

# The Religious Intelligencer.

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Rev. E. McLEOD, {

That God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ—PETER.

{ Editor and Proprietor

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## Religious Intelligencer.

### Speech of the Hon. A. J. Smith.

In the House of Assembly—on Mr. Tibbits's Motion.

Hon. Mr. SMITH was one of those who did not think so much importance should be attached to this discussion as some hon. members had described; not that he believed the investigation would do good, but the result of this investigation was before the country; the people would read it for themselves and make up their minds, and the discussion in the House would have no effect in changing their opinions—the people were the proper parties to judge; they were quite competent to do so and the result of their judgement at the coming election would decide the question. He would not have hon. members suppose that the Government had felt any desire to avoid an investigation. It was well known that, upon the first intimation being given of the land jobbing affair, he (Mr. S.) had risen in his place feeling as he did exceedingly incensed, and stated the matter should be probed to the very bottom, and the truth with reference to it laid bare. The Government made no opposition to the composition of the committee or to its appointment. It had been said by one hon. member that the Government charged as it was with all the responsibility of the public Department, but he (Mr. S.) pointed out the appointment of the committee on this point, and contended that no Government should undertake to prevent the Legislature from making, by a committee, investigation into the conduct and management of any Department. But he would say that, when the committee was formed, he did think that the hon. gentleman from St. John, (Mr. Tibbits) should not, from his particular relation to the Government and to Mr. Inghes, have consented to act upon it; in this opinion he (Mr. S.) believed every hon. member in the House would concur, for certainly from his constant antagonism to the Government, and from the circumstances which had arisen between him and Mr. Inghes, he (Mr. W.) could scarcely do justice to either of the parties whose conduct was involved in the enquiry of the committee. It must be remembered that the question to arise before the committee was not a mere pecuniary one—not one merely involving the financial operations of an individual or a Government, but the character, the moral standing of men were at stake, and therefore those who were upon the committee should be persons not prejudiced personally against any party. It would be remembered the state of excitement into which hon. members were thrown, upon the first development of the "land jobbing," every one seemed to be in a state of anxiety lest his own name should be in some way or other dragged in; for his own part he (Mr. S.) having heard his own name mentioned in evidence, but in some very trifling connection, felt very uneasy until he had an opportunity of stating before the committee the facts of the case. He had no connection himself with any land transactions.

When he heard from the evidence and saw from the manner of the opposition, that there was a disposition to mix the Provincial Secretary up with some land transactions, in a way which the facts would not warrant, when he saw the evidence determined manifested to oppose and by any means to break down the reputation of the Provincial Secretary, he (Mr. S.) expressed as he was with a sense of the complete integrity of that hon. gentleman, had resolved to stand by him whatever the consequences might be—but while he had thus determined, at the same time he had, in order that it should be out of the power of any one to impute to him improper motives with reference to the Attorney General, and effectually to prove the baseness of the assertions which had been made, that he desired to supplement the Attorney General resolved, that nothing but actual necessity, in view of the claims of his party, should induce him to do this. His opinion was Mr. Wilmot should not have served on the committee.

Mr. WILMOT, who put me there?  
Hon. Mr. SMITH, the Speaker put him on but he should have declined acting. His own sense of moral decency and rightness had influenced him that hon. gentleman (Mr. W.) was continually holding himself up to the country as being the most honest of men, and was so completely egotistical as to have lost all feeling of respect for public opinion; the burden of his speeches was self egotism. 1851, the year in which he (Mr. W.) was bribed from the allegiance of his friends, was the grand epoch of his life—that was the culminating point, and after that time he had been sinking lower and lower, and luxuriated in political degradation. Any one rising above the horizon of party politics could not regard the government as guilty in this business. Hon. Mr. Smith here proceeded to refer to the preliminary discussion which had taken place upon the introduction of the resolution and amendment before the House, and remarked that he could not understand by what means the resolution of Mr. Wilmot got into the hands of the hon. member for Victoria, (Mr. Tibbits) unless it was determined upon that the latter gentleman was to be regarded as the leader of the opposition. However, finally, the matter settled down and the resolutions now before the House were fairly brought forward. The motion of which his hon. friend Mr. Gray gave notice, was a frank, manly, and consistent one, one that would demand the most respectful consideration of any government, the reason why that resolution was not moved, was well known, Mr. Gray had to leave the House, and the hon. member for St. John, and therefore, stood in its place. Now he contended the hon. member for St. John, (Mr. Gray) had gone outside the record in discussing the question. The amendment before the House, involved, and only involved, the policy of the government, with reference to the public domain, and his hon. friend must have known that the only way of defence in the government, which the amendment could be construed into meaning, had reference to their management of that domain, and as he likewise well knew that no facts had been elicited which justified the passage of a vote of want of confidence to the public domain, and the amendment of the record, and took the broad ground of the general policy and doings of the government for the past few years.

