

and Bro. Foster, during his two years, has considerably increased the list. This week it will go to more homes than there ever before.

The Power of Prayer.

NO. III.

"Behold he prayeth."

This is the first christian prayer of Saul of Tarsus. It was in the oldest of cities. Three days had elapsed since the most remarkable visions that occurred since the resurrection morn. The "what wilt thou have me to do," was the absolute surrender to the Jesus of Nazareth who was the brightness and glory of that wonderful manifestation. The darkness that closed the natural eyes gave place to the clearness of vision of the spiritual perception. He needed—he wanted—he desired—he prayed, and that prayer entered into the ear of God, and heaven rejoiced and was moved to action at its voice. A messenger was despatched to earth and Annias was commissioned to minister to the neophyte who was designed in God's wise purposes to astonish and enrich the world for all time, with the vastness of his Apostolic labors. "For he is," said God "a chosen vessel unto me; to bear my name before the nations and kings and the children of Israel; for I will show him how many things he must suffer for my name sake."

The prayer in the house of Judas in the city of Damascus may be considered as the turning point in Paul's life, and prayer henceforth was his vital air, for how could he conscientiously enjoy "prayer without ceasing" unless enjoying its power and efficacy in his own christian experience—or "in every thing giving thanks" without realizing in his own life the benefits bestowed upon him by God in answer to believing and earnest prayer. Hear what he says to his friends in Philippi: "Be careful in nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thankfulness let your requests be made known unto God."

W. C.

Muscular Energy.

Such may sometimes be utilized as a means of grace. It was so when our Lord made the scourge of small cords and drove the buyers and sellers from the Temple, and overthrew the tables of the money changers. Another case in point recently occurred as follows:

A church had suffered at its social entertainments by an old smoky stove. At a recent social the oysters were spoiled on account of it. The sisters of the church had repeatedly reminded the brethren that the old stove was useless and a new one absolutely necessary. But the brethren, as usual, from a chronic difficulty, did not seem to move! One of the leading sisters, in due time entered the vestry, clad in silk, and took in the situation. The rusty monster was still in its place. She called upon the sexton forthwith to get her an axe, and with it she converted the stove into junk iron! Thus through this energy and the axe the room which was often, if not a den of thieves, at least a den of smoke has been somewhat purified. It is now expected that the brethren will move.

B. A. S.

Missionary work News.

The Church Missionary Society has received a donation of \$5,000 from an anonymous benefactor for mission work in the Sudan and the Uper Niger district.

The Gospel is making progress sure though slow, in South America. The fate of Central and Southern America has been very sad. Conquered by Spain when Spain was savage, cruel and very greedy, the old civilization was destroyed by fire and sword. Spain was not a good colonizer, and the institutions she planted in the new world have not been conducive to the progress of the people. The Presbyterian churches of the United States are establishing missions in various South American countries; and the Methodists are beginning work in Peru.

The American Missionary Association (Congregationalist) spent last year about \$445,000 in missionary work among the negroes in the South, the Indians and the Chinese. A conception of the extent of its work may be gathered from the fact that its four great chartered institutions are Fisk University, with 518 students, Talladega College with 512 students, Tougaloo University with 383 students, Straight University, with 582 students and Tillotson Institute with 199 students. To this list may be added Atlanta University.

The Trappists, an order of Jesuits, have lately begun work in South Africa on a large scale. In Natal they have an estate of 20,000 acres, and in Griqualand of 500,000 acres. Their largest

monastery, at Marianhill, in Natal, contains 170 monks, and in a convent are 135 nuns. There are 300 native boys and girls under tuition. The knowledge imparted is almost entirely industrial. The rearing of bees is one of the important industries. Papers are published in four languages. They have a church capable of holding 2,000 people.—*Harvest Field.*

At the Shanghai Missionary Conference it was unanimously agreed that three translations of the Bible should be made into Chinese—namely, into High Classical, Low Classical, and Mandarin. These translations were to be made by three committees, each consisting of five British, five American, and two German missionaries. On questions of text or interpretation, the three committees were to act as one thus securing uniformity and giving one Bible to China. A committee was further appointed to prepare summaries, headings, and brief explanations of the Bible. Unanimous approval being required before anything was printed. Such is the great and noble task that has now been undertaken on behalf of that vast Empire which is said to contain a third of the human race.

Commander Cameron, of the English navy, says that "until religion as it is taught in the New Testament is understood and taught in Africa there can be no permanent dealing with slavery." He does not think any European nation can make its government in Africa secure without putting "education and religion in the forefront." He declares "one of the saddest things is the fact that the chartered Company of South Africa has sent 500 men into the country, and not one single minister of religion with them. Africa is a great field for mission work and it is being rapidly preempted. The Congo is the highway for four different missions, and other societies are securing advantageous locations."

