

ANOTHER INCREASE IN THE COST OF PUBLISHING THE HIGHWAY.

Additional cost in the kind of paper we use for the Highway is responsible for another increase in the cost of publishing it.

The renewals are coming in fairly well, but we need every subscriber to pay in full to 1917, or beyond, and do it now. Let us carry it through until the meeting of the Alliance without drawing from our reserve fund. Will you help.

THE TRUE TEST.

There is a strange legend of old St. Martin. He sat one day in his monastery cell, busily engaged in his sacred studies, when there came a knock at the door. "Enter," said the monk. The door opened, and there appeared a stranger of lordly look, in princely attire. "Who art thou?" asked St. Martin. "I am Christ," was the answer. The confident bearing and the commanding tone of the visitor would have over-awed a less wise man. But the monk simply gave his visitor one deep, searching glance, and then quietly asked, "Where is the print of the nails?" He had noticed that this one indubitable mark of Christ's person was wanting. There were no nail scars upon those jeweled hands. And the kingly mien and the brilliant dress of the pretender were not enough to prove his claim while the print of the nails was wanting. Confused by this searching test-question, and his base deception exposed, the prince of evil—for he it was—quickly fled from the sacred cell.

That is only a legend, but it suggests the one infallible test that should be applied to all truth and to all life. There is much in these days that claim to be of Christ. There be those who would have us lay aside the old faiths and accept new beliefs and new interpretations. How shall we know whether or not to receive them? The only true test is that by which St. Martin exposed the false pretensions of his visitor. "Where is the print of the nails?" Nothing is truly Christ which does not bear his mark upon it. A Gospel without a wounded, dying Christ is not a Gospel. The atonement lies at the heart of Christianity. The cross is the luminous center, from which streams all the light of joy, peace and hope. That which does not bear the marks of the Lord Jesus cannot be of Him.—J. R. Miller.

Years ago the Bands of Hope and other temperance organizations used to carry banners in their processions, and have mottoes hanging on the walls of the churches where they were organized, which had the words: "Let rum tremble; we will grow up." Look abroad today on this land. The dream has come true. Those children have grown up.—Central Christian Advocate.

What is prayer for? Not to inform God nor to move Him unwillingly, to have mercy, as if, like some proud prince, he required a certain amount of recognition of his greatness as the price of his favor, but to fit our own hearts by conscious need and true desire and dependence, to receive the gift which he is ever willing to give, but we are not always fit to receive.—Alexander McLaren.

SONGS OF PRAISE AND POWER.

Some person ordered two "Songs of Praise And Power" (singing books) from the editor some weeks ago and the letter was mislaid. Please send address again.

The meetings during the Week of Prayer in the Moncton Churches was said to be the best ever held in the city. They laid aside the general programme—and had a week of prayer instead of a week of talk.

AFRICA.

(In World Outlook for January.)

Nearly one-fourth of the earth's land surface is comprised within the continent of Africa.

It is as far around the coast of Africa as it is around the world.

Every eighth person of the world's population lives in the Dark Continent. The blacks double their numbers every forty years and the whites every eighty years.

There are 843 languages and dialects in use among the blacks of Africa. Only a few of the languages have been reduced to writing.

Thirty-five years ago the export of cocoa from the Gold Coast amounted to \$20. Today it is over \$8,000,000.

The coal fields of Africa aggregate 800,00 square miles; its copper fields equal those of North America and Europe combined, and it has undeveloped iron ore amounting to five times that of North America.

Africa has 40,000 miles of river and lake navigation, and water powers aggregating ninety times those of Niagara Falls.

If Africa had the same proportion of railroad mileage as the United States according to its size, it would have a million miles of track instead of the 25,000 miles in operation.

One area in Africa unoccupied by missionaries is three times the size of New England, a second would make four states like New York, a third would cover eight Iowas, a fourth is eighteen times the size of Ohio. Throughout Africa there is one missionary for every 133,000 souls.

Almost the entire continent is now under European flags. France has a colony in Africa twenty times the size of France itself. The British flag flies over a territory as large as the United States, and extends, almost without interruption, from the Cape to Cairo, a distance of 6,000 miles.

THE SAFE SHELTER.

Said a brother in a prayer meeting, "I am surrounded by skepticism and worldliness and devilism, but I am shingled, and clap-boarded, and bombproof, all over, with the gospel of Jesus Christ."—Sel.

"It is not enough to look upon Christ, or to gaze upon Him, we must believe in Him, follow Him and walk with Him."

COURAGE.

God chooses unlikely instruments to do His work. He chose the sensitive, shrinking Jeremiah for what seemed a hopeless mission, with the words: "Say not, I am a child; for on whatsoever errand I shall send thee thou shalt go, and whatsoever I shall command thee thou shalt speak. Be not afraid. I am with thee to deliver thee." And Jeremiah proved worthy of the trust. Though his heart was wrung with the severe denunciations he had to give, and with the stubborn rejection of them by his people, though he often poured out his complaints to God, and even went so far as to say that he would not speak any more in His name, yet we never once find him turning back from the path of duty. Imprisoned again and again, put in the stocks, lowered by ropes into a miry dungeon—probably an empty cistern—mocked, derided, a man of strife and contention to the whole world, accused of treachery to his country, opposed by false prophets, confronted by an angry people who clamored for his life, carried, against his will, by his countrymen into Egypt—under all these circumstances Jeremiah went steadily on delivering his message with unswerving fidelity for over forty years.—Christ in All the Scripture.

AS BURDETTE PUTS IT.

Bob Burdette gives this simple recipe: "My homeless friend with the chromatic nose, while you are stirring up the sugar in a ten-cent glass of gin, let me give you a fact to wash down with it. You may say you have longed for years for the free, independent life of a farmer, but you have never been able to get money enough to buy a farm. There is where you are mistaken. For some years you have been drinking a good improved farm at the rate of 100 square feet at a gulp. If you doubt this statement, figure it out for yourself. An acre of land contains 43,560 feet. Estimate, for convenience, the land at \$43.56 an acre, you will see that it brings the land to just one mill per square foot. Now pour down the fiery dose, and imagine you are swallowing a strawberry patch. Call in five of your friends and have them help you gulp down that 500-foot garden. Get on a prolonged spree some day, and see how long it will take to swallow a pasture land to feed a cow. Put down that glass of gin: there is dirt in it—300 feet of good, rich dirt, worth \$43.56 per acre."—Exchange.

"The pure in heart" are they whose hearts God hath "purified even as he is pure;" who are purified through faith in the blood of Jesus, from every unholy affection; who, being "cleansed from all filthiness of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the (loving) fear of God." They are, through the power of His grace, purified from pride, by the deepest poverty of spirit; from anger, from every unkind or turbulent passion, by meekness and gentleness; from every desire but to please and enjoy God, to know and love Him more and more, by that hunger and thirst after righteousness, which now engrosses their whole soul; so that now they love the Lord their God with all their heart, and with all their soul, and mind, and strength.—John Wesley.