He (Mr. S.) looked in vain to discover where there had been any violation of the Constitution with reference to the Crown Lands by the Government; and he defied any hon. member to point out the instance. It had been said that the Government had not controlled the land along the line of railway in Kings, Westmorland, and St. John, but had allowed them to be open to speculation instead of keeping them reserved for sale under the actual settlement conditions, now he (Mr. S.) was satisfied that a large portion of the land in question was of a character entirely unfit for settlement.

He might say with reference to the Railway, that this was a point, and perhaps the only one, on which he and the hon. member for St. John (Mr. Wilmot) agreed. He (Mr. S.) had felt very serious doubts as to the success of the experiment, but the people desired a railroad and invited upon it, and he hoped the result would prove his own fears groundless. He agreed with the hon. member for Kings, (Mr. McLeod) who stated that the lands along the line of railway had not been materially increased in value. The only charge under amendment which his hon. friend (Mr. Wilmot) had brought forward was, that with reference to the control of the lands along the railway, but what did he (Mr. S.) find? why that 13,183 acres of the very same land had been disposed of during the time he (Mr. Gray) was in office in 1857. Was it in his mouth to charge upon the Provincial Secretary a wrong in buying land, when the land was sold to the Province by his (Mr. Gray's) government. He was referred to this, to show the policy of the argument used by his hon. friend, not because he wished to intimate that the charge of doing wrong would lie against either party. He (Mr. S.) did not approve of the system of using fictitious names. Did he understand the hon. member from St. John, (Mr. Wilmot) to say that he did not know that the system was in operation? [Mr. Wilmot: I did state so.] Could it be possible that Mr. Wilmot, with all his effrontery and egotism, would undertake to declare, that notwithstanding the length of time he was Surveyor General, he was not aware of fictitious names being used. [Mr. Wilmot: I did not apply for any land.] Mr. Smith,--Was that necessary in order to ascertain the system under which the department of which he was the head, was carried on. Mr. Inghes had stated in evidence, that during the time that Mr. Wilmot was Surveyor General, 9000 acres of land had been sold to himself (Mr. Inghes).

Mr. WILMOT,--900 people applied for 9000 acres.

Hon. Mr. SMITH,--Mr. Inghes states that fictitious names were used.

Mr. WILMOT,--Fictitious names were not used in these applications.

Yes they were? Mr. S. here called attention to the swamp votes which were manufactured during the administration of Mr. Wilmot for party purposes.

Mr. Inghes in his evidence states that "the three months regulation worked well." Now he (Mr. S.) did not believe that any practical man was prepared to say that three months was long enough to give the poor man, to go on to his lands and make the improvements necessary under the labor act. One year might be long enough, but three months certainly was not, and the change he thought was a judicious one, and would recommend itself to the people who were interested--yet for this change they were formed! Mr. Inghes made a dreadful time, and would if he was the Surveyor General have resigned. The three months system might suit Mr. Inghes very well, who would have an opportunity of becoming the owner of lands, partially improved, by parties who had forfeited their right to be able to comply fully with the terms of the regulations--and perhaps the shorter time might suit him better. He certainly would broadly contradict the inference, that was drawn from some hon. gentlemen's remarks, that the time was extended in order to enable members of the government to speculate in the lands, directly the contrary was the fact. Some reference had been made to a land transaction of the hon. Mr. Steeves--of this there was clearly no necessity of speaking because it occurred before that gentleman became a member of the government; and they had no right to inquire into his conduct before that time. But any one who reads the evidence might see that the object of Mr. Steeves was to benefit the poor man on whose property he held a mortgage. His application however was afterwards withdrawn.