In this way William Wright, D. D., Secretary of the British Bible Society, outlines in *The Sunday-School Times* the rapid growth of missions in China:

"The enormous increase in the number of missionaries was very striking. There were present [at the Shanghai Missionary Conference] about 432 members as compared with 129 at the previous Conference in 1877. Indeed there are more missionaries at the Conference than were in all China at the date of the previous Conference. There are now over 1,300 missionaries in China, representing forty-two organizations, besides individual workers who belong to no organization. The increase in the number of converts keeps pace with the increase of missionaries. In 1877 there were a little more than 13,000 communicants, at the end of last year they numbered 37,287; and their contributions in support of the religion which they had just adopted were \$36,884.54, which is almost at the rate of a dollar each. Statistics furnished to the Conference show that there are in China 520 organized churches, of which 94 are entirely self-supporting, and 49 partially so. There are 61 hospitals, in which, during last year, 348,439 wretched sufferers felt the beneficent influence of Christian missionary doctors."

DENOMINATIONAL NEWS.

DONATION.—Some of the Bridgewater friends of Rev. J. W. Clark made the parsonage a surprise visit a few evenings ago. They provided an oyster supper and left the pastor and his wife a present of \$17.00 besides.

REV. A. C. THOMPSON, on a card, dated 21st ult., says: "I spent last Sabbath in Boston, and had a feast, religiously. I expect (D. V.) to preach for Bro. Lockhart next Sabbath in the Chelmsford St. F. B. Church, Lowell. It is the church of which Bro. Halse was formerly pastor. I expect to start for home on the 28th."

FROM REV. J. T. PARSONS.—I do not send you a note now because of anything especially interesting I have to communicate, but rather from a sense of duty, and in fulfillment of an implied promise to report myself occasionally in the columns of the INTELLIGENCER. It is a duty I owe to you to assist in any humble way I can to lighten your burdens and assure you by a letter, that you are not forgotten, and your labors to make our paper a success is both noticed and appreciated. Again I owe a duty to the many readers of the INTELLIGENCER, whose eyes glance with eager expectancy each week to the denominational news department to learn how the church in this city and others are prospering.

Spiritually, we have no reason to complain, in deed we have much reason to be grateful. Our Sabbath and week night services are well attended and of encouraging interest. There is an evident gathering up of faith and hopefulness that our prayers for the manifestation of God power in the salvation of sinners will be speedily answered, and the perishing around us be brought to Christ. I have no idea that this winter is to pass without our being visited with another of those gracious

showers of blessing such as God has been pleased to visit us with in the past. To this end we are praying, labouring and expecting.

We have adopted the same plan for raising money for the Home Missions that worked so successfully last year, namely a missionary prayer-meeting with a collection each month. Provision is also being made for the other benevolent objects claiming our attention. It is said by some one, that while "the prayer-meeting is the pulse of the church, and gauges its spirituality," the treasury is the test of its loyalty." If that be true the church on Waterloo street was never more loyal than now, for I can truthfully say, that during my twenty-one years pastorate, there never was a year when so much money was raised for the different interests of the church, and raised so easily as during the year just closed. Our hearts are filled with thanksgiving for the constant peace and blessed union that prevails, and for the genuine interest that each has in all the others. For all this, we are indebted to the uniting cementing, joy-inspiring Spirit of the Divine Master, so generously bestowed in answer to prayer.

Our City has enjoyed a visit from the celebrated Georgia Evangelist "Sam Small." He lectured in the Institute on Tuesday evening the 18th inst., to one of the largest audiences ever congregated within its time-honoured walls.

The subject—"From Bar Room to Pulpit" was a sketch of the lecturer's own life, and was a graphic, eloquent and convincing testimony to the power and willingness of God to save from the most degrading depths of wretchedness and infamy any who cast themselves in genuine penitence at Jesus feet, and ask in his name, God's pardoning love.

The lecturer declared, in the most solemn manner, that the terrible thirst for stimulant that, like a fierce tornado had swept before it love for wife, children, friends, respectability and everything, that will power was utterly helpless to resist, was effectually taken away in answer to the prayer of faith; and in its place he received the peace of God that passeth understanding. He could he said, now sing, "Bless the Lord O my Soul and forget not all his benefits, who forgiveth all thine iniquities, and healeth all thy diseases." His lecture can but give courage and hope to those who have been bound by the shackles of appetite.

I hope to have something of more interest to write you in the near future.

J. T. P.

Saint John,
Nov. 21st 1890.

