

The King's Highway.

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

And an Highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The Way of Holiness—Isa. 35-8.

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DEACON EDGAR AND MRS. LANDERS AND FAMILY, OF SANDFORD, N. S.

Left to right, back row—Mary, now Mrs. A. H. Shaw; Edgar, Jennie, Percy Lorinda, Howard.

Second row—Robert, George, Ruth, Dorothy, Mrs. Landers, Deacon Edgar Landers.

This picture was taken about five years ago.

Brother and sister Landers were converted in the F. B. Church, but accepted the teaching of entire sanctification and became charter members of the Reformed Baptist Church when it was organized at Sandford, N. S., in 1889, and have stood faithfully with the cause of holiness ever since.

CHARACTER BUILDING.

Paper read before the Fredericton W. C. T. U., by the Editor.

Published by Their Request. Madam President and Ladies of the Women's Christian Union,—

You have done me the honor of asking me to read a paper at your meeting entitled "Character Building."

I have asked the question, what is character? and have sought an answer with the following result, viz., Character is:

1st, the sum total of our thoughts, words and doings.

2nd, a perfectly moulded will.

3rd, what we are.

4th, the individuality which is the product of nature, habits and environments.

5th, character is what a man is in the dark—what he is without an audience.

We turned to Solomon and he said of the man with an "evil eye," "as he thinketh in his heart, so is he." What is true of the wicked man, I believe is true of the good man. The conditions of his heart, his moral or spiritual nature determines his true character. We consulted the prophet Jeremiah (17-9) and he said, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked, who can know it"

The Lord Jesus Christ gave an awful revelation when he looked in behind the mask of man's outward appearance and said, "For from within, out of the heart of men proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders,

thefts, covetousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness."

What a nest of venomous vipers is the heart of man in his natural state? Had any mere man given this awful picture we might rise in indignation and protest.

Would this statement back up the opinion that is given in the 4th answer to our question, what is character? Is this the product of nature, habits and environment? No, this is the result of man's awful fall when the whole course of his nature was thrown out of joint. This is where God found him, and it horrifies him when he is revealed to himself.

Men may deify man if they will. They may talk of the "Fatherhood of God, and the Brotherhood of Man," but we are constantly shocked by the revelations of the breaking forth of evil all about us, like the breaking forth of a volcano.

While personally we do not altogether like the term "character building," it sounds to us like an attempt by man to work out a remedy for man's awful calamity through the fall, independent of the offering of Jesus Christ, and the operation of divine grace, and the radical change wrought by divine power in the hearts of men, for we are told that, "there is none other name under heaven, given among men, whereby we must be saved." "Neither is there salvation in any other."

We must bear in mind that we are not talking of man as he appears, noble, strong, respectable, cultured. We are talking about the man

in back of the mask; his real character, as aptly portrayed in "Dr. Jekel and Mr. Hyde."

The Apostle Paul said, "Other foundations can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." 1 Cor., 3-12. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."

We frequently sing:

"On Christ the solid rock I stand,
All other grounds are sinking sand."

Christ, the model of what God wants man to be. Not an imitation but the complete transformation by divine power. "Not of the world even as he was not of the world." "If any man have not the spirit of Christ he is none of his." "As many as are led by the spirit of God they are the sons of God." "Who hath delivered us from the kingdom of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his son." (Margin—The Son of His love).

The Apostle Peter gives a concrete statement of the foundation, and superstructure, of a character for the Christian, from which they need never fall, in 2 Pet. 1-1 to 10. (Which see) (4th v.) "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises, that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption which is in the world through lust."

.. "And beside this (He adds a strong exhortation) giving all diligence.

Add—(build) to your faith virtue, and to virtue knowledge, and to knowledge temperance, and to temperance patience, and to patience Godliness, and to Godliness brotherly kindness; (and the capstone) to brotherly kindness charity," (Love); "For if ye do these things ye shall never fall."

We find two types of character defined in the Bible.

The character of the saints. As follows: Attentive to Christ's voice, blameless and harmless, contrite, devout, faithful, fearing God, following Christ, guileless, holy, humble, hungering for righteousness, just, led by the Spirit, liberal, loathing themselves, (hating the garments spotted by the flesh).

Loving, merciful, new creatures, obedient, prudent, pure in heart, righteous, sincere, steadfast, taught of God, true, undefiled, upright, watchful, zealous of good works.

The character of the wicked, viz., Abominable, alienated from God, blasphemous, blinded, boastful, conspiring against saints, corrupt, covetous, deceitful, delighting in the iniquity of others, despising saints, destructive, disobedient, enticing to evil, envious, evil-doers, fearful, fierce, foolish, forgetting God, fraudulent, froward, glorying in their shame, hard-hearted, hating the light, heady and high minded, hostile to God, hypocritical, ignorant of God, impudent, infidel, loathsome, lovers of pleasure and not of God, lying, mischievous, murderous, prayerless, persecuting, reverse, proud, rebellious, rejoicing in the afflictions of saints, reprobate, selfish, sensual, sold under sin, stiff hearted, stiff necked, uncircumcised in