Fortunately the matter was not in the keeping of, or to be adjudged by, men who had their minds so warped and their passions so jaundiced, but the people had to decide, and he believed the result would be the same as in 1857--at that time hon. gentlemen predicted the downfall of the Government just as they do now--and he believed the result would be the same. He felt no less with reference to his own position. His constituents, the enlightened and intelligent people of Westmorland, had for times returned him, and he felt no fear in again appealing to them on the issue now joined.

His hon. friend (Mr. Gray) had complained of the amount of slander that had been heaped upon Mr. Wilmot by portions of the press--Now he (Mr. S.) maintained that the press should be free, that its expression of opinions should be unchecked, so long as it did not descend to calumnies--but if any man had a right to complain it surely was the Provincial Secretary whose statement before the Committee, under oath, and uncontradicted, had been misrepresented in such a way as to convey an impression entirely different from the truth. He would now call attention to a position laid down by the hon. member from Victoria (Mr. Tibbits), and endorsed by the hon. member for Carleton (Mr. Connell), which was that every head of department should rule supreme in that department, above the reach of any interference on the part of Government.

Mr. Tibbits--I proposed that the head of a department should have control of the internal regulations of his department.  
Hon. Mr. Smith did not understand him so. He (Mr. Smith) held it as a correct principle, that heads of departments should submit every matter of importance to the Government. He pursued by Mr. Tibbits to approve of the course pursued by the Attorney General, the Ex. P. M. G. in resigning, because the Government would not consent to his putting his beautiful face on the stump; really he did not know how such a principle would eventuate, or if Mr. Connell had been allowed to go on unrestrained, where the end would be. He (Mr. S.) had understood Mr. Connell to say that the head of a department

had a right to control his own department; admitting that to be so, Mr. C. by supporting the amendment, was endeavouring to pass a vote of want of confidence in his own view, for a large quantity of the lands referred to along the line of railway were disposed of while he was in the Government.

Some hon. members had placed much stress upon the apparent delay of the Government in reference to the collection of Government claims, for instance, and stampage. Now hon. gentlemen must remember that soon after the accession of the present Government, a power, notice was issued to the effect that all defaulters who did not make an immediate settlement would be proceeded against. How was that notice met? Why, a howl of indignation arose throughout the country, and the Government was not immediately arraigned, for refusing to allow the poor man a proper amount of indulgence. As an abstract position it was correct that defaulters should pay their debts to the crown as well as to each other, but still an amount of indulgence must be given to parties who were really desirous of settling the country. He was surprised at the statement of the hon. gentleman from York, (Mr. McLeod), that the Provincial Secretary was charged as the Attorney General and Mr. Inghes; such might be the hon. gentleman's ethics, but he did not think the country would sustain him in them; but the people would be able to draw the line of distinction. At the time that Mr. Inghes was brought before the council, it was not known the Attorney General was concerned in the land transactions. He (Mr. S.) held that a man holding the highest office in the country should not be concerned in the most remote degree in any violation of an established law. He would throw back the imputation that the Provincial Secretary was as culpable as Mr. Inghes, who had bought land in violations, applied for under fictitious names and the instalment system. The system of using fictitious names, had it appeared, been in existence 25 years, would it really be it would not be said by hon. gentlemen, that Mr. Gray, who had obtained land since that time was as bad as Mr. Inghes. When Mr. McIntosh was reading the evidence yesterday, he (Mr. S.) had endeavored to point out to him that he was only reading a part of it which did not convey a fair impression, but still that hon. gentleman persisted, and he trusted, and he thought, that the man who in that way suppressed the truth, was as bad as a man who uttered an untruth. The hon. member for Carleton seemed very indignant that Government allowed trespassers and others to hold lands in their hands, but that hon. gentleman had, it seemed, himself been indebted to the Crown in the sum of £20 for several years, and had neglected and refused to pay. He (Mr. S.) had now a few words to say with reference to the Attorney General; this hon. gentleman had attempted to make capital out of some transactions of the Solicitor General; but it was not necessary for him (Mr. S.) now to refer to the matter, the country would understand that the case was not at all analogous.

