

THE SLANDERER.

The above words give the exact meaning of the Greek word, *diabolos*, which in the English bible is translated, devil. The fact throws very dark reflection upon the characters of men and women who misrepresent the truth, for it shows that they are walking directly in the pathway of the devil, whose true character is made plainer to us as we consider him in the light of the above definition. He is the great slanderer of the universe. It is his business to misrepresent God, his truth, and his people. In order to do this successfully he must misrepresent himself. Thus he represents God as a liar, his truth as a lie and his people as those who walk in error or deceitfulness, while he comes himself as an angel of light to the hearts of men, pretends to be interested in their welfare, deceives many, and ruins their careers for time and eternity.

His earthly career of deception began in the garden of Eden, when he made the progenitors of our race believe that God had deceived them and was keeping from them something which they might enjoy with profit.

Thus he led them to take the fatal step which brought death upon them and their seed forever. Being ever present in this world he has worked in the same manner with all mankind ever since with such success that he has induced whole nations to forget God that made them and drift into heathen darkness and despair. In other nations where he has not entirely obliterated the word of God he has caused it to be neglected and disregarded by the majority of people who walk in the way of eternal death and darkness, having no love for God. If it were not for the deception of the devil who blinds the eyes of men in their mad pursuit of sin, there would be no such thing as an atheist, infidel, or sceptic, in this fair world of ours. Neither would men walk in the ways of sin, for God's word would not be doubted.

The devil, knowing that Jesus Christ is his greatest enemy, directs his greatest efforts against the Saviour of the world and tries to destroy and abolish from the world the teachings of Christ, and to steal away from the hearts of men the precious faith which alone can bring salvation. His first attempt is to make men believe that Jesus Christ is not divine, that his power is not superhuman. In behalf of this delusion he has had a church organized whose fundamental doctrine is the denial of the divinity of Christ.

Such teaching is a direct slander on Jesus Christ, a lie of the devil, and they who accept it in their hearts and say that Jesus was good, but not the Son of God, as he said he was, are clouds without water carried about by winds, trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead plucked up by the roots; raging waves of the sea foaming out their own shame; wandering stars to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever."

Of course everyone is not drawn into so great an absurdity as to deny the divinity of Christ. Many say that he is the Son of God and Saviour of the world, but have allowed Satan to so deceive them that they do not have the right conception of his love, power and salvation. They seem to think that he saves us in our sins, and not from our sins. To such an extent has Satan carried on his deceptive work within the ranks of professed Christians that the masses of people who are singing "Onward Christian Soldiers" are not

in the ranks of Christ at all but are deceived and smitten with blindness through worldly lust, and are led about by Satan wherever he wills, just as the Syrian army of old was blinded and led by Elisha, until they at last found themselves helpless captives. What a sad awakening it will be for the deluded souls of men who think they can be Christians and yet walk in sin when the judgment shall open their eyes, and they come face to face with the fact that "without holiness no man shall see the Lord." This and many other passages of scripture, which plainly show that Christians must be saved from their sins and perfected in holiness, are obscured to the vision of the general church as is plainly shown by the fact that many who profess the love of Christ and are even religious leaders will say that they do not find holiness taught in the Bible. Comforting themselves with the thought that it is not found in the holy book, they follow madly after worldly pleasure, dancing, attend the theatre, playing cards, smoking and chewing, visiting on the Sabbath Day, talking foolishly, reading trash and in other ways deadening the conscience, yet attending the church on Sunday, until the devil grins with fiendish delight as he beholds such an absurd mixture of sinful indulgence and Christian Profession. Well one might sing: Encamped along the hills of light,

Ye Christian soldiers rise.
And press the battle ere the night
Shall veil the glowing skies.

There is indeed great need of a spiritual awakening which will reveal to the church its great need of a better way. May she see the beauty and purity of Christ, who left us, an example that we should follow in His steps, and her own privilege of following Him with a burning zeal which will result in perfect love, and eternal salvation of men.—*Minot S. Blaisdell.*

Ministers and Churches.

Rev. A. F. Tanner has been confined to the house about all winter, but says that he is now improving in his health.

"As ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them." If you were shut in for several months, how many of the brethren would you like to have remember you, and write you letters?

There is a possibility of getting too much absorbed by our own cares and work.

Rev. W. B. Wiggins, B.A., of Moncton, Rev. H. C. Archer, of Woodstock, and Brother S. B. Charlton, of Florenceville, were delegates at the meeting of Dominion Branch of the British and Foreign Society, which met at Chatham last week.

Rev. M. S. Blaisdell says: "The Lord is prospering me in every way." He sends a good article for this issue. Our dear young brother is working hard to procure the means to take another term at Harvard University.

Rev. H. S. Dow is holding special services at Caribou. Brother C. S. Hilyard assisted him on Sunday, the 9th inst. The interest is good.

Rev. H. C. Archer has received a call to remain pastor of the Woodstock church for another year.

Licenciate F. T. Wright expects to graduate this spring. He is preparing for missionary work.

Brother H. C. Mullen expects to come home

early this spring and will be ready to engage for pastoral work.

The Editor spent a few days, including last Sunday, at Hartland with Pastor P. J. Trafton. We found the church strong in faith, and enjoying a feast of good things. Brother Trafton is highly esteemed by his people and is doing good effective work. Every department of the church is in a vigorous working condition. The Sunday School, under the superintendence of Brother Claud McMullen, is in a prosperous condition.

The district quarterly meeting No. 1 will convene with the church at Hartland Thursday evening, the 20th inst., continuing over Sunday. An excellent meeting is assured for the blessing of joy and gladness is already with the people.

Rev. M. S. Trafton of Fort Fairfield assisted the pastor at Hartland a few days, including March 2nd, and the people were much blessed under his preaching.

Rev. H. H. Cosman reports the church at Beals, Me., in good spiritual and financial condition. Brother Cosman visited Grand Manan recently.

Personals.

We are glad to hear from our friend and Brother, W. B. Webb, who is now on a homestead in Alberta. He has been a subscriber to the Highway for many years, and says he is still much pleased with it.

Brother Webb suggests a Book Department in connection with the Highway.

Rev. J. H. MacDonald has closed his pastoral work with the Brunswick Street Baptist Church, Fredericton. He has been pastor of this church twelve years. He has accepted a call from the McPhail Memorial Church at Ottawa.

Brother N. S. Phillips, of Greenbush, is in very poor health. Brother Phillips has not been able to work for a year or more.

Rev. G. N. Ballentine is pastor of a Baptist church at Oceanside, California, 85 or 90 miles from Los Angeles.

Rev. G. O. Gates, D. D., is to be permanent supply for the Brunswick street Baptist church, Fredericton, until a pastor is secured. Dr. Gates was pastor of the Germain street Baptist church, St. John, for a number of years.

Brother Bruce Maddison, of Indian Mountain, Westmorland County, visited Fredericton this week.

Three Things

Of General Interest to be
kept before the Churches

THE MISSIONARY WORK

The Highway

AND BEULAH AND

Riverside Camp Grounds

Every Church should have a live
interest in these departments of our
work.