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THAT GOD IN ALL THINGS MAY BE GLORIFIED THROUGH CHRIST.—Peter

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Soul-Winning the First Duty.

REV. THEODORE L. CUYLER, D. D.
The Lord Jesus Christ put his ambassadors and servants no right to make secondary. Our Master came into this sinful world to seek and to save the lost. The ministry of his Apostles almost exclusively this one aim. To convert sinful men and women to Christ by the aid of the Holy Spirit was the master purpose of Paul and his fellow-missionaries of the great Reformation of the sixteenth century was far more than a protest against the errors of the past; it was a direct bringing of souls to the only Saviour of men. The Wesleys and Whitefields, that intellectual giant, President Edwards, made this their chief business. "My witness is above," said the great Rutherford, "that your work would be two heavens to me, the salvation of you all as to me. It were my heaven to spend this life in gathering in souls to Christ."

That is wise winneth souls. This is the chief end of the best preaching. The great commission of the Lord Jesus Christ is to preach the Gospel to every creature, to bring faith in Christ Jesus and to save souls to him. Whenever and wherever Christ's ministers have most faithfully and unflinchingly kept this purpose before them, and have endeavored to keep every eye fixed on Christ; urge immediate surrender to Christ. The happiest hours you will ever know this side of heaven will be those that you spend in leading sinners to the Saviour.

But this supreme satisfaction is not confined to the ordained ministers of the Gospel. Every Christian parent, every Sunday school teacher, and every one who loves the Master, and loves to do the Master's work, may be a soul-winner. Lay labor is often as effective as ministerial. There was a godly woman in my Brooklyn church who more than once saw all the young girls in her Sunday school class converted. She did not rely on addressing them as a class. She visited each one, had personal interviews with each one, and guided each one to the Saviour. Jesus Christ has taught us that one soul is a great audience. The inspired evangelists record a single public discourse ("on the Mount"), of which we have a full report; nearly all his other recorded utterances were either to his disciples or to individuals; the longest of them to a disreputable woman by Sychar's well. The Book of Acts is chiefly the narrative of labors by individuals and for individuals. One reason for giving to the world that book may have been to teach Christians how to save sinners.

There is much talk about "reaching the masses." But people are not saved in the mass; they must be reached and saved one by one. Men may go to hell by regiments; they must be led to Jesus individually. The difference between mass work and personal effort is the difference between shaking our apple-tree and covering the ground with bruised and battered fruit, and picking off the apples by hand and putting them into a basket. Personal effort costs time, costs work and costs patience. It requires faith, and in some cases it requires courage, to go and labor faithfully with an unconverted person. A discreet Christian—whose daily life is a good sermon—may become a most effective winner of souls. Plain Harlan Page (educated in a common school and a carpenter's shop), by writing letters, by personal conversations, and by using every opportunity to present Christ to the unconverted, was honored of God in the salvation of over one hundred souls. One of them became an eminent minister of great power.

Next to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the vital demand of the hour is personal efforts to win souls. Christianity never will carry the day until Christ's ministers are on fire to save sinners, and Christ's members become soul-winners. As Dr. Roswell Hitchcock phrased it, "Every Christian must be a witness, every recruit must himself be a recruiter."

STUDENTS IN RUSSIA.

Drastic regulations affecting the conduct of students in Russia are applied in great measure to the boys attending the grammar-schools. The upper classes of these schools contain young men of twenty and twenty-one years. Here are a few of these regulations equally applying to the youth of twenty and the child of eight: In winter he is not to leave his home after seven o'clock. He is not to wear together summer trousers and a winter jacket or a summer jacket and winter trousers. His jacket is always to be scrupulously buttoned. His overcoat is not to be worn, simply hung over the shoulders. Walking-sticks or whips are not to be

carried in the streets. Confectioners' shops are not to be visited. Without written permission of the parents or guardians the grammar-school boy is not to ride or row. This permit he must be prepared to show to the police on demand. He is not to be away from home, even for a walk, without a card or other document establishing his identity. His books must be carried in a satchel on his shoulders. He is not permitted to take lessons in dancing from any master other than recommended by the school authorities, nor is he permitted to visit public reading-rooms or libraries. A watch-chain must not appear. No rings can be worn. Incipient moustaches must be shaved off. Even in the company of his parents he must not visit a restaurant, and theatres and concerts only on holidays, and then always in the company of his parents. These regulations are taken literally from a Russian educational newspaper.