The Attorney General had stated that the Government should have referred to the Committee a bill, which he (Mr. S.) was prepared to support, but he (Mr. S.) was not prepared to support the bill, which the Government had acted exactly right both with reference to Mr. Inghes and the Attorney General, in suspending their functions as soon as they found they had been engaged trafficking in the public lands. He (Mr. S.) was surprised at the position taken by the Attorney General with reference to Mr. Inghes, in showing a desire rather to shield him from the consequences of a dereliction of duty; but it was not until Mr. Inghes made the statement that the A.G. was as bad as himself, that the Government had any intimation of the Attorney General's complicity. But he should not go into the conflicting testimony of the Attorney General and Mr. Inghes. The next duty of the Government was to place before the country the facts of the case, and to leave the people to judge for themselves. The Attorney General should be responsible for the conduct of each member. Now he (Mr. S.) would ask what responsibility had the Government endeavored to shrink from. The case of Lord McLevy had been cited; would hon. gentlemen pretend to say that if any member of the Government were guilty of larceny, as in the case referred to, the whole Government should stand by and sustain the member. He (Mr. S.) held not. The position of the Government assumes that the chief Law Officer of the Crown had no right to enter the Crown Land Office, and in violation of law, avail himself of the peculiar knowledge his position afforded him to speculate in the Crown Lands. The Government was prepared to go to the country on this proposition. The Attorney General acknowledged the lands were obtained in violation of the law, and he surely could not now plead ignorance of the existence of that law when in every Royal Gazette since 1854, the notice was prominently inserted in connection with every land advertisement, with reference to the limits of land under the instalment system. He (Mr. S.) could hardly believe his ear when the Attorney General charged his colleagues with cowardice, when it was well known that the great fault, the prominent characteristic of the Attorney General was pusillanimity and cowardice. It had been said that the action of the Government with reference to Mr. Fisher, had increased his popularity in York County, the people of which were now disposed to deify him; if so, the people would have a chance of expressing their opinion; the whole Province would look on with anxiety as to the result of the election in York, as to whether the man who had prostituted his position, and obtained land contrary to law, was to be sustained. He (Mr. S.) could understand something about the effect of the atmosphere of which Mr. Inghes had spoken as having so prejudicial an effect, if the people of the country were prepared to endorse the acts of the Attorney General. The hon. member from St. John had said he would have taken a course similar to the Attorney General.

Mr. Wilmot,--I said if other members of the Government were equally guilty, I would. No! he said he would have acted just as the Attorney General did. His (Mr. S.) opinion was that, as Mr. Gray remarked, the Attorney General should have at once thrown up office to the wind, but at this very time the Attorney General, so long the champion of Responsible Government, as if to prove recalcitrant to every principle of his former life, persists in holding on to his office in violation of all constitutional principles. He could hardly believe any other man would have done so; the people had placed him in his office on a political tenure and the moment that tenure is gone his office falls. He (Mr. S.) must question the sincerity of hon. members who professed so much sympathy for the Attorney General; he thought this was rather the result of disappointment at finding the Government hang together as they had done. So far from the charge of cowardice being sustained against the Government, they were boldly forward and resigned; his Excellency had, he (Mr. S.) contended, pursued the only constitutional course; surely he should not have called upon the Attorney General, and as he had convicted of having violated the law. His Excellency had very clearly stated the present position of the Attorney General as compared with that he occupied in 1854 and 1857. He certainly should like to have seen the Government which Mr. Fisher could form under the circumstances--he, no doubt, could have secured the services of the hon. member for Victoria, and the hon. member for Carleton, and they would have made a tri-une Government; but he did not believe he could have formed a Government which would possess the confidence of the House and the Country. His hon. friend Mr. Gray had stated they had not brought forward any measures; he (Mr. S.) should like to know what measures he desired. It being late he would not extend his remarks, although he had much more to say. He should vote against the amendment.

