

The Tapestry Weavers.

BY NORMAN M'LEOD.

Let us learn a new-year lesson, No braver lesson can be, From the ways of the tapestry weavers, On the other side of the sea;

The years of man are the looms of God, Let down from the place of the sun, Wherein we are ever weaving, Till the mystic web is done;

An Important Aspect of Consecration.

Much attention is being given to-day to consecration in the life of Christian people. From many different quarters, and from many schools of religions thought, come words that eagerly press this necessity.

To be sure, the word "consecration" is not found in Scripture as often as the average Christian imagines, but the thing itself is here from beginning to end.

The principle of consecration, so far as the will has to do with it, is here made very clear. Christians are exhorted to yield themselves unto God. The supreme object of Christian devotion often falls short of God.

In the words of Paul, we have also the spirit of the consecrated life, "as those that are alive from the dead."

Christian who is alive. An impression has been fostered that the sleepy Christian, the half-dead Christian, is the highest type of Christian. Nothing could be further from the truth.

We have also given to us here an important hint as to the expression of the consecrated life. That life is to make itself felt through the earthly members of our bodies—"your members as instruments of righteousness."

Three Sacred Things of Christianity.

Superstition tends to multiply the number of sacred subjects. Certain cities have been held as sacred. Jerusalem was a sacred city to the ancient Jew.

There are three things held sacred by Christianity, the Lord's Book, the Lord's House, and the Lord's Day. The Lord's Book, God's revealed truth, might have been transmitted by oral tradition, but this could easily fade out, and would, in the course of time, most likely have been corrupted.

The Lord's House. In one sense all places are sacred. There is no spot on earth's surface that is not sanctified by the Divine presence.

"Where'er we seek Him, He is found, And every place is hallowed ground."

But it yet remains true that the Lord honors the place sacredly set apart for him. He still loves the gates of Zion, and makes the place of his feet glorious.

The Lord's Day. The Sabbath was made for man, and made when man was made. Transferred from the seventh to the first day of the week, it maintains the principle of the sacredness of one day in seven, yet commemorates the resurrection as well as creation.

As Christians, then, we cling to the sacredness of the Lord's Book, the Lord's house, and the Lord's day. He would, however, hold all time and every place as sacred, because God is in all and fills all time and space.

Abundantly Satisfied.

Marks of discontent are plainly visible in the countenances of most men. The eager haste of the busy throngs, pushing their way through the crowded streets of our great cities, clearly indicates the gnawing hunger which preys within.

The longings of human nature have a good purpose. They should awaken inquiry and stimulate activity. But man's labor should be rewarded by an abundant supply of all his wants.

One reason why men are not satisfied is they are ignorant of their own nature. They do not know themselves. One imagines that if he can only gratify the cravings of his physical nature he will be happy, whereas, in many cases these propensities should be crucified and their clamor silenced.

Others hope to find the good their souls crave in money, in power, in position, in social pleasures, or in worldly glory. Noble as some of these natural aspirations are, they are not the noblest longings of the immortal soul.

Another reason why men fail to find happiness is their notions of what is satisfying are erroneous. They are expecting to be satisfied with possessions, gains, and outward good.

come something worthy and noble. So long as we remain narrow, selfish, and base no amount of treasure or knowledge can contribute anything toward real happiness.

Men have erroneous notions of the way to gain real good. There is a sure way. It lies in the opposite direction to that by which most men seek good. To a worldly generation, blinded by selfishness, St. James offered this explanation of their everlasting discontent: "Ye lust, and have not; ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain; ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not."

This is the secret of the almost universal discontent which we witness. Men and women are making self the center of their efforts, their thoughts, and their aspirations. Forget self; think of others; think especially of Him who gave Himself for us.

Wrong Amusements.

- 1. Those of doubtful propriety. (Rom. 14: 23.)
2. Which, followed by others, might lead them into sin. (1. Cor. 8: 9; Mark 9: 42.)
3. Which grieve fellow-Christians. (Rom. 14: 15, f. c.)
4. Which the holiest Christians condemn. (Heb. 5: 14.)
5. Where time is selfishly wasted. (Eph. 5: 10; 1. Cor. 10: 33.)
6. Which would to a stranger place you with the enemies of Christ. (James 4: 4.)
7. Which are essentially worldly. (11. Cor. 6: 14, 17.)
8. Which are liable to gain the mastery over you. (Eph. 5: 18.)
9. Where prayer or praise to God would seem wholly incongruous. (1. Cor. 10: 31.)
10. On which you cannot ask the blessing of God. Col. 3: 17.
11. Where you have no opportunity to be a light in the world. (Phil. 2: 15.)
12. Which you cannot conscientiously recommend to every other. (Phil. 4: 8.)
13. Which you would not like to be engaged in at the Lord's coming. (Luke 12: 37.)
14. That are inconsistent with the profession of renouncing the "devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world." (Phil. 1: 27, f. c.; Gal 6: 14.)—Word and Work.

