# THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

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# Christian and the state of the

"Hold fast the form of sound words."-2d Timothy, i. 13 atsonal triend, James Modifilan, M.o., As the 1989 | Bookil converse struct of

New Series, Vol. VI., No. 41. Whole No. 301.

The Sickle and the Sheaf.

BY REV. S. F. SMITH, D. D.

As through thee the buds of spring-time

Lord, 'tis mine to wield the sickle,

Quicken into life and leaf.

Thine to give the golden sheaf;

Mine to meet the toil of seed-time,

Thine to give the san and rain,

Though the wan and weary reapers

And the few and scattered workmen

In vain for helpers call, Though the noontide heat burns fiercely,

Or the threatening tempest lowers,

Are by mightier strength than ours.

The gathering and the gleaning

We can trust Jehovah jirah

To fill the swelling sheaf;

Tis ours, the sturdy muscle,
The powerful arm, to bring,
'Tis thine with heavenly blessing

We shall reach the utmost furrows

In their drooping tassels drest, We shall leave the field of labor,

We shall find a place of rest;

In the harvest-song of heaven

Flies forth at dawn of day,

Soars upward as the morning Glows in God's glory bright,

On,-till her form receding,

Loses itself in light.

So when the work is ended.

The garnered crops secure, And God shall bid his reapers

Tool in the heat no more,

We from all care and sorrow

Shall find divine relief,

The sickle and the sheaf.

Our Obligations to the Rising Ministry.

The substance of a Discourse preached before the

BY REV. D. FREEMAN.

II. Having considered some of the grounds of

our obligations to young ministers, we may now

enquire more fully what those obligations are, and how they may be discharged.

1. Our first duty is to imbibe a fuller apprecia-

tion of the gospel. As a people, we have cause to

value the gospel in common with all believers. We also should love the gospel for reasons pecu-

liar to ourselves, as Baptists. To the gospel in

its purity we owe our past success. To it we

must be indebted for our ultimate and complete

victory over error. When Prussia wished to con-

solidate the disjointed members of Germany into

one body, what course did she adopt? She pa-

tronized the needle gun, honored its inventor,

and trained her soldiers to its use; and on the

field of Sadowa she enjoyed the satisfaction of seeing the Austrian bands dwindle before its

deadly fire. We have a mightier work to do, a

more glorious kingdom to consolidate. There is

no hope of the complete union and legitimate communion of all believers, except in the truth.

This battle must be fought with the weapon of

the truth. Even now the din of arms is sound-ing in our ears. We do well when we prize the weapon—the gospel—honor its founder, and train his soldiery for the great decisive struggle.

2. In order to increase the number of laborers

in the gospel field, it is needful also to foster all

the talents of the churches. The whole body of

believers is one spiritual priesthood to offer spiri

tual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus

Christ. In this respect there is no difference between clergy and laity. In the words of Leighton, "All believers are Christ's clergy." They

may differ in circumstances as talents, opportun

ties, ordination; but as to laboring in the gospel field, none are exempt.

This scriptural rule carried out would create a host or what are sometimes termed "lay preach-

ers." This order of preaching was sanctioned by the Saviour both before and after His death. When on earth, He sent out seventy and two:

after His ascension, He caused His disciples to go "everywhere preaching the word." In the Apocalypse we see the all pervading genius of the christian dispensation symbolised by the angel flying "in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting

gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the

left ringing in our ears is, "Let him that heareth say Come." This lay preaching continued for some time after the apostles' day. "The idea that the whole church constituted a spiritual

exhort, to teach, and to preach, continued for some time in the Church." We learn from Nean-

der that it was not till about the middle of the

third century that disputes began to arise on this

point. Those disputes ceased not till the distinction between clergy and laity was established; the universal priesthood of the church was limited

to a few, and those few became subservient to the pope. Theu followed the thousand years of dark-

Baring those dark ages, lay preaching was confined to a single proscribed sect. Orchard speaks of "timerating Baptists," or, as they were termed

from the fourth to the fourteenth century .-

And one of the last notes of revelation

Church, St. John, August 24th, 1868.

Convention, held in Germain Street Buplist

And lav before our Master

Poised on her fearless pinions,— With God to guide her way,—

The eagle from her evrie

We shall meet again the reapers
Who once shared our grief and joy,

We shall find one blest employ.

To make the valleys sing.

We can bear with calm endurance,

While the sun curls up the leaf,

Amid their labors fall,

Mine the sweat, the care, the patience,

Thine the heaps of precious grain.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1868.

people." Dr. Waylard, while insisting on this with great force, adds that many would thus be led to give themselves wholly to the work, as in the case of the late Dr. Sharp, of fragrant memory.

Cation, shows that we have not entirely long of the our duty. But the small amounts contributed to this object also show that our recognition of that duty is as yet but little more than nominal.