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## Religious Selections.

### MEN DIE AS THEY LIVE.

This is a solemn truth of which the careless living multitude of rich and poor will not be persuaded. In addition to the cases recited below, and recently published, the two following were reported to us by the parties who saw them: A minister was called in to see a young woman who was dying, and dying from poison which she had taken on account of a disappointment in love. She professed perfect resignation and peace, yet made no confession of her sin. Another was called to see a dying man, who, according to all outward appearances and professions, was dying the death of the righteous. It was afterward ascertained that he had at the time, and finally died with, a writing under his pillow making a fraudulent conveyance of his property.

The following are the cases first referred to:

In the year 1827, while a pastor in Rochester, N. Y., a young man sent for me to visit him on his sick-bed. He was about nineteen years of age, had been religiously educated, but had hitherto neglected to make his peace with God. He was very ill. No hopes were entertained of recovery. He sent for me, and told me that he was going to the bar of his God unprepared. I endeavored to soothe his mind, and to lead him to attend calmly to religious instruction. But he was inconsolable. He was such a great sinner that he could not think that God could forgive him. I told him of the publican, that smote upon his breast and said "God be merciful to me a sinner," and of the dying malefactor. Still he had no peace. After repeated visits, and conversation, and prayer, he seemed at length to catch a view of the mercy of God in Christ, and to cling to it with more than a calm comfort and peace in believing. His emotions were transporting. His thanksgivings and prayers, and his gratitude to Christian friends for the interest they had taken in him, were expressed in the warmest manner, and attended with many tears.

His disease suddenly and unexpectedly yielded to treatment, and in two or three weeks he was able to leave his chamber. Anxious to secure a happy return in an open testimony for his Saviour, I continued to visit him in his state of comfortable convalescence. I thought sometimes he seemed to relish Christian conversation and prayer less than formerly, till one day, on calling to see him just as he was about to ride, he coolly informed me that he was so well that he did not need my services further, and did not think that his religious impressions would continue.

If that young man had died when he expected to die, he and all his friends would have regarded his religious experience as possessing a very satisfactory character. I should have been like to have said at his funeral that we had the most comfortable assurance of his good estate. What folly to trust to a death-bed repentance.

The other instance was that of a lady in this city about twenty-six years ago. Her husband, who was not a professor of religion, called to ask me to visit his wife. She was not expected to survive many days, and both manifested a deep anxiety that she might be prepared for the solemn change that awaited her. I visited her daily, and after a time she fancied that she could discern a gleam of spiritual light. She seemed like the blind man mentioned in the Gospel, to "see men as trees walking." This light and comfort seemed to increase gradually like a morning dawn, till after a few days a calm and serene waiting for death to come and take her to her Heavenly Father's house took full possession of her soul.

After lingering for a week or ten days on the shadowy border that separates time from eternity, she began gradually to mend. Her interest in spiritual things evidently declined from the very day in which confident expectations were entertained of her recovery; and even before she was able to leave her chamber, she informed me that she did not think that she could, at the present time, give up the world for Christ. She thanked me very politely for coming so often to her bedside in the time of affliction, and doubted not that I should be rewarded for my kindness.

"But," she added, "you know the world is very enchanting. I have never really enjoyed it yet. I hope I shall be a Christian some time or other." I have never, to my knowledge, seen that young man or that lady from that day. When recollection brings them back to my thought, I think of Pharaoh, softened by the pressure of heavy judgement, only to be more hardened by the mercy that removed them; of the young man who knelt in apparent docility at the feet of Jesus, but went away sorrowful as soon as he realized that the world must be actually abandoned for Christ; of Felix, a most persuaded to be a Christian, and yet saying to the servant of God, "Go thy way for this time."

