

SERIOUS DISSIPATION.

In a certain city the superintendent of the schools called the parents of the scholars to tell them what was the matter with their sons and daughters that they failed in their work. Hundreds of parents were present. He told them that over twenty per cent. of the children in the grades failed to pass at the last semester and that seventeen per cent of the High School students failed to pass. When asked the reason of this serious slump, he astonished these parents by stating that the social life, dancing, movie picture shows and late hours had unfitted them for a safe student life. Sad fact that must be faced and met by a reform or a generation of mentally impaired people. Surely there is a call for a gospel preaching that will be rugged and solid for Godly requirements.—E. S. D. in Christian Witness.

GOD KNOWS BEST.

God knows best what is best for me.
Why should I worry—or anxious be,
Grasping at bubbles that fade and break?
Trying to fathom the course I take
One step is all I have need to see,
God knows best what is best for me.

God knows best what is best for me
All through time and eternity.
In my Father's house is a good store
Of all I can never need—and more.
With him I rest, for I know that he
Always gives what is best for me.

—Sunday School Times.

REASONS WHY WE MUST HAVE A NATION-WIDE REVIVAL.

J. A. Wells.

1. We must have it to save civilization. The British premiers tell us that all stands between our civilization and ruin is revival of the spiritual.
2. We must have it to make our modern education Christian.
3. We must have it to save us from the awful downward trend of the amusement question—the present downward trend started when it was thought our soldiers just had to have entertainment to help them face the issues of the World War. Sad mistake.
4. We must have it to save our homes. The old-time American home is, practically, a thing of the past. Without a radical change soon in the homes of our land, we are gone!
5. We must have it to save our modern girl. It's fearful to contemplate what our future mothers will be!
6. We must have it to save our churches from fearful apostasy. I verily believe the Holy Spirit is being grieved, and is leaving the twentieth century church. May the Church repent and ask Him back!
7. We must have it to save us from another greater world war. It is inevitable without intervention by Almighty God. "Onward, Christian soldiers, marching as to war!"—Pentecostal Herald.

John Wesley: "Why was that man arrested?" "He said that his sins were forgiven."

A GOOD TEST OF DISCIPLINESHIP.

Our attention to holiness is a good test of our religion. If we have a great and unquenchable hunger for a holy heart we may set it down in the book of our consciousness that we are really born of God and have a good hope of eternal life, for "every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself even as he is pure."

It is a good test of our acceptance with God, if we will carefully note how it strikes us when we hear it said by others that God can save us from all sin in this life. If the statement fills us with shrinking or sends a chill over us we may well examine our evidence of sonship with God.

A regenerate man has an unquenchable desire for full sanctification, for a truly regenerate man has within him an appetite for holiness as truly as a new born babe has an appetite for food. Let us ask ourselves how the doctrine of holiness affects us when we hear it spoken of and testified to. There are professed Christians who like to believe that they cannot be saved from all sin in this life. Let such candidly ask themselves why they feel thus.—Sel.

CHRISTIAN PERFECTION.

By Daniel Steele.

It is "loving God with all the heart and soul," a state which is entered by circumcision of the heart (Deut. 30:6) called by St. Paul "the circumcision made **without hands**" (Col. 2:11) defined by Prof. Thayer as "the extinction of the passions and the removal of spiritual impurity." The same apostle assures us that this is not in the letter, but by "the Holy Spirit in the definite sense, as distinguished from the spiritual conditions and tendencies which he produces" (Meyer). But Wesley in popular style speaks of this definite act of the Spirit and the consequent spiritual condition of perfect love as synonymous. This differentiates entire sanctification from that progressive development which we call Spiritual Maturity. The scriptural command, "be perfect" is to be understood as a compliance with the conditions on which the Holy Spirit performs this definite and decisive act of opening the gate leading into the paradise of perfect love, or pure love, perfect in kind, but not in degree. The normal Christian will never cease to increase in love to God in time and eternity. Unfolding love will follow ever enlarging knowledge.

"Insatiate to this spring I fly,
I drink and yet am ever dry
Ah! Who against thy charms is proof,
Ah! Who that loves can love enough."

The perfection required by believers must not be confounded with that of the spirits of the just made perfect, who are at home with the Lord Jesus awaiting the still more glorious perfection of the resurrection, when soul and body will wear his glorious image. Much prejudice arises from a failure to note that evangelical perfection is restricted to pure love in this life shed abroad by the Holy Spirit through that act of faith which claims its full heritage in him "who is able to save to the uttermost." It does not insure us

against intellectual errors, and it may co-exist with many mental and physical infirmities. It is a state of easy victory over temptation. It does not render us morally infallible. It is Christian as distinguished from absolute, angelic, Adamic and heavenly perfection.

SILENT INFLUENCE.

An American teacher was employed in Japan on the understanding that during school hours he should not utter a word on the subject of Christianity. The engagement was faithfully kept, and he lived before the students the Christ-life, but never spoke of it to them. Not a word was said to influence the young men committed to his care. But so beautiful was his character and so blameless his example, that forty of the students, unknown to him, met in a grove and signed a secret covenant to abandon idolatry. Twenty-five of them entered the Kioto Christian training school, and some of them are now preaching the Gospel which their teacher had unconsciously commended.—Missionary Review of the World.

SILENT NIGHT.

While shepherds watched their flocks at night,

On the Judean plain,
The angels broke the holy calm
With a melodious strain.

The glory of the Lord shone round,
And changed the night to day;
This sin-cursed world had caught a gleam
Of heaven's perfect day.

"Glory to God," the song rang out,
And broke the silent night,
The neighboring hills in splendor glowed,
With a refulgent light.

In "David's line" a son is born,
The joy of all the earth,
And angels came to celebrate
The glorious, happy birth.

That silent night, that holy night,
Is sacred to us still,
Our souls are yearning with a void
The world can never fill.

But in the Babe of Bethlehem
We have our joy and peace.
He calms the weary troubled heart,
And bids our sorrows cease.—Sel.

A WISE ANSWER.

A little boy who was asking his mother how many Gods there were, was instantly answered by his younger brother, "Why one, to be sure." "But how do you know that?" inquired the other. "Because," he replied, "God fills every place, and there is no room for any other God, don't you see?"—Sel.

When the inward striving to be "clothed upon with our house from heaven" has ceased, the secret of growing in grace and knowledge is gone. It will return if we give ourselves up again to Him as we did at the beginning.