

WHAT SOCIETY OWES TO THE MINISTER'S HOME.

The income of the minister has yielded a national return unequalled by any other expenditure. The "mistress of the manse" has much to answer for, for her contribution to the great men of the nation stands highest on the list.

A nation's wealth is definitely proportionate to the great men she produces. Where do our great men come from?

The "Dictionary of National Biography" tells of the great men of England. Of these famous characters, 350 were sons of physicians, 540 were sons of lawyers, and 1,270 were sons of ministers. The parsonage gave fifty per cent. more great men than the two other learned professions put together.

"Who's Who in America" accounts for about twelve thousand names of people more or less outstanding. One in twelve comes from the parsonage.

The Hall of Fame, in which the United States honors her greatest men, contains the monuments of fifty-one great Americans. Ten of the fifty-one are sons of the parsonage.

Clearly the production of high character and ability is not dependent on the wealth of the family. Sparse income has yielded great men.

But the education that these sons of the parsonage received was gained as a cost to the mother of much privation and silent endurance.

The parsonage has justified itself as a national asset. It cannot be left to decline. Shall the minister and the minister's wife be shut off from this high functioning and service to the nation by an income which has not kept pace with the cost of family maintenance?—Ex.

FULNESS PROVED BY OVERFLOW.

There is a superabundance of grace promised to the believer. The Lord never gives stingingly but with a liberal hand. He desires His children to be fat and flourishing. To go around half-starved and lean and weak is to cast reflection upon our Heavenly Father, who has so richly provided for those who love and serve Him. There was no lack of manna in the wilderness to supply the needs of God's people in that land. And in the economy of grace there is a fulness of blessing that not only satisfies the soul but also results in helpfulness to others. The Sunday School Times puts the truth concerning this subject in this form:

Fulness is proved by overflow. Theoretically it may be possible to have a vessel absolutely filled with some liquid, without a drop to spare. Practically, the only way we can make sure that a vessel is really filled is by seeing it overflow—unless, indeed, it is hermetically sealed. And so the only way we can make sure that a Christian is filled with the Spirit is by the overflowing life. When a person, at conversion or later, through a full surrender to the Lord and a full trust in Him, exclaims impulsively, "Oh, I must tell So-and-So about this," we may be sure that "the fulness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ"

is there. For that fulness can never be kept to one's self. When there is no evident desire to share our spiritual blessings, the quality of those blessings may fairly be doubted. When we go the whole way with God He promises to "pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it"—that is, it must overflow. That is why Paul prayed that his fellow-believers should "know the love of Christ which passeth knowledge, that ye may be filled unto all the fulness of God." For God's fulness persistently blesses others.—Sel.

WOMEN SMOKERS.

Because women are more delicately constructed than men and have finer sensibilities, they are more seriously injured by the use of tobacco than are men. Already the insurance companies consider women who smoke cigarets a greater risk than men who use the filthy weed, as the following dispatch to the New York Herald from London indicates.

The number of women who are refused insurance policies on account of the fact that they have what is called a "smoker's heart" is startling, says an official of the British Mercantile Insurance Company. He said smoking has the same hold on a woman as has a drug.

Taking into account the fact that nine out of every ten men smoke, whereas only five out of every ten women are smokers, the proportion of women with a "smoker's heart" is much greater than men, he added.

He said he had often known men who applied for policies and were refused on account of their hearts to come back after six months cured.

"But I have never known a woman to be cured," he continued. "Tobacco is a drug and women use it like they would a drug."

A compulsory question now asked of women here who wish to take out life insurance policies is: "What is your daily habit regarding tobacco?" The official quoted said the answer often was that a woman would smoke more than forty cigarettes a day and that he has known cases—and not isolated cases—where a woman smoker's sight first became impaired and gradually she became blind.—Sel.

HEREIN IS OUR LOVE MADE PERFECT.

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to the Father; my brother's my Father has entrusted to me. In gentleness and loving kindness, in courtesy and generosity, in self-sacrifice and beneficence, in its life of blessing and of beauty, the Divine love, which has been shed abroad in the believer's heart, shines out as it shone in the life of Jesus.

Christian! what say you of this your glorious calling to love like Christ? Does not your heart bound at the thought of the unspeakable privilege of thus showing forth the likeness of the Eternal Love? Or are you rather ready to sigh at the thought of the inaccessible height of perfection to which you are thus called to climb? Brother, sigh not at what is in very deed the highest token of the Father's love, that He has called us to be like Christ in our love,

just as He was like the Father in His love. Understand that He who gave the command in such close connection with His teaching about the Vine and the abiding in Him, gave us in that the assurance that we have only to abide in Him to be able to love like Him. Accept the command as a new motive to a more full abiding in Christ. Regard the abiding in Him more than ever as an abiding in His love; rooted and grounded daily in a love that passeth knowledge, you receive of its fulness, and learn to love. With Christ abiding in you, the Holy Spirit sheds abroad the love of God in your heart, and you love the brethren, the most trying and unlovable, with a love that is not your own, but the love of Christ in you. And the command about your love to the brethren is changed from a burden into a joy, if you but keep it linked, as Jesus linked it, to the command about His love to you: "Abide in my love; love one another, as I have loved you."

PARAGRAPHIC.

Do you think that I cannot ask my Father for help, when he would at once send to my aid more than twelve legions of angels? But in that case how would the Scriptures be fulfilled, which say that this must be? Had it been the Father's will, Jesus could have had more than twelve legions of angels; but he chose instead Gethsemane ~~in~~ prayer born agony.

Had Jonah boasted of the methods of travel prevalent in his time he could have said that he enjoyed at least some improvements that were then thought modern. He had sleeping accommodations in the side of the ship on which he was journeying to Tarshish for which he had paid his fare. Disobedience attended all these advantages. When Jonah prayed to God from the whale's interior and from the depths of the sea he was utterly devoid of the material things that are necessary to make life comfortable; yet amid the dearth of early comforts Jonah promised obedience. God was the committee on ways and means of transportation and Jonah got to Ninevah, though he started from the depths of the sea with perhaps the most barren outfit that any preacher or missionary ever had. This submarine prophet witnessed out of the greatest city revivals in history.

B. T. G.

Be not disturbed by infidelity Religion cannot pass away. The smoke of a little straw may hide the stars, but the stars are there and will re-appear.—Carlyle.

The measure of our joy depends not on how much God is willing to give, but on how much our soul is willing and able to receive.—Lyman Abbot.

I have but one candle of life to burn, and would rather burn it out where people are dying in darkness than in a land which is flooded with light.—A Missionary.

"Home is the truest interpreter of life. What one is at home is what he will be in eternity. There character reveals itself, and the real man is as he seems.