### LET GO THE TWIG.

During a revival in Scotland a lady was awakened and went to a minister and told him how unhappy she was. He said he was glad to hear it. She was amazed and hurt, and told him how she had read and prayed, and yet could find no peace. He told her it was not by anything she could do, but by what Christ had done long ago, and finished on the cross, she could be saved. Nothing relieved, she went to a recently converted friend and said, "What have you done to get peace?" "Done!" said her friend, "I have done nothing. It is by what Christ has done I have peace with God." In yet greater distress she went home, shut herself in her room resolving not to rise from her knees till she had peace. Long she remained so, till worn out, her poor body fell into a slumber, and she dreamed she was falling over a frightful precipice but had caught a twig by which she hung over the gulf. "Oh save me," she cried; and a voice from below, which in her dream she knew to be Christ's, said, "Let go the twig and I will save you." "Lord save me," again and again she cried, and again and again the same answer was returned, "Let go the twig and I will save you." She must perish she thought, if she let go the twig. At length he said, in tones most solemn and tender, "I cannot save you unless you let go the twig." She let it go, fell into the Saviour's arms, and in the joy of feeling herself safe, awoke. In her sleep she had learned the needed lesson. Her own doings were the twig. She saw she must let this go, and fall down into the arms of the Redeemer. She did so, and had peace.

Dear child--you are perhaps a little girl at a boy at school, trying to be good in order to get God to love you and Christ to save you. "Let go the twig."

Learn by heart this hymn, and make the language of it your own:--

"Rock of ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in thee;  
Let the water and the blood  
From thy wounded side which flowed,  
Be of sin the double cure;  
Cleanse me from its guilt and power."

"Nothing in my hand I bring,  
Simply to thy cross I cling,  
Naked, come to thee for dress,  
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;  
Guilty, to the fountain fly;  
Wash me, Saviour, or I die!"

Dear young reader, do you rest on Christ entirely, or on yourself partly and partly on Christ? Are you doing right, have you a hope of gaining salvation or have you received salvation as God's free gift? Are you convinced that your own doing is nothing worth, except as it may show how thankful you are for the Redeemer's work, by which you are saved? Have you given up your own righteousness and accepted Christ? The learned and gentle Hervey, when a minister of the Gospel, walked with an humble and godly labourer at the plough, and talked with him of divine things. "What do you think?" said Hervey, "is hardest to do in the Christian life?" "You are a clergyman and I am a ploughman," said his companion, "let me turn the question to you." "I think," said Hervey, "to deny sinful self." "And I," said the ploughman, who is said to have been a hearer of the pious Doddridge, "think it is harder to deny righteousness self." Hervey went home and thought of it. He did not at first understand it, but it opened up to him the doctrine of "Justification by faith only." Many are long trying to be religious before they fully understand the simple gospel and, like Chalmers, for years after he entered the ministry, are trying to make out a salvation by law and gospel--by doing and believing mixed together. Dear young reader, it will never do--never. Christ alone must be your Redeemer. Your prayers cannot be your Saviour. Your church cannot. Your anxiety, or thoughtfulness, or religiousness cannot. The work of the Spirit within you cannot. Christ alone, who finished the work in the Saviour, and, when you come to him, your Saviour.

"Just as I am--without one plea,  
But that thy blood was shed for me,  
And that thou bid'st me come to Thee--  
O Lamb of God, I come!"

"Just as I am--and waiting not  
To rid my soul of one dark spot  
To thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,  
O Lamb of God, I come!"  
--(Saved by the Blood; by Rev. John Hall, Dublin.

### DELAY OF CONVERSION.

An accurate examination into the periods of life in which those whose lives of godliness give evidence of true religion, first began to be followers of Christ, furnishes amazing demonstration of the folly and danger of delay! The probability of conversion diminishes rapidly as years roll on.