HE REFUSED THE TEST.

A Christian Scientist offered to produce before the editor of the Popular Science Monthly a number of persons who have been cured of snake bites by Christian Science treatment. That was on a par with Dossticks' advertisement of his tonic, which gave him such strength he carried a pair of oxen a mile one in each hand. If any one doubted it, he could show them the oxen!

The editor was not impressed with the wonderful proof of seeing the snakes bite them before he would have faith. But he made a counter proposition. Since the Christian Scientist had perfect faith in the Christian Scientist cure for the snake poison, let him prove his faith by his works, and convince scoffing gainsayers.

The editor asked him to allow him self to be inoculated with snake poison in the presence of witnesses. Then let him apply the Christian Science methods, and if they effected a cure, that Christian Science has power must be admitted.

It is needless to say that the man refused this test of the power of his cult, and the correspondence came to an abrupt conclusion. He was as much affronted as Dossticks was when some one asked to see him carry the oxen in his hands before investing in his wonderful tonic.

MISSION NEWS AND NOTES.

—What is life itself for but to fulfil the purpose of foreign missions, en-throning Jesus Christ in the hearts of men?—Josiah Strong, D. D.

—Dr. Leonard estimates that there are 800,000,000 heathen and 200,000,000 Mohammedans in the world.

—The Church Missionary Society of England received contributions during the year just closed of more than \$2,000,000.

—Missionaries in the famine district of India saved from death about 25,000 children who are now under the care of the various missionaries and who must be fed and clad, and trained for lives of usefulness. The missionaries have the courage to undertake this task of caring for this great army of little ones. Churches at home will surely give all needed support.

—Dr. Elias Riggs has made an unsurpassed record of eighty-eight years as a foreign missionary. He left as a worthy and unique monument translations of the whole Bible into Armenian, Bulgarian, and Turkish, a Bulgarian commentary on the Bible, and parts of the Scriptures in Armenian and Turkish for the blind, besides translations of hymns, and numerous grammars of Eastern tongues of great service to missionaries. He read at least thirteen important languages besides his own, and could speak not less than six of these. He made good use of his knowledge, and kept at work at the age of ninety. Yet there are persons that think "missionary" is a synonym for one of slight powers of mind.

—A century ago foreign missions were almost unknown. There were only 170 missionaries of all Protestant denominations, while now there are over 42,000. The contributions then

amounted to about \$250,000 annually, while now the sum raised by the church for foreign missions is \$15,000,000. The work of the missionary was then the subject for the sneers and witticisms of the world and many in the church as well, but lately it has been solemnly declared that missions are "the primary work of the church, the work for which the Christian church was consecrated by our Lord." The testimony of hundreds of thousands of converts bears witness above all other human utterances to the century's missionary triumphs.—Union Gospel News.

—Dr. A. J. Gordon tells of the Welsh peasant girl who toiled with her hands for six years that she might earn enough to buy a copy of the Bible. "Then she walked twenty-five miles, barefooted, to a place called Bala, and made her way to the house of Rev. Thomas Charles, who was reported to have the priceless treasure on sale. He had no copies left except those already promised to friends, and could obtain no more from London. The grief of the disappointed girl so moved the pastor's heart that he said, 'My dear child, I see that you must have a Bible. It is impossible to refuse you.' The precious volume was put into her hands; but not into hers alone. The minister who acted in this historic scene was so moved by it that he determined to see what could be done to bring the Bible within the reach of the yet unprivileged millions of Christendom and of the world, to whom it had hitherto been an unattainable possession. This resolve was carried out by steps which I cannot now trace, till in 1804 it reached its consummation in the formation of the British and Foreign Bible Society."

