

of force for a baby, and only got away by leaving something with me, which I put in my pocket.

Annie was very silent all the way home. Once inside the house, she turned and asked me earnestly, "Oh, Henry, Henry! what do you think of that little hand?"

"Think," I replied, "I thought if it really was Margie's hand we had the best right to it, so I pulled it so hard that it left part of itself with me, and I put it in my pocket."

How wildly she stared as I drew it out—a common wooden clothespin!

Annie never went to any more spirit-anistic meetings.—*Presbyterian Banner.*

### THE ENIGMA OF RADIUM.

Scientists seem to have in their possession a key that will unlock doors into some of the greatest and most closely secluded mysteries of nature. This key is made of the rare metal, radium.

Radium is obtained from pitchblende, and a mine in Cornwall has thus far given us that all that has been brought together. It is very difficult to extract it, and a ton of pitchblende yields only 15 1-2 grains, or one gram. This gram of the substance is worth about \$2,000; and a kilogram (2 1-5 pounds) would be worth, if it could be obtained, \$2,000,000.

Readers of Professor Trowbridge's article on radium, which we recently published, will remember that the metal is marked by its astounding property of radiation. It emits energy at an amazing rate, and in seemingly inexhaustible quantities. A single gram of it, according to Professor Wm. Crookes, "could lift the whole of the British fleet to the top of Ben Nevis," and he is not certain but the French fleet could be thrown in. Half a kilogram, or about a pound of it, in a bottle on a table, would, according to the same authority, probably kill every one that came near it. Certainly it would destroy the sight of such venturesome persons, and burn their skin so that they must die. The least particle of it placed on the arm makes a blister that requires months to heal.

The peculiar gain that science is expecting from radium is a knowledge of the final basis of matter. Everything seems to tend towards the theory that gives matter an electrical basis. The theory of electrons goes far beneath the old atomic energy. Every atom, it holds, is itself a universe, made up of particles oppositely electrified, called electrons, held together by this mysterious force in arrangements more or less permanent. An atom of hydrogen, it is supposed, contains about 700 of these electrons, and an atom of mercury about 100,000, and the vacant space in each atom of mercury is ten thousand million times greater than the space taken up by the electrons. The tendency is also to show that these electrons, thrown off from different substances, are all alike, thus rendering it possible, theoretically, to reduce all substances to one, and build up from one all substances in return—the philosopher's stone come true at last.—*Christian Endeavor World.*

Give me the lowest place; not that I dare

Ask for that lowest place, but thou hast died

That I might live and share

Thy glory by thy side.

—*Christiana Rosetti.*

### SMALL INVENTIONS, BIG PROFITS.

The New Jersey man who hit upon the idea of attaching a rubber erasing tip to the end of lead pencils, died worth \$200,000.

A minister in England made \$50,000 by inventing an old toy that danced by winding it with a string.

The man who invented the return ball—an ordinary wooden ball with a rubber string attached to pull it back,—made \$1,000 from it.

The person who invented the most recent popular toy, "Pigs in Clover," will be rich before the leaves turn this autumn. He was poor last November.

Every one who has seen the metal plates that are used to protect the heels and soles of rough shoes, and every one does not know that within ten years the man who hit upon the idea has made \$250,000.

As large a sum as was ever obtained for any invention was enjoyed by a Yankee who invented the inverted glass bell to hang over gas jets to protect ceilings from being blackened by smoke.

The gimlet-pointed screw has produced more wealth than most silver mines, and the Connecticut man who first thought of putting copper tips on the toes of children's shoes is as well off as if he had inherited \$1,000,000, for that is the amount his idea has realized for him in cold coin.

The common needle-threader which every one has seen for sale, and which every woman owns, was a boon to needle users. The man who invented it has an income of \$10,000 a year from his invention.

The miner who invented a metal rivet or eyelet at each end of the mouth of coat and trousers pockets, to resist the strain caused by the carriage of pieces of ore and heavy tools, has made more money from his letters patent than he would have made had he struck a rich vein of gold-bearing quartz.

### THE BARKING DOG.

The Boston *Transcript* tells the story of a minister who had occasion very frequently to travel a certain road.

At a house on that road lived a big bulldog, which always came out and attacked him viciously. The minister stood this for a good while, until, finally, as he drove past one winter day in a low sleigh, a means of correcting the dog by moral suasion occurred to him. He stopped his horse in the road before the house. The dog rushed out madly, barking and threatening to jump into the sleigh. The minister sat in his sleigh and paid no attention. The dog retired, returned to the assault, retired again, and a third time rushed out to the attack, but did not touch the man. Then he returned to the doorstep and lay down, apparently utterly crestfallen and disgusted with such a man; and, as he paid no further attention, the minister drove off.

After this the minister drove many times past the house, but the dog paid no attention to him, and never seemed to see him at all. He was cured.

From this we may learn a good lesson. In every community there are men just like that dog. They like to bark. And if any one will pay attention to them, either by rejoinder or by fight, they will continue to bark. It is only when their companions learn to treat them with a courteous silence that they cease their assaults. "Take no heed unto all words that are spoken, lest thou hear thy servant curse thee."