Make up a congregation of a thousand Christians. Divide them into five classes, according to their ages at which they became Christians. Place in the 1st class all those converted under 20 years of age; 2d class, all those converted between 20 and 30; 3d class, all those converted between 30 and 40; 4th class, all those converted between 40 and 50; 5th class, all those converted between 50 and 60. Then count each of the five classes separately. Of your thousand Christians, there were hopefully converted,

Under 20 years of age,	548
Between 20 and 30 years of age,	337
Between 30 and 40 " "	86
Between 40 and 50 " "	15
Between 50 and 60 " "	3

Here you have five classes! But you complain of me: you ask, "Why stop at 60 years old?" Ah well, then! if you have a sixth class, and call it a class--converted.

Between 60 and 70 years of age, 1  
Just one out of a thousand Christians converted over sixty years old! What a lesson on delay! What an awful lesson!

Once made an examination of this sort in respect to two hundred and fifty-three hopeful converts to Christ, who came under my observation at a particular period. Of this two hundred and fifty-three, there were converted

Under 20 years of age,	138
Between 20 and 30 years of age,	85
Between 30 and 40 " "	22
Between 40 and 50 " "	4
Between 50 and 60 " "	3
Between 60 and 70 " "	1

Beyond seventy, not one! What a lesson on the delay of conversion! What an awful lesson! How rapidly it cuts off the hopes of the delaying, as they continue on in life, making darker and darker the prospect as they are nearing the tomb! How rapidly the prospect of conversion diminishes! far more rapidly than the prospect of life! Let the sinner delay till he is twenty years old, and he has lost more than half the probability of salvation he had at twelve? Let him delay till he is thirty years old, and he has lost three-fourths of the probability of salvation which he had at twenty. Let him delay till he has reached forty years, and only twenty-nine probabilities out of a thousand remain to him. Let him delay till he has reached fifty years, and beyond fifty there remains to him only fourteen out of a thousand! What a lesson upon delay! what an emphatic lesson! As an unconverted man treads on into the vale of years, scarcely a single ray of hope remains to him! His prospect of conversion diminishes a great deal faster than his prospect of life! The nightfall has come--its shades thick fall--truth trembles for him when his feet shall stumble on the dark mountains of death.--Dr. L. S. Spencer.

### GO TO THE PRAYER-MEETING.

Let attendance on the meeting be regular and constant. Be sure to go, if possible go and see who you can find there. If your faith is weak go. If your love is chilled, go. If hope be clouded, go. If joy and peace fail to rise in your soul, go. Every professed Christian, be sure, if possible, to go, that the activities of the soul may be stirred up and drawn out in the service of Christ. If you have for a long time stayed away, and the Christian armour has got rusty, go. "Prayer makes it bright," burnishes the shield, the sword, the helmet, and the breastplate of righteousness. Go, if only a few are expected to be there, for if you stay away the number will be less. Go, as did the good brother, to the red school-house, year after year and often alone; and like him you may by and by find the place filled with anxious worshippers, and see souls converted. Go, expecting the presence and refreshings of the Holy Spirit; and expecting to meet Christ there, agreeably to his promise, that where two or three are gathered together in his name He will be in the midst of them. Be sure to go, always to go, to the prayer-meeting, when possible, even at the sacrifice of ease and profit in worldly things, and you will find a rich reward in it to your own soul, and see blessings descend upon the church of Christ. Go--all go--and carry out these suggestions, and God's blessing will be to you, like his promises, sure. Try faithfully this recipe. --(Christian Mirror.

### HIDDEN TREASURES.

In the "green room" in Dresden, where for centuries the Saxon princes have gathered their gems and treasures until they have become worth millions of dollars, may be seen a silver egg, a present to one of the Saxon Queens, which, when you touch a spring, opens and reveals a golden yolk. Within this is hid a chicken, whose wing being pressed, also flies open, disclosing a splendid golden crown studded with jewels. Nor is this all: another secret spring being touched, hidden in the centre is found a magnificent diamond ring.