—In years past, there were prosperous Christian missions in the Caroline islands, in the Pacific ocean, and there were many converts to Christianity. About fifteen years ago these islands came under Spanish control, and the missionaries of the American Board were ordered away. It seemed as if the good seed which had been sown was about to be choked by the blighting weeds of Romanism. But God had not forgotten his people. For recently this group of islands was ceded by Spain to Germany, and last year the Protestant mission work there was resumed. The missionaries found that, even in face of the Spanish occupation, three Protestant preaching places had been maintained by the natives. At once the native teachers gathered around the missionaries with joyful demonstrations. And the native men and women and children gathered with chickens, pineapples, etc., to buy Bibles and school books. It is evident that the truth has not been forgotten nor abandoned, but is giving good signs of life. The incident may teach us all a lesson of faith in God in seasons of darkness.

SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES.

The Canadians for the Baden-Powell sailed from Halifax Friday.

New Zealand has sent six contingents to South Africa; Australia has sent four or five. Canada has sent four—if we count the Strathconas and the Police.

General French's forces arrived at Vryheid, having killed, wounded or captured 1,200 Boers. They had also taken seven cannon, 1,000 rifles, 1,800 wagons and 26,000 head of horses, cattle and sheep.

There is an ugly record of cruelty being made up against DeWett; and Delarey is not free from very serious charges.

Last week Delarey was badly defeated by Babington's force. The result was that the British captured two fifteen-pounder guns, one pom-pom, six maxims, 320 rounds of big ammunition, 15,000 rounds of small ammunition, 160 rifles, 53 wagons, and 24 carts, besides taking 140 prisoners. British losses were slight. Many Boers were killed or wounded. The result of the combined movements against General Fourie near Thaba N'Chu was the capture of 200 Boers, 140,000 sheep, 5,000 horses and a host of cattle.

Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

"Rise up ye women that are at ease. Isaiah 32: 9.

[All contributions for this column should be addressed to Mrs. J. M. McLeod, Fredericton.]

CHINESE WOMEN MARTYRS.

Every missionary magazine gives us fresh stories relating to the noble army of martyrs in China. A missionary in Manchuria writes: "One fine-spirited woman named Hsiao, who was the soul of a part of the work in Kuangnine, was seized. She was wealthy, and earnest in spreading the Gospel. When the trouble broke out she was a marked woman. The rascals had an eye on her property, and demanded it. The deacon Wang, her manager, made his escape, but she manfully stood her ground, and said she was prepared to bear witness for the Lord who bought her. She was offered her life if she would recant. She refused and only asked that they would kill her quickly. She suffered death in the most cruel manner, but up to the last kept praying. A young woman named Yin was captured. As she was young and good looking, her captor offered her her life if she would renounce Christ and become his wife. She replied that she had a hope of heaven, and that whether she died or lived was of little moment. 'What is heaven? If I kill you, what then?' 'Then I shall go to heaven at one step.' As she was praying for her enemies she was cut short with the assassin's sword. Her conduct made a great impression."

FIFTY YEARS IN ZENANAS.

The Zenana Bible and Medical Mission held its jubilee meeting in London a few days ago. The report presented shows that 3,754 zenanas are visited by the Society, hospitals are maintained at Lucknow, Patna and Benares, and about 24,000 patients are treated annually. It was thought a fitting commemoration of the jubilee year would be the raising of a fund of \$100,000 for the maintenance of existing agencies, extension of mission work in villages and the erection of another hospital and more dispensaries. The present income is insufficient by about \$15,000.

WOMENS WORK.

Of the work done in the churches by women, the Dominion Presbyterian says,—It is compared with the amount done by the whole congregation, which is a most unfair comparison. As a rule one tenth of the women of the congregation get together, and with an earnestness that would startle the Church were it to mark the whole congregation, carry through their plans for congregational or missionary work. Most unselfishly have they toiled. The real relation between them is well indicated in the gifts that Jesus saw dropped into the treasury of the Temple, and upon which He commented to His disciples.

