

## THE GOOD OLD HYMNS.

There's a lot of music in 'em—the hymns  
of long ago,  
And when some gray-haired brother sings  
the ones I used to know,  
I sorter want to take a hand, I think of  
days gone by,  
"On Jordan's stormy banks I stand and  
cast a wistful eye!"  
There's lots of music in 'em—those dear,  
sweet hymns of old,  
With visions bright of lands of light and  
shining streets of gold;  
And I hear 'em ringing—singing, where  
mem'ry, dreaming, stands  
"From Greenland's icy mountains to In-  
dia's coral strands."  
They seem to sing forever of holier, sweet-  
er days,  
When the lilies of the love of God bloomed  
white in all the ways;  
And I want to hear their music from the  
old-time meetin's rise  
Till "I can read my title clear to mansions  
in the skies."  
We never needed singin' books in them  
old days—we knew  
The words, the tunes of every one—the  
dear old hymn book through!  
We didn't have no trumpets then, no or-  
gans built for show,  
We only sang to praise the Lord, "from  
whom all blessings flow."  
An' so I love the good old hymns and when  
my time shall come—  
Before my light has left me and my sing-  
ing lips are dumb—  
If I can hear 'em sing them then, I'll pass  
without a sigh  
To "Canaan's fair and happy land, where  
my possessions lie."  
—Atlanta Constitution.

## APOLLOS.

This eloquent man and mighty in the  
scriptures, who was even a public teach-  
er, was not ashamed to be indebted to the  
instructions of a Christian woman, in  
matters that not only concerned his own  
salvation, but also the work of the minis-  
try, in which he was engaged.

It is disgraceful to a man to be ignor-  
ant, when he may acquire wisdom; but it  
is no disgrace to acquire wisdom from  
the meanest person or thing. The adage  
is good, despise not advice, even of the  
meanest; the gagging of geese preserved  
the Roman senate.—Dr. Adam Clarke.

IT IS MORE BLESSED TO GIVE THAN  
TO RECEIVE.

The giver is more happy than the re-  
ceiver. A truly generous mind, in afflu-  
ence, rejoices in opportunities to do good;  
and feels happy in having such opportuni-  
ties. A man of an independent spirit,  
where reduced to poverty, finds it a severe  
trial to be obliged to live on the bounty  
of another; and feels pain in receiving  
what the other feels a happiness in com-  
municating. Let, therefore, the man who  
is able to give, feel himself the obliged  
person; and think how much pain the  
feeling heart of his supplicant must en-  
dure, in being obliged to forego its native  
independence, in soliciting and receiving  
the bounty of another.—Dr. Adam Clarke.

## WINNING 100,000 SOULS FOR CHRIST

(Christian Guardian)

Dear Mr. Editor—I cannot begin to  
rest under the sunny skies and amid the  
beautiful surroundings of Southern Cali-  
fornia until I have done what in me lies  
to stimulate our beloved people to meet  
the supreme challenge of the Methodist  
National Campaign by winning 100,000  
souls for Christ.

This objective is officially worded as  
100,000 additions to church membership,  
but inasmuch as the condition of mem-  
bership amongst the people called Meth-  
odists is a sincere desire to escape from  
the wrath to come and to be saved from  
sinning, which desire is to be shown by  
the fruit of the Holy Spirit in daily living,  
it follows that we are not merely at-  
tempting to lengthen the Church roll, but  
are seeking to engraft branches into the  
living vine, Jesus Christ. This is the main  
issue in the campaign, as it is in the  
whole life of the Church of Christ and the  
programme of Christianity.

The insistency of a revival of genuine  
religion is so great that it is no longer  
regarded by any thoughtful man as sim-  
ply a preacher's or professional objec-  
tive. It is not regarded as the fad of a  
cult, but the prime necessity of the  
world's progress. The Manufacturers'  
Record, a journal prominent in the com-  
mercial world, declares that "above all  
else the country needs a nation-wide re-  
vival of old-fashioned prayer-meeting re-  
ligion; a religion that makes men realize  
that if there is a heaven there must also  
of necessity be a hell; a religion which  
makes every man realize that every act is  
recorded on his own conscience and that,  
though it may slumber, it can never  
die; a religion which makes an  
employer understand that if he  
is unfair to his employees and pays them  
less than fair wages, measured by his  
ability and their efficiency and zeal, he is  
a robber; a religion which makes an em-  
ployee know that if he does not give full  
and efficient service he, too, is a robber.  
In short, we need a revival of that reli-  
gion which will make every man and  
woman strive in every act of life to do that  
which, on the great judgment day, they  
will wish they had done, as with soul un-  
covered they stand before the judgment  
seat of the Eternal."

