individual out, but unconsciously him what a great sinner he is. formed because those who form it

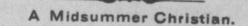
After a while the boy arrives a that period in life when he is too old for chastisement and too young to know and feel the force of moral principle. Father and mother are sitting up for the boy to come home. It is nine o'clock at night - ten o'clock will make one of their number. She it is twelve o'clock-it is half-past has nothing in common, she finds her- twelve o'clock, and they hear the self out of her element, she chooses to night key jingle in the door. They say he is coming. George goes very softly through the hall, hoping to get upstairs before he is accosted. The ation, but the offended member takes father says, "George, where have you living God! The great and overbeen ?" "Been out !" Yes, he has whelming need of the hour-of our been out, and he has been down, and country and church-of our souls, is he is on the broad road to destruction the fresh and immediate baptism of for this life and the life to come. The blame is not by any means with Father says, "There is no use in the set every heart on fire of God to posthe new member alone. The few Ten Commandments; the Catechism seems to me to be an utter failure." resent the incoming of a stranger, and Ah, my friend, you made a very great mistake. You stuffed that child with religion until he could not digest it; the church must lead and control these can work, and in a congregation that you made that which is a joy in many changes or be overwhelmed by them. households an abhorrence in yours.-

3. He has a pew or an occasional a chapter, before the beginning of the

sitting in the church. The three things, and nothing more, and never a word of blessing again. to entitle him to the glorious name of

Christian. If he should suddenly die he would three things about him would be sure

to be mentioned in the funeral sermon, and held out to the bereaved family as reasons for a blessed assurance that he but more ingenuity to build the temple has gone straight to glory, with an abundant entrance.



A beautiful instance of Christian integrity is given of a distinguished Christian lady who was spending a few weeks at a hotel at Long Branch. An attempt was made to induce her to attend a dance in order that the affair might have the prestige bestowed by her presence, as she stood high in society. She declined all the importunities of her friends.

to persuade her to attend, saying, "Miss B----- this is quite a harmless affair, and we want the exceptional honor of your presence."

"Senator," said the lady, "I cannot do it; I am a Christian. I never do anything in my summer vacation or wherever I go, that will injure the influence 1 have over the girls of my Sunday-school class."

The senator bowed, and said : "I honor you ; if there were more Christians like you, more men like myself would become Christians." - All Aboard.

spent very little time in prayer your-1. He has his name on the church self, for I know your light was soon out, and you were soon in bed; and 2. He has his name on the list of , when you came down this morning, never a word you said of prayer, or of

day; and you sat down to breakfast,

"No, you go on just like any other sinner ; you come in like a sinner, you eat and drink like a sinner, you go to

be given a Christian burial, and these bed like a sinner, you get up like a sinner, you are going off like a sinner; you must pay like a sinner !"

#### Redeeming the Time.

The words, "redeeming the time," are not fairly translated. They mean "buying up the opportunity." The saddest part of our record, I fear, is that we have let precious opportunities flow by us, never to be recalled. Think of the opportunities you have had to say a word to an impenitent soul, or some word of comfort to a friend, or to testify for Christ. The spectre I most fear is the ghost of lost opportunities. Be on the lookout for lost opportunities, and you will never Finally, an honorable senator tried know just what blessing is going to burst on you-Theodore L. Cuyler.

> Well, I am not a Christian, but never put anything in anybody else's way." Yes, but you do. You are putting yourself in the way of all that are behind you. You are standing right in the doorway and "shutting up the kingdom of heaven against men." Christ said so : "Ye shut up the king. dom of heaven against men; for (because you are blocking up the door) ve neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go

Milburn's Heart and

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hair. It'

ust what every weak, nervou woman needs to make her str They cure those feelings of and sinking that come on at the heart beat strong and re

sweet, refreshing sleep and be aches and nervousness. They life and energy into dispirited. tered women, who have cometo s no cure for them.