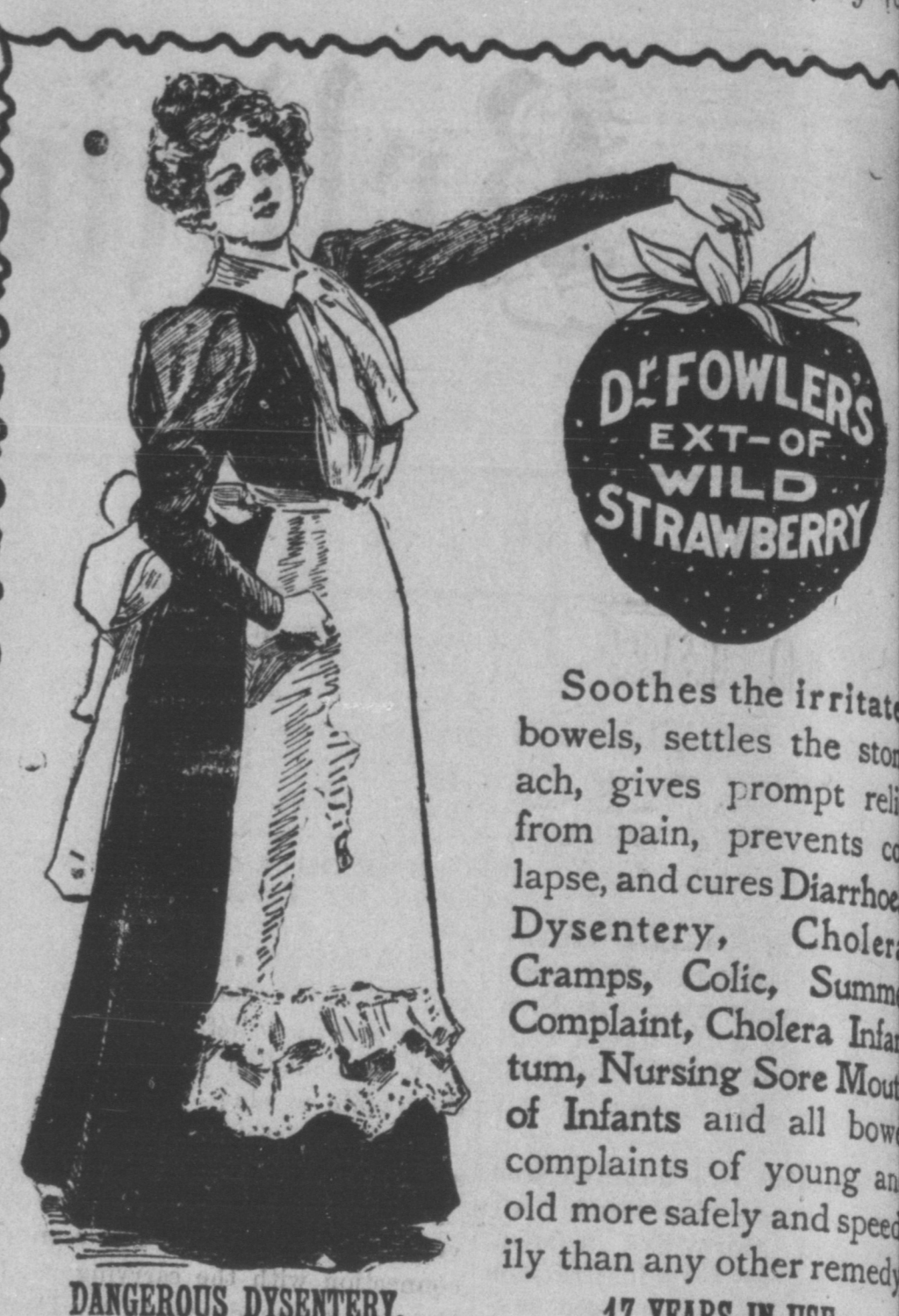
The error we regret are those we can't blame on somebody else.

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SORE FEET.—Mrs. E. J. Neill, New Armagh, P. Q., writes: "For nearly six months I was troubled with burning aches and pains in my feet to such an extent I could not sleep at night, and my feet were badly swollen I could not wear my boots for week. At last I got a bottle of Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil and resolved to try it and to my astonishment I got almost instant relief, and the one bottle accomplished a perfect cure."



DANGEROUS DYSENTERY. Mr. John L. Carter, of Bridgetown, N.S., in the following letter, tells how it saved his life: "I had suffered with dysentery for four weeks and could get nothing to cure me. I then tried Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry, and I feel that it saved my life. It restored me to health when everything else failed. I consider it a wonderful remedy that should have a place in every home."

A Chain of Monkeys.

One of the strangest-looking inhabitants of the forests of the Amazons is a monkey which, from its long, lanky, spindle-legged figure, is called the spider-monkey. The animal rejoices, moreover, in the possession of a tail so useful as almost to be equal to a fifth sense.

When a company of these monkeys has to cross a wide river, they first of all look for a spot where the trees are tallest and where they stretch out farthest across the stream. A proper tree having been found, they climb to the best of the highest branches, and there form themselves into a chain by hanging on to each other's tails.



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