FROM REV. J. N. BARNES.—My field of labour for this year is Corn Hill, Lower Ridge, Canaan Forks and Tennant's Cove. I am to spend one half of my time at Corn Hill. I have been two Sabbaths with the Corn Hill and Lower Ridge churches, and from what I have seen of them I believe I shall like the field much. I hope, through God's blessing, to be helpful to them all. Pray for me.

J. N. BARNES.

Nov. 26th.

FROM REV. C. F. RIDEOUT.—On the evening of the 11th inst., a number of our friends met at our home in Bath. They were from Bath and Bumpfar and some from Upper Kent and came to help us celebrate the thirty-eighth anniversary of our marriage. The weather was fine, and the friends enjoyed themselves. After partaking of a good tea we spent the time in conversation and singing. Rev. J. J. Barnes and lady were with us to tea, but brother Barnes had an engagement and could not spend the evening with us. We would have been much pleased to have had his company all the evening. At the close of the evening we had a short speech and reading of Scripture and prayer by the writer. The wedding presents altogether in cash and good we received amounted to about thirty dollars, for which we return sincere thanks to all the donors and hope the Lord will bless them.

CHARLES F. RIDEOUT.

Nov. 20th.

SUNDRIES.—It is estimated that there are 100,000,000 of people in Europe who do not eat meat more than once a week. . . . The eighty-second volume of Harper's Magazine will begin with the number for December. . . . A medical paper estimates that there are 200,000 sufferers from consumption in the United States. . . . Miss Nellie Brandham, a dwarf of Paris, Mo., who is only 22 inches tall, is about to marry a young man who is nearly six feet tall. . . . A woman at Oil City, Pa., recently paid a dry goods dealer for a cloak which she said she stole from him sixteen years ago. The merchant said she was forgiven. . . . The newest cure for sleeplessness is simply a pint of hot water sipped slowly before retiring to bed. It is said to be very efficacious.

A WOMAN PASTOR.—A writer in the *Woman's Journal* says:

"Rev. Elizabeth H. Delavan has been doing very successful work as pastor in the Methodist Episcopal Church. She graduated from the School of Theology, Boston University, in 1880. A presiding elder in the Troy Conference first called her into the work and from year to year she regularly went to Conference and received from the elder her place. She served seven successive years as pastor and in each church with unusual success. Revivals followed some of them beyond what had been known for many years before in those churches. Large numbers were added to the membership. Besides doing the full work of a pastor, she assisted other ministers in revivals, with success nearly equal to that in her own church. Through the advice of friends she has decided to try the evangelistic field, and is now taking a much-needed rest in Boston, before entering fully upon that work. These are facts, not imaginary, but what has been reported of the work by those who have seen it."

Quill toothpicks come from France. The largest factory in the world is near Paris, where there is an annual product of 20,000,000. The factory was started to make quill pens, but, when these went out of general use, it was converted into a toothpick mill.

Literary Notes.

Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher's "Reminiscences" of her late husband which she is now writing, has been purchased by *The Ladies' Home Journal*, of Philadelphia, and the articles will shortly begin in that periodical. The series will have for its title "Mr. Beecher as I Knew Him," and will cover his fifty-seven years of married life, from young Beecher's first acquaintance with his wife, his college life, their marriage, his first public speech, the first year of married life with an income of \$300, and so through the great preacher's life.

Silver, Burdett & Co., Boston, have in press (ready Dec. 1st) a volume of expositions of the International Sunday School Lessons for 1891, edited by President Andrews of Brown University. Each expository sermon, or study is from the pen of a different divine of recognized ability, marking a new departure in the preparation of this line of helps by bringing to bear upon the lessons the combined scholarship and research of a greater number of Biblical students. The book should meet with a large sale among the most intelligent Sunday school workers.

Since the meeting of the General Conference in Montreal last September, the Methodist Book and Publishing House makes another stride forward in its popular periodicals. A new paper for young people, with the progressive name "ONWARD," an eight-page, well illustrated weekly, is issued at the low price of 60 cents a year. It is edited by the Rev. Dr. Withrow, whose management of the *Methodist Magazine* and Sunday-school periodicals of the Methodist Church has been so successful. The popular *Methodist Magazine* (\$2.00 per annum) and the *Sunday School Banner* (60 cents per annum) will also be considerably enlarged and improved. The Rev. William Briggs, Toronto, is the publisher of the periodicals.

In the "Editor's Drawer" in *Harper's Magazine* for December, Charles Dudley Warner makes some pertinent remarks on the blessedness of giving, and on the habit of injudicious gift-making, especially at Christmas. He concludes by remarking that "one can scarcely disencumber himself of anything in his passage through this world and not be benefited; but the hint may not be thrown away that one will personally get more satisfaction out of his periodic or continual benevolence if he gives during his life the things which he wants and other people need, and reserves for a fine show in his will a collected but not selected mass of holiday goods."

