

Our Young People

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THE C. E. TOPIC.

MAY 22.—FALSE AND TRUE AMBITIONS.
—Matt. 20: 20-28.

BY AMOS R. WELLS.

True ambition is the eager desire for something above one, and better; false ambition seeks what is below one, and worse. Many men are proud of their ambition, without stopping to consider its object. By as much as a true ambition is honorable and ennobling, a false ambition is ignoble and corrupting. There is the greatest need to distinguish between the two.

The test of a true ambition is its permanence. It is a house built on the rock, while a false ambition is a house built on the sand. An ambition for a manly character, for a life of wise helpfulness, for a knowledge of God, reaches out and lays hold of the immutable foundations of the universe. It can no more be shaken than they can. But ambition for money is at the mercy of the shifting weather, or the unforeseen fluctuations of trade. Ambition for power is the slave of men's whims. Ambition for social triumphs is fleeting as fashion, transitory as the flush of youth.

The rust will find the sword of fame,
The dust will hide the crown;
Ay, none shall nail so high his name
Time will not tear it down.

And yet it is every man's duty to be ambitious. "Do not dare to live," said Phillips Brooks, "without some clear intention toward which your living shall be bent. *Mean to be something with all your might.*" The unambitious lives of Christians are holding back the kingdom of God more than their sins. We are never to be content with our lives till God is content, and His measure for our character is, "Ye shall be perfect;" and for our deeds, "Whatsoever He saith unto you."

Lord, let me not be too content
With life in trifling service spent—
Make me aspire!
When days with petty cares are filled,
Let me with fleeting thoughts be thrilled.
Of something higher.

But what said Longfellow? "Most people would succeed in small things if they were not troubled with great ambitions." By "great ambitions" the poet meant ambitions for achievements too lofty for our powers; but a truly great

ambition may concern itself with a very small thing, and Longfellow's neighbor, Lowell, wrote more wisely:

Greatly begin! though thou have time
But for a line be thou sublime—
Not failure, but low aim, is crime.

Great ambitions for us will be always and only the ambitions that Christ entertains for us. Truly as a loving father has fond ambition for his child, Christ has His ideal, His dream, for each one of us. How the thought should thrill us with lofty determination!

What Christ's ambition for us is, we may learn from His life and words. That we should be pure, and meek, and loving. That we should take up our cross. That we should admit Him to our hearts. That we should gain His eternal life.

These are high ambitions; how high and hard no one realizes till he has pursued them. God grant they may become the splendid goals of us all!

From the Treasurer.

You who attended our annual Y. P. P. L., at Marysville, last year, as well as those who have read the Year Book—and that should mean every Free Baptist in New Brunswick—know that our young people decided to spend some \$950 in mission work this year—\$800 for home, and \$150 for foreign missions. To help raise these amounts most of our Y. P. Societies and some individuals pledged themselves to raise a specified amount and pay it over to the treasurer before July 31st next. Of the large number who thus pledged, as yet only three have redeemed their pledges, or, in other words, only \$27.00 of pledged money has come into the treasurer's hands.

Now, we want before June 10th \$275 to meet missionary expenses. Cannot most of our societies, and individuals, pay their pledges, if not wholly, in part at least, before the above date?

In a few weeks we shall publish a list showing names and amounts of those who have pledged, crediting each with amounts paid. How much shall we be able to credit your account with on this list?

T. A. LINDSAY,
Treasurer.

Woodstock, N. B.

ST. JOHN.—The Y. P. Society of the Waterloo St. Church, St. John, has purchased a fine upright piano.

MABEL'S AT HOME CONVENTION.

BY ALICE MAY DOUGLAS.

"I am so glad to see you Miss Ewing, but I really was not looking for you today, I thought that you would be off to the convention with the rest of the good people." The speaker pulled forward a rather shabby looking chair and motioned for the young lady to be seated therein.

