

THE FOUR S'S

John Wanamaker used to stress them. To him they were the fundamentals of our Christian faith. May all of us so regard them. What are they?

First: The Sabbath. The merchant prince looked upon it as the cornerstone of our Christian civilization. Well he might. Time was, in our land, when the Lord's Day was a spiritual inspiration. Today its observance is badly shot. Charles R. Brown says truly that we have amended the fourth commandment. It is no longer "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy," but "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it jolly." The automobile has rolled over it often. Stores opened unnecessarily on the day, join in its crucifixion. It has become the big day in commercialized sports and the shouts of baseball rooters drown the voice of prayer. . . . You can accurately gauge spiritual health or decline by the attitude that people have toward the Lord's Day. Our grandparents may have leaned backward a little in their Sabbath observance but we, as a nation right now, are stooping so far that if we keep on we'll soon be level with the ground. May God forbid!

Second: The Sanctuary. "Blessed is the man in whose heart are the highways of Zion." Praise God for the faithful ones who are always there. The Wanamaker store used to send out a questionnaire to the pastors of young people who had applied for positions. Mr. Wanamaker, I am told, dictated that questionnaire. One question that loomed big was this: "Is he loyal to his church?" There is the "Just Belong Family." A large one it is, and it is found in every congregation. Loyalty to God's Zion is its last thought. There is also a family named "Faithful." It may not be so large, but its quality is first class. Under God, it keeps things moving. It doesn't care much for human praise, but One whose praise really counts says to that family, "Ye are the salt of the earth."

Third: The Scriptures. Halford E. Luccock in his book on "The Acts" tells of a man who had a highly prized copy of the New Testament. The cover was worn out and he took it to a book-binder for rebinding. The owner was surprised, on the return of the book, to find across its back a label in gilt letters, "T.N.T." There wasn't room to spell out "The New Testament," so the binder used the initial letters of the three words. Those initials express a real truth. Personally, I weary of doubts and have no desire to listen to any preacher, however eloquent, who airs them. I feel like saying to him what a wise old layman one time said to his minister, "Believe your beliefs and doubt your doubts. Don't believe your doubts, or doubt your beliefs." The whole Bible, Old Testament as well as New, is God's T. N. T. God has entrusted to us the power embodied in the Book. We are fools if we don't use it.

Fourth: The Savior. "Search the Scriptures," is His command, "for they testify of Me." That same Wanamaker, who had the faith of a little child, used to tell a boyhood experience. An angry bee was pursuing him. He rushed into the house and into the kitchen, where his mother, with sleeves rolled up, was baking bread. She covered the frightened boy with her apron and received in her own bare arm the sting that was intended for him. "That," said John Wanamaker, "is my theory of the atonement. Christ received the sting that was meant for me. He loved me and gave Himself for me." Until you can find a better theory of the atonement, take that. It is scriptural and is, therefore, sound.

If we ventured to add another "S" to Wanamaker's noble list, it would be our service. Gladly do we give it. It is not the cause of our salvation

but its result. None of us is saved by work but all of us are saved to work. A Day, a Place, a Book, a Person, is the summing up of Mr. Wanamaker's four S's. May our best service be given to each!—Name of author not known to us.—From The Religious Telescope.

Live always in the certainty that whatever happens to you is the result of Divine Providence; because nothing hard or laborious falls to your lot without the Lord permitting it.—Selected.

OBITUARY

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."—Revelation 14-13.

Edith M. Ketch

Mrs. Edith M. Ketch, widow of the late Willis M. Ketch, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. J. G. Hanlon, Moncton, N.B., Saturday morning, Jan. 24th. She left Fredericton in November to spend the winter in Moncton. She had been in failing health for some time. She leaves to mourn, one son, Frederick H. Ketch, of Fredericton; three daughters, Mrs. Archie Conley, Portland, Me.; Mrs. Clarence Church and Mrs. J. G. Hanlon, both of Moncton; three sisters, Mrs. Clarence McLaggan and Mrs. Arthur Titus, both of South Devon, and Mrs. Thomas Sutherland, Fredericton; one brother, Howard McKay, Nashwaak Bridge, besides several grandchildren and other relatives. The body was brought to Fredericton Saturday evening and taken to the home of her nephew, Earle H. Lint, 342 Union Street, North Devon, where a funeral service was held on Monday, January 26th, at 2 p.m., Rev. P. J. Trafton officiating. Interment was in Rural Cemetery Extension, Fredericton. To the sorrowing ones we extend our sympathy. There were several beautiful floral tributes.