### PERFECTLY CALM.

A certain self-satisfied, pompous man had always preached to his wife the advantage of being calm, self-possessed and rational in time of panic or excitement.

One night a Florida hotel where they were caught fire, and the alarm was shouted through the halls. "Now," said Mr. Man, "now is the time to put into practice what I have always taught. Dress quickly, as I will, and then we will secure our valuables and flee."

In time they reached the lawn and watched the hotel burn. "Now," he said, turning to his wife, who was fully dressed and had her treasures in a sheet, "now you see the benefit of my advice; don't you?"

"O, yes," said she; "but why didn't you take time to put on your trousers?"

His costume was a frock coat and golf cap.

### THE FATAL SLEEP.

Some time ago a vessel had been off on a whaling voyage, and had been gone about three years. The father of one of the sailors had charge of the lighthouse, and he was expecting his boy to come home. It was time for the whaling vessels to return. One night there came up a terrible gale. The father fell asleep, and while he slept his light went out. When he awoke he looked toward the shore and saw a vessel had been wrecked. He at once went to see if he could not yet save some one who might still be alive. The first body that came floating toward the shore was, to his great grief and surprise, the body of his own boy. He had been watching for that boy for many days. Now the boy had at last come in sight of home, and had perished because his father had let his light go out.

I thought, what an illustration of fathers and mothers of to-day that have let their lights go out. You are not training your children for God and eternity. You do not live as though there were anything beyond this life at all. You keep your affections set upon things of the earth instead of upon things above, and the result is that the children do not believe there is anything in Christianity. Perhaps the very next step they take may lead them into eternity; the next day they may die without God and without hope.—*D. L. Moody.*

### SILENCE ABOUT OURSELVES.

Think as little as possible about any good in yourself; turn your eyes resolutely from any view of your requirements, your influence, your plans, your success, your following—above all, speak as little as possible about yourself. The inordinateness of our self-love makes speech about ourselves like the putting of a lighted torch to the dry wood which has been laid in order for burning. Nothing but duty should open our lips upon this dangerous theme, except it be in humble confession of our sinfulness before God.

Again, be specially on the watch against those little tricks by which a vain man seeks to bring round the conversation to himself, and gain the praise or notice which his thirsty ears drink in so greedily. Even if praise comes unsought, it is well, while men are uttering it, to guard yourself by thinking of some secret cause for humbling yourself inwardly to God, thinking unto what these pleasant accents would be changed if all that is known to God, and even to yourself, stood revealed to you.

Place yourself often beneath the cross of Calvary; see that sight of love and sorrow; hear those words of wonder; look at the eternal Son humbling himself there for you, and ask yourself, as you gaze fixedly on him, whether he whose only hope is in that cross of absolute self-sacrifice and self-abasement can dare to cherish in himself one self-complacent action. Let the Master's words ring ever in your ears, "How can ye believe who receive honor one of another, and seek not the honor that cometh from God only?"—*Bishop Wilberforce.*

### MOTIVES FOR REVIVAL EFFORT.

1. God commands it.
2. He always abundantly blesses all who rightly engage in it.
3. The great majority of converted people were saved through revival efforts.
4. Sinners by the millions are sinking down to eternal perdition.
5. Sin is an insult to God.
6. Revivals make joy in heaven.
7. Formalists, hypocrites, saloonists, and the devil, all hate them.
8. Spiritual people in all denominations bid them Godspeed.
9. To refuse to aid in them is to become cold, dead, and perhaps lost forever.
10. To work in them is to win soul-gems that will be of infinite value when banks have all broken, and all but God's saints have gone into eternal bankruptcy.—*Revival Kindlings.*

### THE ELDER'S INSPIRATION.

At the close of the forenoon session of a ministerial conference, in announcing the opening subject for the afternoon, the presiding officer said:

"Elder H. will present a paper on 'The Devil.'" Then he added earnestly, "Please be prompt in attendance, for Brother H. has a carefully prepared paper, and is full of his subject."

And the *Homiletic Review* says that it was some minutes before the presiding officer understood the laughter which followed his remark.

The church was warm, the minister was dull, everybody fell asleep except the half-witted man, Jamie Fleming.

"My brethren," shouted the indignant pastor, "you should take the example of that fool there. He keeps awake."

"Ay ay, minister," shouted Jamie; "but if I hadn't been a fool I would have been asleep, like the others."

Have you ever seen a great, unsightly wart or knot on the boughs of some grand old oak? It was caused probably a hundred years ago, when the tree was a tiny sapling, by the poison of an insect's sting, and has grown with its strength. You have noticed that the foliage on that branch is less luxuriant and healthful than on its fellows. Why? Because the knot strangles it and prevents the free flow of life-giving sap. So, after a tiny injury, a slight, real or fancied, will, if its poison is permitted to rankle in a soul, cause an ugly deformity of a grudge that hinders the true spiritual growth, because it prevents the free flow of spiritual life from Christ to the branch.—*Dowling.*