

used simply in spectacular show. It requires fire to produce power and the power keeps the machinery in motion. The right kind of fire will keep us in motion in keeping the work of the church of Christ in motion.

Yes, we need fire, for we need light, warmth and power.

### NOT IN THE WISDOM OF MAN, BUT IN THE POWER OF GOD.

The great Apostle reveals a vital truth in his declaration of the purpose and manner of his preaching to the Corinthian Church, in which he relegates to a scrap heap all those things included in the wisdom of men which are dangerous and fatal substitutes for the power of God in the salvation of men. Showing that there is an indispensable need of the real supernatural divine power to be exerted in man to change him from his natural state of darkness, bondage, and sin, to a Son of God; to "translate him from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of God's dear son." And man's faith should ever after exert, seek, and receive all spiritual light, life and daily food by the operation of the power of God, and that every opinion of man should be put under the X-ray of light of the Word of God, and the Holy Spirit, and where there is any conflict between the wisdom of man and the super-natural manifestation, or operation of power of God, as the sin-destroying, life-giving, love-producing, temptation resisting, courage imparting, heart cleansing assurance of salvation from sin. Our faith will stand unshaken in the power of God, to do for us "exceeding abundantly above all we ask or think."

The apostle said, "And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power."

"My preaching was not with persuasive doctrines of human wisdom, I used none of the means of which great orators avail themselves, whereby to become popular and thereby to gain fame."

There is a very marked distinction between enticing, or persuasive doctrines, of men's wisdom, appealing to the intellect and the doctrine which is demonstrated by the Holy Spirit in His transforming power. As demonstrated in the household of Cornelius, while St. Peter was preaching, and at Samaria, and Ephesus, and on the day of Pentecost—and many times since under the preaching of many men who were filled with the Holy Ghost. In this may be found the secret why there are so few definite conversions in the multitude of churches in these days. The man, the preacher, is more to the front than his message. The Apostle Paul recognized the presence and power of the great divine demonstrator of the Gospel of Christ, and did not attempt to use a substitute, but kept his own personality in the background and his words so plain—and to the point—that the Holy Spirit so directed them that they were effectual in men's hearts and consciences, and wonderful transformations took place immediately. It is beautiful to find a man, who possesses fine personal appearance, and all that culture and a liberal education can bestow on him, able to keep himself and his attainments so completely out of sight, that the congregation go out praising Christ whom preaches and not the preacher.

### THE BLASTER.

By B. C. Forbes, in The New York American.

The American, it should be remembered, is one of those "Hearst papers" which have been recently announced as no longer to insert liquor advertisements. Wouldn't a whiskey advertisement read strangely alongside this admission of what drink is? And can a beer advertisement read otherwise?—Editor's Note.

I have blighted more homes than all the of the world.

I have blighted more homes than all the plagues of history.

I have robbed more children of their birth-right than all the thieves ever born.

I blast careers.

I am the parent of untold poverty.

I breed diseases.

I spread misery wherever I go.

I am oftentimes the inciter of the recklessness that strews the world with accidents and catastrophes.

I am the most subtle, the most insinuating, the most alluring of tempters.

I wear the guise of joy—of happiness, of gaiety, of goodfellowship.

I deliver death.

I charm the rich as easily as the poor.

I am embraced by the educated as often as by the ignorant.

I speak every language.

I know every clime.

I am as old as history.

I am mightier than Kings and Emperors.

I have driven rulers from their thrones and overturned dynasties.

I can render the strongest armies impotent.

I can sap nations.

I rejoice in bringing dishonor and degradation.

I fill prisons.

I fill insane asylums to overflowing.

I feed hospitals with patients.

I cause more divorces than jealousy can claim.

I am equally powerful in undoing women as in wrecking men.

I am welcomed in every class of society.

I am given a place at the tables of the most cultured and the most exclusive.

I am as easily sought after by the poorest and most ignorant.

I am so prized that no function of State, no brilliant social gathering, no great public dinner is accounted complete without my presence.

I am coveted by many governments for the revenue I yield them.

I consume, however, more wealth than has been spent in building all the railroads and all the steamships of the world.

I am the costliest inhabitant in every nation.

The Apostle Paul said: "I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling."

One must feel his own weakness and inefficiency to enable him to fully depend on the almightiness of God.

There must have been a danger of the people accepting the wisdom of men in preference to the Gospel of Christ to cause the Apostle to address the Corinthian church in this way:

*That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.*

I and my activities call for the expenditure of unreckoned millions for prisons and for police forces and courts, for hospitals and for doctors and for nurses, for insane asylums, for almshouses, for orphanages.

I have been barred from nineteen States in this great commonwealth, but though many believe they foresee my doom from end to end of the land I still have many powerful friends, whose pockets I fill with my blood-money, but whose lives and families I wreck sooner or later.

I have all the forces of evil on my side, and I shall fight to the last ditch.

I can prevail so long as I am allowed to wear my mask.

I cannot hope to endure for a day if I be revealed in all my real hideousness.

I, therefore, summon every enemy of the State, every enemy of the home, every enemy of the family life, every enemy of happiness, every enemy of progress, every enemy of decency, every enemy of honor, every enemy of health, every enemy of all that makes life worth while—I summon all of these, my supporters and my worshippers, to enroll themselves under my banner of skull and cross bones, and so battle for me that I, the arch enemy of mankind and of civilization, shall be victorious over every agency of righteousness.

Who as I? *I am Drink.*

### RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED TO THE ROYALTON R. B. CHURCH.

Some eight and twenty years ago,

It was on a New Year's Day,  
We met within a private house,  
And there we kneeled to pray.

We asked the very God of peace  
To show us clear our way,  
Because we were without a church  
Upon that New Year's Day.

The friends we used to worship with  
Said we their "patience tired,"  
Because we said the God of peace  
Our souls had sanctified.

And so they asked us to resign,  
And leave it all to them;  
They thought that they could run the thing  
Without our loud "Amen."

And so their fellowship withdrew  
And sent us all adrift;  
I'm sure they never, never dreamed  
That we could make a shift.

We organized our church that day,  
All glory be to God;  
We tread the path the Master trod  
While we're above the sod.

And now if any one should say,  
"Pray how are you today?"  
Say a Baptist well reformed  
And in the "narrow way."  
Amen hallelujah.

T. A. J.

The gentleman is solid mahogany; the fashionable man is only veneer.—*Holland.*

Adversity borrows its sharpest sting from impatience.—*Bishop Horne.*

"In the New Testament, faith is not contrasted with reason, but with sight."