

THE INFLUENCE OF THE BIBLE.

Concerning the intrusion of the dance into the public schools with its dangerous tendencies, the Nashville Christian Advocate says:

"We are watching with painful interest a certain osmotic process in our educational life. This process reveals as far as general tendency is concerned, a gradual disappearance of the Bible from our public schools and a more pronounced appearance therein of lower sensuous exercise. In other words, there is an outgoing of the Bible and the incoming of the dance.

"The disappearance of the Bible is bad enough, but the situation becomes more alarming, if possible, when we see that as the opposition to the use of the Bible in the public schools grows the hospitality given to various forms of pleasure remotely from either intellectual or moral development becomes warmer. Among these forms is the dance. In years to come there will be those to look back upon the present era as 'dance-mad.'"

The Bible tells us of the house from which an evil spirit was cast. But when that same evil spirit came from his wanderings up and down in the earth and found it swept and garnished, but without an occupant, he immediately moved in and brought seven other evil spirits with him, so that the last state was worse than the first. There is no morality without the Bible. There is no other factor so powerful in keeping out the devil's brood of imps as the Bible. Let us insist on the Bible from the pulpit, in the Sunday School, in the home and in the school.—Wesleyan Methodist.

LET'S TRY IT.

"Blessed is the man that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble. The Lord will preserve him, and keep him alive, and he shall be blessed upon the earth, and Thou wilt not deliver him unto the will of his enemies. The Lord will strengthen him upon the bed of languishing: Thou wilt make all his bed in his sickness."—Psalm 41:1, 2, 3.

This Scripture offers an insurance policy of the highest value. There is nothing within the lids of the Bible more true. A compliance with the above quotation from the Word of God will, without doubt, secure this blessing. We here have the definite promise of deliverance in time of trouble, of preservation of life, of strengthening and comfort in time of sickness, and of deliverance from the will of our enemies. Let's try obedience to the Word of God. All of these blessings are promised upon consideration of the poor.—Selected.

I have never heard anything about the "Resolutions" of the Disciples, but a great deal about the "Acts" of the Apostles.—Horace Mann.

"Confidence in Christ is the secret of strength in the dark hours of life."

The world's wise men have said wise things. None but Christ ever said, "Come unto Me and I will give you rest."

WHY HE DIDN'T SAY AMEN.

A few years ago, as Charles G. Finney was holding a series of meetings in the city of Edinburgh, many persons called upon him for personal conversation and prayer.

One day a gentleman appeared, in great distress of mind. He had listened to Mr. Finney's sermon on the previous evening, and it had torn away his 'refuge of lies.' Mr. Finney was plain and faithful with him, pointing out to him the way of life clearly, and his only hope of salvation. The weeping man assured him that he was willing to give up all for Jesus—that he knew nothing he would reserve—all for Jesus.

"Then let us go upon our knees, and tell God of that," said Mr. Finney. So both knelt at the altar, and Mr. Finney prayed: "O Lord, this man declares that he is prepared to take thee as his God, and cast himself upon thy care, now and forever."

The man replied, 'Amen!'

Mr. Finney continued: "O Lord, this man vows that he is ready to give his wife, family, and all their interests, up to thee."

Another hearty "Amen!" from the man.

Mr. Finney went on: "O Lord, he says that he is also willing to give thee his business, whatever it may be, and conduct it for thy glory."

The man was silent—on response. Mr. Finney was surprised at his silence, and asked, "Why don't you say 'Amen' to this?"

"Because the Lord will not take my business, sir; I am in the spirit trade," he replied.

The traffic could not withstand such a test as that. "The Lord will not take" such a business under His care. He demands its destruction, as one of the mightiest obstacles to the progress of His cause in the earth.—The Christian.

GOD'S WILL.

There is a beautiful figure in one of Wordsworth's poems of a bird that is swept from Norway by a storm. And it battles against the storm with desperate effort, eager to wing back to Norway. But all in vain; and so at last it yields, thinking that the gale will carry it to death. And the gale carries it to sunny England, with its green meadows and its forest glades. Ah, how many of us have been like that little voyager, fretting and fighting against the will of God! And we thought life could never be the same again when we were carried seaward by the storm. Until at last, finding all was useless perhaps and yielding to the wind that bloweth where it listeth, we have been carried to a land that was far richer, where there were green pastures and still waters.—G. H. Morrison.

Affliction is the school in which great virtues are acquired and great characters formed.—Hannah Moore.

In the day of prosperity we have many refuges to resort to. In the day of adversity, but one.—Horatius Bonar.

For one man who can stand prosperity there are a hundred who can stand adversity.—Carlyle.

THE GREAT NEED OF THE WORLD.

The great need of the world today is not sanitation, education or reformation; its one great need is regeneration.

Some find the origin of evil in the physical—in microbes, germs and bacilli. Christ, the Great Physician, finds it in the heart.

Some think the evils of the world are due to lack of education. The fault is not that people are not smart enough. Often the "smart set" is the most pestiferous set in society.

Socrates resolved all virtue into all knowledge, and all vice into ignorance and folly. This view is held by many today. Christ gives another explanation of sin. He says the heart is the seat of evil.

Sin is not merely ignorance, neither will the world be regenerated by education. Evil is not the "slum," but in the "slummer," not in circumstances, but in the heart.

The evil in life is the result of an unchastened imagination, a lawless mind, a licentious emotion, a misplaced admiration, a false ambition, a base soul.

The heart are the issues of life. "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." We can be no better than our thought life. Sin mars the vision of the soul, and shuts God out. Hence the Master says, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."

The central fact of every religious movement that has sent a throb of life through the churches has been the emphasis laid on the experimental note; the absolute need of the soul's conversion; an experience of the things of God.—Albert Hurlstone, D. D.

MORE PATIENCE.

"It has been said that our Lord had almost every kind of disciples except perfect disciples."

"There were the quick-tempered men who longed to call fire from heaven when their message was not received, the impulsive man whose rash speed outran judgment, the doubter who waited for proofs, the ambitious men who were jealous of the others, the man who failed in time of danger, and even the traitor who used friendship's intimacy for betrayal."

Very true, but he did not leave them in this condition. Pentecost cured these defects, purified their hearts by faith.

Apropos of a discussion about a commercialized ministry, perhaps the following story taken from the New York Sun has some point: "The manager of an employment agency noted that a woman in search of a maid asked each of the girls if she had ever been employed in a minister's family. None of them had been. "May I ask," said the manager, "why you are particularly anxious to ask why these girls have had an engagement of that kind?" "Because we are very hard up just now," the woman replied calmly, "and I must have a girl who is economical. I have found that of all the servants those who have worked in clergymen's families know best how to economize."—Alabama Baptist.

"No man has a right to do as he pleases except when he pleases to do right."