"I did plan until the very last to go on our Sunday school convention," replied Mabel, "but some money that I was expecting did not come to me and so I took this as an expression of God's desire to use me in His work here rather than at Bradley where our pastor and full dozen of our teachers are. I know that they are having a perfectly lovely time."

"But you deserve to have a perfectly lovely time if anyone does," said the sad faced woman. "God alone knows how your calls have cheered me. I oft-

en think that if I didn't have any little ones, they'd have no Sunday school teacher to call here."

A full hour spent Mabel in this home which was shadowed by the intemperance of the husband and father, during which time she helped the woman with her household duties, thereby giving her opportunity to care for a sick baby.

Mabel next called upon a "new family," where she obtained five new scholars for the Sunday school, children who had not been in the habit of going to the house of God.

Then there were other calls to make upon several members of the Home Department upon the babies of the Cradle Roll and upon people of all classes who were not and never had been connected with the church or Sunday school in any way and were therefore more in need of her visits than any other classes.

At noon she found herself a long distance from home in the heart of the rural suburbs of her home city and as the dinner hour arrived she found herself at the table of Farmer Lucas, surrounded by his buxom wife and six ruddy children, enough of themselves to form the new Sunday school she was to found in the neighborhood school to found in the neighboring schooling Sabbath.

"The others are having a typical New England convention dinner like this," she said to herself, "they are seated at a long table in the basement of the church eating brown bread and baked beans, doughnuts and apple pie, or boiled dinner and Indian pudding and cream for that; they are making new friends as they eat; so am I. They are obtaining new ideas for the Sunday school; so am I, and practical results at the same time."

Mabel spent the afternoon in the city going among her friends, soliciting from them funds towards the purchase of supplies for the new rural Sunday school. She also obtained a large quantity of cards, picture papers and library books and best of all the promise of two assistant teachers.

In one week from this Sabbath the delegates read their reports of the convention to the Sunday school. They had received a great spiritual uplift while attending it and brought back many valuable suggestions which the school subsequently put into practice. Mabel likewise had received a great spiritual uplift during the time she had not attended the convention. She, too had brought to the school many valuable suggestions—those she had obtained first hand and what was of infinitely more importance, she had been instrumental in bringing into the school seven new scholars and had kept in it six others who but for her calls would have drifted away, and she had the satisfaction of knowing that through her efforts a new school had been organized in a little country place which stood in great need of Christian influence.

As she and some of the delegates walked home after Sunday school, who were relating their recent experiences in Sunday school work, Mr. Burns, the pastor, said: "You have really accomplished more by your Home Convention than have all the rest of us."—*Chris. Intelligencer.*

A Treacherous Wind hits you in the back and the next morning you have lumbago. Rub well and often with Perry Davis' Painkiller, and you will be astonished to find out how quickly all soreness is banished.

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Compiles statistics of attendance.
Reports promptly unfinished business.
Keeps a supply of constitutions and by-laws.
Purgative. They strengthen the stomach, away.

Notifies chairmen of committees of their appointment, with the names of other committee members.

Writes to Unions in other cities if members have gone there to live.

Keeps headquarters posted of change in officers and increased membership.—*Unidentified.*

Something More than a Purgative.—To purge is the only effect of many pills now on the market. Parmelee's Vegetable Pills are more than a purgative. They strengthen the stomach, where other pills weaken it. They cleanse the blood by regulating the liver and kidneys, and they stimulate where other pill compounds depress. Nothing of an injurious nature, used for merely purgative powers, enters into their compositions.

"There is no difficulty in finding plenty of members in every church who will talk about work, suggest work, and even start work; but there is a plentiful lack of people who just work and keep on working."

A Time for Everything.—The time for Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil is when croupy symptoms appear in the children; when rheumatic pains beset the old; when lumbago, asthma, coughs, colds, catarrh or earache attack either young or old; when burns, scalds, abrasions, contusions or sprains, come to any member of the family. In any of these ailments it will be relief and work a cure.