Read the words of encoura this letter from Mrs. Thos, Som ton, New London, P.E.I. "Last fall I was in a very s

dition suffering from nervous weakness, I got so bad at last hardly move around, and despa getting well. Seeing Milburn's Nerve Pills highly recommend conditions I purchased a box. "Before I had taken half of

notice an improvement in my con when I had used two boxes ] pletely cured.

"It was wonderful how these away that dreadful feeling of m and gave me strength.

"I recommended them to r bor who was troubled with per and they cured her, too. We all is nothing equal to Milburn's H Nerve Pills.'

POCKET MONE People in your town are const for Rubber Stamps. You could get the orders and ma The profit. We want to tell you about it ; you will be inte

For over h ry this has andard hair bn. It is a essing; s of the ha hair gr eanses th om dandru

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**US-**

dence in one another, no respect for the crowd to its hissess ? one another. They bite and devour one another. They hate one another. Many also walk not as the disciples of though the people applaud or hiss. Christ, but as the children of the What will human approval avail in

Another symptom of spiritual decline may be seen in the small increase of church members. A mere increase

consider that she has been snubbed, when it may be that she has been treated with forbearance and considerherself off, with sundry uncomplimentary remarks about church members in general and their group in parti cular

have been kindred spirits.

One of another kind, coming into

the congregation hears a certain band

of workers everywhere spoken of as

being among the nicest people in the

church, and at once resolved that she

friends who have worked together take little pains to conceal it, at times. But the Lord wants all to work who

Dom. Presbyterian.

### Martyrs and Martyrs

There are martyrs and martyrs. Some are burned at the stake, some starved vious censure and depreciation right where they had expected commenda-

But what of all this ? To the devout, fore the world hateth you." "In the world ye shall have tribulation."

It is not a pleasant thing to be martyr. Great as it is to die for God and the truth, the flesh shrinks from duty, spoken your convictions, delivered the message of God to the people, who would not prefer the applause of

But let God be obeyed and duty discharged "though the heavens fall" the judgment if secured at the sacri-

fice of conscientious convictions of duty? What will the condemnation of

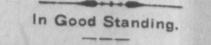
# What Are You Giving?

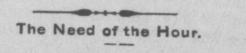
To the church ? How much of your time and energy ? How much of your best thought in planning her work? Do you exhaust your strength in business so that you are almost too tired on the Sabbath to think clearly? You are "given money." Well but the church of Christ needs consecrated brains, energy and personal service. To the unfortunates ? What a large that there shall not be room enough to number of our brothers and sisters are

crippled in one way or another worse D. D. than physical blindness or lameness Crippled by sinful heredity with vile appetites and sins, or crippled by narrow, cramping environment. What are you feeling for them? Sympathy? Well; but what are you doing ? Have you found some good movement you can help which relieves and redeems these unfortunates?

To the great, wide world ? It is getting close together, and we can see now the needs of China, Africa, Cuba, fear nothing except cowardice; to be the Philippines. We are shocked and governed by your admirations rather stunned by awful revelations. What than by your disgusts ; to covet nothare you doing? Getting into personal ing that is your neighbor's except his relations with workers to encourage kindness of heart and gentleness of and materially help them ? Praying for manner ; to think seldom of your enethem daily?

us ask the Lord. He will speak to us time as you can, with body and with concerning it. He will direct to a spirit, in God's out-of-doors- these place of usefulness, and if we are his, are little guide-posts on the foot path there will be real work we can do. - to peace. - Rev. Henry Van Dyke, D. Selected.





To your closets, O church of the

the Holy Spirit-a baptism which shall sess this land for Christ. At the close

of this century we face a future of great unrest-of reconstruction-of marvelous and rapid changes. And

"We are living, we are dwelling In a grand and awful time -

We are living in one of the great crises of the world's history. The age demands consecrated men and women consecrated time. consecrated energies and consecrated wealth. Shall it have them ? "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in my house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of

heaven and pour you out a blessing, receive it."-Rev. Sheldon Jackson,

### The Foot-path to Peace.

To be glad of life, because it gives you the chance to love, and to work, and to play, and to look up at the stars ; to be satisfied with your possessions, but not contented with yourself until you have made the best of them ; to despise nothing in the world except falsehood and meanness, and to mies, often of your friends, and every What can we do? As Saul did - let day of Christ; and to spend as much

A Merited Rebuke.

in." (Matt. 23: 13.) Does any one need to do any more than to wedge himself into the very wicket-gate through which others must pass?