The Homiletic Review for November opens with an excellent article entitled "A Scientific Study of Christianity. Shall We Give Up Doctrinal Teaching and Preaching?" is a timely discussion on the negative side of the question. Christ Preaching to the Spirits in Prison, is a fresh and somewhat novel handling of a hackneyed theme. Prof. Schodde examines in a learned and interesting manner The Leading Problems of New Testament Discussion. The Sermons, of which there are ten, are above the average merit. The Prayer-Meeting Service is a feast of fat things. The Exegetical Section is rich as usual, and the European Department is kept up to high-water mark. Among the short articles, are The Use and Abuse of Books in Sermon-Making, and The Delivery of Sermons. The number is fresh, varied in contents and stimulating. Published by Funk & Wagnalls, 18 and 20 Astor Place, New York. \$3.00 per year; single copies, 30 cents.

Marriages.

BARKER-BAIN.—In this city, on the 27th ult., by Rev. Dr. McLeod, Mr. Judson Barker, of Douglas, and Miss Isabella Bain, of Fredericton.

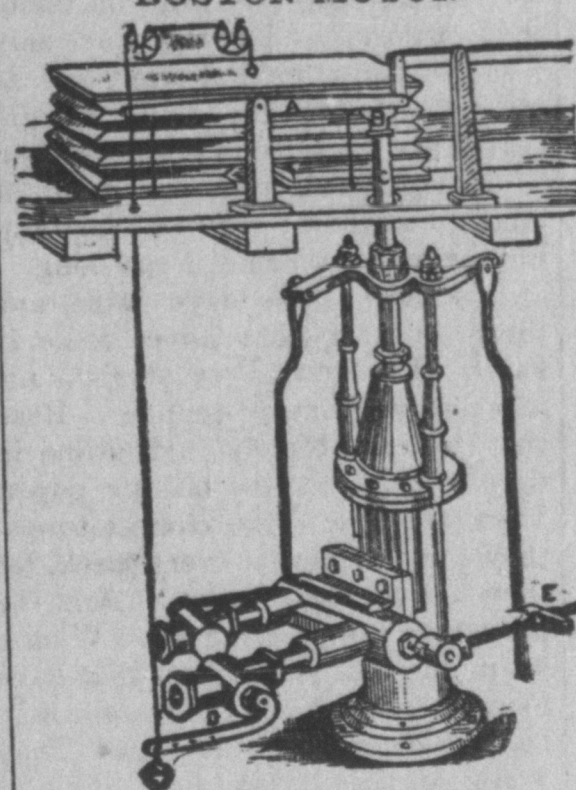
GRAY-STEVENS.—On the 26th Nov., by Rev. G. A. Hartley, Mr. Michael Gray and Miss Elizabeth Stevens, both of Randolph, St. John Co.

BROWN-McLEAN.—On the 25th ult., at the Europa House, by the Rev. Wm. Downey, Mr. Hiram D. Brown and Agnes McLean, both of Marysville.

Deaths.

NICKERSON.—At Barrington Centre, N. S., Oct. 31st, 1890, Etie, aged 22 years, daughter of Isaac and Mary Nickerson. She professed faith in Christ a few years ago, and was baptized and united with F. B. church, with which she lived a consistent life. She was also an active worker in the Temperance cause, being a member of Polar Star Division. Her sickness was

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short and at times very severe, but was borne with christian resignation. She often said "she would soon be home, where there would be no pain." Sermon preached by the writer to a large audience, from Heb. 13:14—W. MILLER.

MARTIN.—At Northern Harbour, Deer Island, Ch. Co., on the 23rd ult., of pneumonia, Herbert Martin, third son of Darius Martin, aged 15 years. Herbert was an estimable and promising young man. He was converted one year and eight months ago, under the labors of Rev. W. K. Burr, who baptized him. He belonged to Northern Harbour Free Christian Baptist church. He was a favorite with his associates. His death was sudden. His end was clear and unexpressedly happy. He said, while passing away, "It is but a step. There is a better country." He is missed everywhere where known. He leaves parents, three brothers and one sister to mourn their loss which is his gain. May God sustain the greatly afflicted family.—A. H. McLEOD.

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1891 Harper's Magazine.

ILLUSTRATED.

The important series of papers on South America by Theodore Child, will be continued in HARPER'S MAGAZINE during the greater part of the year 1-91. The articles on Southern California, by Charles Dudley Warner, will also be continued. Among other noteworthy attractions will be a collection of original drawings by W. M. Thackeray, now published for the first time; a novel written and illustrated by George du Maurier; a novelette by William Dean Howells; and a series of papers on London by Walter Besant.

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