These striking words of the Manufac-  
turers' Record ring with conviction in  
each soul unperverted by selfishness or  
misconception. In this crisis hour in the  
history of our Methodism I want to bear  
my witness to their truth. I have recently  
looked down beyond the jaws into the  
very throat of death, and my testimony is  
that when the ultimate issues of life must  
be squarely faced nothing avails except  
"repentance toward God and faith in our  
Lord Jesus Christ." No fine-spun philos-  
ophies can avert the blazing fact that the  
supreme test of a thoughtful man's life is  
the calmness with which he can face its  
end. Our fathers did not emphasize too  
much the need of preparation for death.

That outstanding organ of social re-  
form, The New Republic, urges in the  
deepest seriousness that "If the seculariza-  
tion of knowledge continues it will ulti-  
mately wreck civilization. The integrity

of the city of God can be restored only by  
the reunion of knowledge and religion."

Statesmanship is everywhere calling  
for the help of organized Christianity to  
reconstruct civilization upon a Christian  
foundation, and inspire it with Christian  
motives.

Methodism itself is in a serious situa-  
tion for lack of revival. The Mother  
Church in Great Britain has offered a  
considerable declension in numbers an-  
nually for many years past.

The Methodist Episcopal Church in the  
United States 'is facing the largest mem-  
bership loss in its history.' Yet it should  
be said that every loss of members that  
Church has ever experienced except one  
occurred during a war. During the recent  
world war almost every man, woman  
and child belonging to it became a volun-  
teer of some sort to help their country in  
its need. "With a noble sacrifice of her  
own interests, Methodism forgot herself  
that she might serve the nation in its  
peril. The nation profited immeasurably  
by the sacrifice of the Church; the  
Church suffered by its sacrifice. The  
Church lost its membership, the nation  
saved its life." Still the conditions which  
that great Church faces have led the bish-  
ops to call upon the ministers and mem-  
bership to gird themselves with divine  
strength to win one million souls between  
now and June 1st next.

Our Canadian Church has not failed to  
add to its membership year by year, not-  
withstanding the loss and stress of war;  
yet doubtless God is summoning us to a  
supreme spiritual effort on behalf of His  
kingdom at this time. The call of the  
Methodist National Executive is not a  
piece of random rhetoric. It expresses  
the sublime faith and the glorified com-  
mon sense of men called of God to lead  
the Church into the divine pathway of  
progress. The Methodist Church in Can-  
ada, Newfoundland, Bermuda, and in our  
distant mission fields is abundantly able  
to do this thing if we are willing to pay  
the price in personal preparation, to be-  
lieve firmly and fully these aving truths of  
the gospel, and to co-operate heartily in  
this work. As I hope to show in further  
communications, to win 100,000 souls  
for Christ is not too great a task for our  
Church if we do our duty as Christians.

Sincerely yours,

S. D. CHOWN,

Gen. Supt.

Pomona, California, Feb. 23rd, 1920.

## HEAVEN'S FIRST LAW.

"The Bible rings with one long demand  
for ebedience. \* \* \* We must not ques-  
tion, nor reply, nor excuse ourselves. We  
must not think that obedience in one  
direction will compensate for disobedience  
in some other particular. God gives one  
command at a time; if we obey this, He  
will flood our souls with blessings, and  
lead us forward into new paths and pas-  
tures. But if we refuse we shall remain  
stagnant and waterlogged, make no pro-  
gress in Christian experience, and lack  
both power and joy."—F. B. Meyer.

"Wash me thoroughly from mine ini-  
quity, and cleanse me from my sin."—  
King David.