We have no gratitude for those reformers who would force upon us doctrine which has not sweetened their own tempers or made them better men than their neighbours.

STREET CAR ACCIDENT .- Mr. Thos Sabin, says: "My eleven year old boy had his foot badly injured by being run over by a car in the Street Railway. We at once commenced bathing the foot with DR. THOMAS' ECLECTRIC OIL, when the discoloration and swelling was removed, in nine days he could use his foot. We always keep a bottle in the house

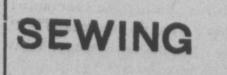
Hagyard's Yellow Oil is a good remedy for man or beast. It reduces swelling, al'ays inflammation, takes out pain, and cures cuts, burns, bruises, sprains. quinsy, sore throat, etc. Price 25c.

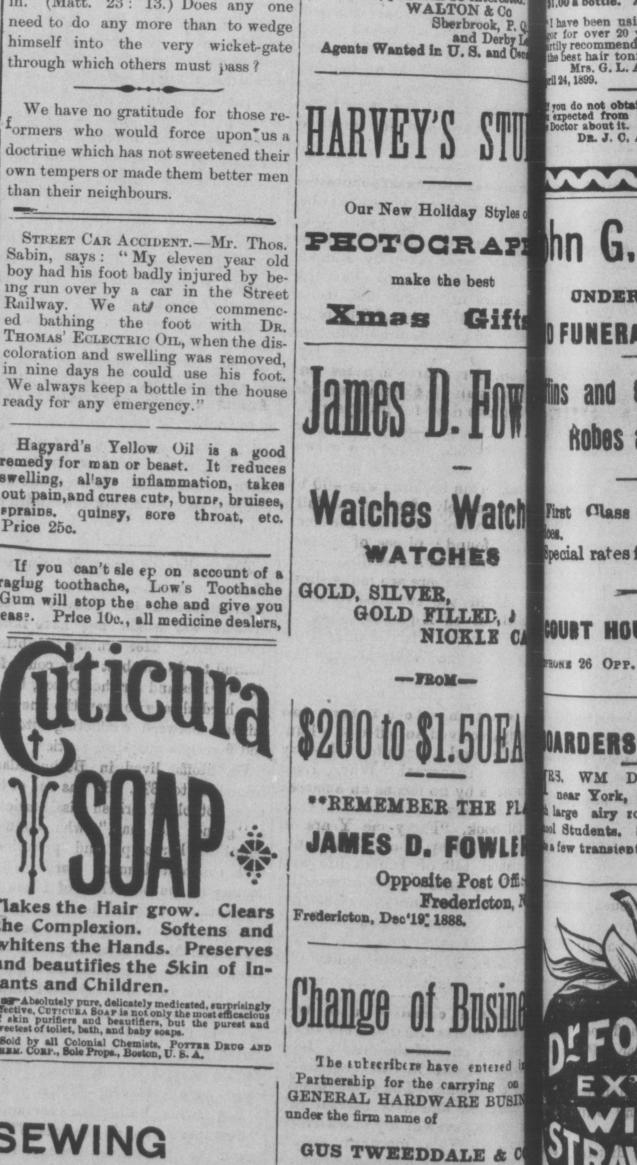
If you can't sle ep on account of a raging toothache, Low's Toothache Gum will stop the sche and give you ease. Price 10c., all medicine dealers,

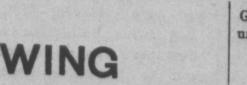


Makes the Hair grow. Clears the Complexion. Softens and whitens the Hands. Preserves and beautifies the Skin of Infants and Children.

Absolutely pure, delicately medicated, surprisingly effective, CUTICUEA SOAP is not only the most efficacious of skin purifiers and beautifiers, but the purest and sweetest of toilet, bath, and baby soaps. Sold by all Colonial Chemists, POTTER DEUG AND CHEM. CORF., Sole Props., Boston, U. S. A.