Mrs. Maggie Parent

Mrs. Maggie Parent, wife of Sterling Parent, passed peacefully away at the Victoria Public Hospital, Tuesday afternoon, January 20th. She had been in failing health for a long time, but bore her suffering with patience and Christian fortitude. She was a member of the Reformed Baptist Church, of Fredericton, and was in attendance at the church services as long as her health permitted. The writer visited her frequently and found her fully prepared for the change awaiting her. She was 67 years of age. She leaves to mourn besides her husband, three sons, Earl Parent at No. 70 C. A. (B.) T. C.; Jessie and Sterling Parent of Fredericton; three daughters, Hazel and Harriette, of Virginia, U. S. A.; Gertrude of Fredericton; one brother, Harry Clark, of Portland, Me., and one sister, Mrs. Gertrude Volens, of Portland, Me., and many other relatives and friends. The funeral was held on Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock in the Reformed Baptist Church, the writer officiating, assisted by Adj. J. Monk (S.A.). Interment was in Surrey Bank Cemetery, Devon. There were a number of floral tributes. To the sorrowing ones we extend our sympathy.

P. J. TRAFTON

Mrs. Addie Benson

The death of Mrs. Addie Benson occurred on the morning of Jan. 17th at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Editha Stone, of Seal Cove, when she was stricken with a fatal illness. Mrs. Benson had been active in the Church here, of which she was a member of long standing, and but a month prior to her death was in her accustomed place. She shall be missed in the church services.

The funeral service was conducted by her pastor, Rev. G. R. Symonds. A brief service at the house was followed by a service in the

Reformed Baptist Church. She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Howard Joy, of Lubec, Maine, and Mrs. Editha Stone, of Seal Cove. Three sons, Frank Ingersol, of Lubec, Maine; Eugene Ingersol, of Seal Cove, and Arnold Ingersoll, of Black's Harbour, N. B., all by her first husband, the late Mr. William Ingersol. To the sorrowing we extend sympathy.

G. R. SYMONDS

Welland Wilcox

The funeral of the late Welland Wilcox, of Southern Head, Grand Manan, was held from the home on Jan. 13th.

Mr. Wilcox had been in failing health for the past few years and had been confined to his bed for over a year. He was very patient during his long illness and left a good testimony of his readiness to depart this life. He was 83 years of age and is survived by his devoted wife, four daughters, Mrs. Bertha Stewart, of Portland, Maine; Mrs. Gerald McLaughlin, Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, both of Seal Cove, and Inez at home; one son, Forrest, living on the homestead.

The funeral service was conducted by his pastor, Rev. G. R. Symonds. Three hymns were sung by a quartet from the Reformed Baptist Church of Seal Cove.

To the sorrowing family we extend sympathy. G. R. SYMONDS

Mrs. Hugh McCray

The sudden passing of Mrs. Hugh McCray, of Calais, on December 17th, came as a shock to her many friends and the entire community. She had suffered from heart trouble for some time but to the last was enjoying her usual health. On the night of the 17th her brother was awakened by her groans and upon entering her room found her beyond recognition. She lingered but a few minutes.

Because of ill health she was unable to join her husband who is employed in Boston. The deceased was born in St. Stephen, N. B., 1882. Though not a member of the Reformed Baptist Church, she has been a faithful attendant and a generous supporter of the cause as far as health permitted, during the past twenty years.

She is survived by her husband, Mr. Hugh McCray, one brother, Howard Mingo, with whom she lived, a sister, Mrs. Dora Perkins, and a number of nephews and nieces. She will be greatly missed by a host of friends who had made her acquaintance. As pastor we have always found our sister ready to converse on the things of the Kingdom of Christ, in whom was her trust and stay.

The funeral service was held at the home of her brother, Mr. Howard Mingo, on Dec. 19th. Mrs. John Gaddis rendered fitting music. Interment was made in the city cemetery at Calais. The writer had charge of the service. To the sorrowing we extend sympathy.

REV. H. L. ROBERTSON

"Success is largely a matter of buying experience and selling it at a profit."

If people only knew their own brothers and sisters, the Kingdom of Heaven would not be far off.—George Eliot.

The most precious things are the commonest, and these are to be gained, not by large fortunes, but by large souls.—Bishop Westcott.