

## STRAIGHT (?) PREACHING.

Written by W. G. Schurman.

Why the failure of the holiness preacher to make good in the town or city? It used to be said that if the churches would let holiness have its way—that is, permit it to be preached from the pulpit—God would bless it, and hungry souls would accept it. If this is so, how must we account for the failure of some holiness pastors to get the ears of the people?

Yea, some have had the people, and not only did not increase their congregation, but have lost what they have. Why should a church pay out two or three thousand dollars a year for expenses of keeping the church doors open, and at the end of the Assembly year have less members than when they began? This could be explained for one year, or two years, for various causes; but why a decrease each year for several years until it is a problem to pay the pastor what he got easily when he first came?

A pastor may frequently excuse it by saying, "I preach so straight the folks will not come to hear me." Now what does his so-called straight preaching consist of? Generally crying out against using the electric car to get to church on Sunday. He declares no man can ride to church in his auto or on his bicycle, much less on an electric car, causing others to work, and be a Christian. Yet the light that lights the church, and the water in the basement faucet, is made possible only by causing men to be employed on Sunday. The telephone over which he talks during the day is keeping some one at work. Shall we light our churches with kerosene and turn off our water on Sunday, both at home and church?

Then he gets after the insured man, telling him he is putting his money into a godless concern, and the money he gives to the company is used for immoral purposes, and forgets that when the church treasurer puts his few dollars in the savings bank on Monday, before 12 o'clock some rum seller borrows \$500, and among the coins the teller gives the rum seller are the very ones that were received at the offering at the service where the Lord's Supper was celebrated. Next Sunday he cries out against the one who has the milkman leave the bottle of milk at his door on Sunday. He declares there is no need of it; a man can get ice to keep enough for his own use over the Sabbath, seeming to forget that many a mother sitting in the congregation, who lives in the poorer districts, could ill afford ice, and if she could, she must have the milk fresh for baby's sake.

But never mind; the perspiration, which he mistakes for inspiration, is on him; no matter whom he un-Christianizes, he must "preach straight." The following Sunday he goes after tea and coffee. He declares that a man or woman who must have tea and coffee every meal, is as bad as the drunkard, and needs to come to the altar and be made free. Many of his people are un-Christianized, and the friends whom they had persuaded to come to church are insulted, and never come again.

Next Sunday he gets busy on the dress

question. We admit something needs to be said, but he declares that any woman wearing a dress with low neck and short sleeves, is not a pure woman. This is, of course, untrue, unkind, and insulting to many a pure mother and daughter. Many do wear them who are as pure as our own wives and daughters. I do not blame any woman for resenting the insult, and refusing to go or allow her children to go to hear such language. Pure woman, alas! do ape the fashions set by impure women; but no man, much less a preacher, can afford to say that all who wear such are impure, or indecent. If he would think a minute he would never make such a statement, for many of our women in the holiness churches once wore them; hence they would be only a bunch of impure women converted. Thank God, this is not the case.

The preacher having preached all his congregation away, turns on the men who are preaching to crowds, and denounces them all, from Billy Sunday down, although Billy is having more men "hit the trail" in one service than he preaches to in six months. Nor does his holiness brother escape, who is meeting with success. He is denounced as a compromiser, a wire puller, and a money grabber.

At last this preacher is laid on the shelf (thank God), from whence we hear of the corruption in the holiness movement that is taming down, and does not want the truth any more.

Oh, my brother! is there not enough sin to preach against? How about lying, swearing, stealing, adultery, idolatry, hatred, envy, an unforgiving spirit, murder, wrath, strife, heresies, etc.? Has Sinai lost its awfulness? Has Calvary lost its power? Has Jesus lost His attraction? Use your ammunition on the Devil's crowd, brother, not on the Lord's sheep. Don't tear down a work in one year that has taken ten years to build, and will take your successor fifteen years to get back to shape again. Read Romans 14, every day for one year. Read it now. Drop the Herald of Holiness, and read it now.—Herald of Holiness.

"We should have more joy in our lives if we had more gratitude in our hearts."

"He that cannot forgive others breaks the bridge over which he must pass himself."

"Canada is having a time of great material prosperity. Is the Lord getting His share of the rental due Him."

"There are a million new Canadians of foreign stock in Canada. Little is being done to give them the Gospel."

"Most people have little use for 'hyphenated citizenship.' What about hyphenated religion—the church-world kind?"

"An old minister wrote to a young minister, 'It is better for your people to love your heart than for them to admire your head.'"

"Our Lord was called Jesus because the name means 'Saviour,' and because He was to save His people from their sins. No other name means so much to the world."

## TEMPERANCE IN ALL THINGS.

Rev. Alex. MacGillivray, D. D.

Life from beginning to end is a battle. This means that there are foes to fight.

No wise soldier makes light of the strength and determination of the enemy. The enemies that boys and girls have to fight are many and need to be watched, and must be fought and vanquished if our Juniors are to come off conquerors.

Our Scripture Lesson tells us that life is a race, with a goal to be gained and a prize to be won.

Every boy knows how the athlete must train in order to have even a fair chance of winning in any competition. So in life's race, he that would come out victor must first be master of himself, and then master all the temptations and tasks that confront him.

There is no room for easy living or soft indulgent habits;—and as the Junior's age is the time in which habits are formed, boys and girls must, if they are going to count in the world's work, form the habit of temperance in all things.

1. Juniors must be temperate in their play. There is, of course, a time to play but we can only learn the value of play by knowing what it is to work. They only are entitled to play who have first done well their tasks.

2. There should be temperance in our pleasures—in concerts, picture shows and such like. Little people in the towns and cities—and big people too, for that matter—waste thought, time and money to no profit, but to a good deal of loss.

3. Juniors should be temperate in their dress. They should be neat, but "fine feathers don't make fine birds." It is what we are rather than what we wear that counts.

4. What a pity it is that boys have to be warned against the use of cigarettes. Temperance here—as in strong drink—means, "Touch not, taste not, handle not."

To be temperate in all things; to strive and finally to win, we must ever look to the Great Captain of our Salvation, Jesus Christ. He understands a Junior for He Himself was once a boy and He is by our side to help us fight our battles and to live the victor's life.—Presbyterian Record.

## GAVE IT "MORE CHEERFULLY."

His father had given him a ten-cent piece and a quarter, telling him that he might put one or the other on the church contribution plate. At dinner the father asked the boy which coin he had given. "Well, father, at first it seemed to me that I ought to put the quarter in the plate; but just in time I remembered the saying, 'The Lord loveth a cheerful giver,' and I knew I could give the ten-cent piece a great deal more cheerfully. So I put that in."—Sel.

"To be trusted is a greater compliment than to be loved."

"Money is weight in a gripping life; money is wings in a giving life."

"Heaven opens upon a deathbed only when it has shone upon the life bed."