The meaningless nature of the term . The hospitality exercised toward On the premises lately occupied by f the multitude amount to in the "in good standing" is aptly described ministers in the United States is proin numbers without an increase of MACHINES M. Wiley. great day, provided the King shall thus in Church Life: The ice-cold verbial. In the early days, in many Z. R. EVERETT. E. A. TWEEDDLE spiritual life is not desirable. But say, "Well done good and faithful Christian may be a member of the parts of the country, a preacher was where the tree is in good health it servant; thou hast been faithful over he oldest, s will bear much fruit. When the fires The new firm will carry a completes W. will sell the balance of ot r church "in good and regular standing." received and entertained heartily and of Shelf and Builders' Hardware, Po a few things; I will make thee ruler Yes, and a contributing member, too. remedy for of the Pentecost were burning on the stock while they last from \$2(.00 cheerfully, and never expected to and Table Cutlery, 1ren and Steel, Cel larrhœa, Dy over many things; enter thou into He attends church quite regularly and altars of the infant Church converts upwards, for Cash Only settle his bill at the inn when he left nd Fire Brick, Agricultural Implement Cholera. were multiplied with amazing rapidity. the joys of the Lord ?" sings in the choir. When he gets his on the morrow. Guns, Revolvers and Sporting G lera Infanti Oh, that to-day men in church and "Sunday best" on he looks quite like So it will always be when God is in His Carpenters' Tools, Carriage Stock, 6 Int, Canker Acting upon this knowledge, state were anxious to be popular with THE QUEEN. CLIMAX AF Paints, Oils, &c., and will be up-to a Christian, but how does he live ? holy temple. But when the Church mach, and young travelling preacher presented God as they are to be popular with in prices and quality of Goods: and scarcely holds its own from year to No daily Bible reading. els of infants himself, gave himself some airs, and the people. Said Cardinal Wolsey on pectfully solicit a share of your patron defuse imitation year, or when there is an actual loss. No blessing asked at the table. NEW HOME. when morning came said, "Farewell," his death-bed, "If I had served my then we may know assuredly that the ighly dange No family prayer. and was about to leave, taking no GUS. TWEEDDALE & C God as faithfully as I have served my life of the Church is at a low ebb. No Bible instruction for the chil- notice of his account. king, he would not have forsaken me The middle wall of separation between dren. Opp. Normal School Every one warranted, and if not "You have not settled," said the t Foundry in this awful hour." How many tothe Church and the world has been No religious conversation in the landlord. URCH B satisfactory after 3 months wit day are giving all their ability to securbroken down. The Holy Spirit has home. will refund the money. All man "I am a minister on my way to my HANE BELL FO ing the applause of men and neglectbeen grieved. It is time for Zion to No private prayer. be sold at once as we want the station," explained the novice. the service of God ! awake and shake herself from the No attendance at the week-day ser-CLIFTON HOUS "Ah, indeed," said the landlord. Brother, sister, are you discouraged room at dust. vices. Well, you came in last night, and because your services are not appre-No attendance at the Sunday-school. you never said a word of peace to any Princess d 149 Germain Sts. YMYER WE SHOULDN'T ASK YOU to invest ciated by the people? Have you been No Christ in his choice of reading of us; you had your supper, and it your money in a bottle of Adamson's CHURCH receiving censure where you expected SAINT JOHN, N.B. Botanic Cough Balsam if we were not matter. seemed to me you never asked God' The Cincinnati Bell praise ? Let not anything of this kind No Christ in his favorite amusement. sure it would do you good. Humbug blessing on it; you never said, 'Let dishearten you, provided you have is a deadly element in business. 25c. And only a little of Christ in his us have a word of prayer,' before you done all to the glory of God and head. A. H. PETERS, FROPRIETOF. all druggists. went to bed ; you called for your light, FIP LONECOMMUNICATION.O MENEE CHIMES, ET