MISSION BAND CONCERT.

The "Mission Band" connected with the Woodstock Church, which has been under the superintendence of Miss Vanwart for several years, gave a most excellent concert in the church on the evening of the 7th. of March. The attendance was very large, every part of the room being filled. The children rendered, in a most interesting and pleasing manner, an appropriate programme, all the numbers of which were bearing upon missions. The music, the readings, and indeed all the exercises, showed the children to be bright and their training to be carefully done. The proceeds, part of which goes to Home Missions and part to Foreign, amounted to \$21.70.

The following is the programme: Responsive Reading; Singing, "All for Jesus;" Recitation, "Two bright little pennies;" Singing, by three little girls; Reading; An exercise, "Little Lights," by twenty of the children; Singing, by two little girls; Recitation, "Little Dolls;" A chorus; Reading; Dialogue, "Missionary

Meeting;" Singing, "Jesus the Light of the world;" An exercise, by several of the children; Dialogue, by three girls; Duett, by two young ladies; Singing, "Jesus loves the children;" Mission Band Song. Chorus.

We send the above for publication that others may be moved to organize "Bands" for the training of the children.

E. A. C.

PARLIAMENT.

MONDAY.—Sir Louis Davies introduced a bill to amend the inland water seamen act and to define Canadian inland waters; also a bill to amend the act respecting the safety of ships, which will not interfere with the deck loads.

Mr. Richardson introduced a bill to provide for a clause in railway charters which will fix the rights of the government in respect to expropriation. A long debate followed.

Mr. Gourley, Colchester, made an appeal for St. John and Halifax in connection with railway and transportation questions. His view was that railway legislation should be introduced so as to benefit the maritime province ports as well as Quebec and Montreal.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier announced that later nationalization of the railways would be referred to by the government.

Mr. Fisher said the government was endeavoring to induce the imperial government to buy remounts in Canada for use in South Africa.

The budget debate continued. Tuesday.—The budget debate was continued. No business was done.

WEDNESDAY.—In answer to Bell, Blair stated that locomotives and cars for the Intercolonial had been ordered in the United States, as follows: From Dickson Manufacturing Co., Scranton, Pa.; Manchester Locomotive Co., Manchester, N. H.; Richmond Locomotive Co., Richmond, Va.; Barney & Smith Car. Co., Dayton, Ohio.

Fortin moved "that the salaries of public officials and of government employees should be attachable, like those of ordinary citizens."

Blair and Davies opposed the motion on the ground that it would result in hardship on men who were earning small salaries.

The motion went over until some future day.

The Victoria Day bill was taken up, and progress reported.

THURSDAY.—Mr. Bennett called attention to the new issue of four dollar bills, which have been adorned with a cut of an American canal. He considered that after Canada had spent four millions on her canals she should not place an advertisement for the United States on her currency.

Mr. Fielding refused to reply to the demand that the bills be called in.

The budget debate was continued. Borden's amendment was defeated by 118 to 64.

In answer to Mr. Fowler, the minister of militia department had no control of appointment of officers and men to the South African constabulary, which was conducted by the imperial authorities. In New Brunswick 125 men were accepted.

FRIDAY.—The supplementary estimates amounting to \$120,000 were passed.

A protest was made against the auditor general withholding salaries of deputy returning officers. Clarke Wallace supported Mr. McDougall and charged that the accounts were crooked and that an attempt had been made to have deputy returning officers paid not only for their official duties but for services rendered in connection with their efforts on behalf of the candidates. Mr. Wallace reminded the grits that they could not carry away all the funds, and challenged them to bring the matter before the committee.

A measure to enforce the proper inspection and marking of packages containing fruit came before the committee of the house. Mr. Gourley favored the marking of all packages so as to show the province in which they were grown. McCready referred in strong terms to the bad packing on the part of Ontario growers. Progress was reported.