The early Baptist ministers in these provinces felt the importance of this subject. By their permanents and need the same of the subject also show that our recognition of that duty is as yet but little more than nominal.

3. When a church has called all her talents into requisition, she should watch with the utmost solicitude for those who show any indication of a divine call to preach the gospel. She should regard the discovery of these talents as one reason the highly evangelical character of their preaching for improving all her gifts and graces. And with the soil they cultivated was made prolific in goswhat joy should we hail the least sign of the existence of such a talent among her ranks. If the angels rejoice over one sinner that repenteth, surely they would also rejoice when one is converted who will call many others to repentance. Dr. Fish, in his "Primitive Piety Revived," says—"Time was when mothers knelt over their children in the cradle, and prayed that God would make them ministers; time was when churches sought out acceptable gifts and urged the possessors to this work. We may lament as much as we will, but until we have a spirit of consecration

few." p. 76. 4. When a church has discovered that one of ber members is called of God to preach, then it becomes her duty to furnish him with every needed facility for preparing him to go forth to that work as soon and as fully equipped as possible.

Here numerous objections arise. But when

in our churches, such as shall make us all willing

to be ministers-if that were Christ's will,-and

to have our sons and brothers ministers, and to

count even hardness acceptable service, we shall

still find the harvest plenteous and the laborers

they are tested, they fly before the light of truth as mists before the rising sun. It may be said, that as the young minister may occupy a lucrative position, he should be left to furnish the means of his own education. But a lucrative position is not his aim. His desire is to save souls. To do this, he is willing to endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. Hence it is the duty of the church to aid him as he goes forth to her work. Again, it may be urged that if a young man is called of God, no neglect or opposition should binder him. The fact is granted, but the inference is denied. On seeing a young brother struggling with almost insuperable difficulties, we would not feel justified in standing coolly by without proffering assistance, so long as we adopt the christian motto, "Bear ye one another's burgo forth at once, without further preparation, to deed, the benefit of all beings. The phenomena his work. But we have seen that preparation is of moral evil is not satisfactorily accounted for his imperative duty; it only remains to decide how far that preparation shall extend. When this is decided, as little time as possible should be employed in securing it. The mower gains time by staying in the morning to grind his scythe. So with the spiritual laborer; but let him have is true; but it does more. Sin is an evil on other every facility for grinding it, so that his time and more important grounds. It is a violation of may not be wasted. Another objection may be that as the work is of God, we ought not to interfere in this matter of increasing the number of His ministers. To this we reply in brief, that the glorious doctrine of God's sovereignty is not designed to palsy the efforts of His people; but to prompt, to direct, and to encourage them in every good work. It is no detriment for us, while abounding in the work of the Lord, to know that

obligations in securing an increase of able ministers of the New Testament—of workmen that need not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of none else—there is no God beside Him. This obtruth. We are to pray for this, and to use every ject, it is evident, is infinite; and His right to all effort which that prayer involves. When this is that He requires of His intelligent creatures is also done, it is of great advantage, first to the beneficiary, then to the benefactor, and then to the church and the cause of God at large. One brother has a divine call to the ministry. When ther has a divine call to the ministry. When God calls this young disciple, He, at the same time, provides the means to enable him most ef- its necessary consequences. How fearful to confectively to respond to that call from on high. template! But the candidate, it may be, has not those means Again, it is to be observed that there is nothing in his own possession. Where, then, are those in the punishment that has the least tendency to in his own possession. means treasured up? Here is another brother, produce this effect. The mere infliction of pain or a sister, whom God has not called to give has, in itself, no tendency whatever to better the themselves wholly to the ministry; but He has called them to support those who do. And how as real holiness is concerned. The natural effect do we know this? It may be known from the of mere publishment is to make the sufferer to hate do we know this? It may be known from the fact that God has given them the ability to a greater or a less extent. As such an one looks on his worldly possessions, the thought strikes him, "Here is an opportunity of so using a portion of these perishable things that it may be the means of enriching the poor, of comforting the afflicted, and of saving the lost." He embraces the opportunity; he sympathises with that young disciple; he sets before him the greatness of his work and encourages him to make full prepara tion for it; he aids him, if necessary, by material it is the rod in the hand of a kind father. It ans-as well as moral support. And afterwards, he has were the end intended; but the real good done uo reason to regret that he did so; for, if his aid has been wisely administered, he sees that young man go forth and occupy some useful position in the great harvest field. Perhaps in heathen lands; or, it may be, in the field at home, he sees him on, and ended by Him. The fire of Gehenna, in laboring for immortal souls; and as he does so, he feels the joyful consciousness of having contributed somewhat to the success which he beholds. Instead of looking on his gold and silver, cankered, and destined some day to est his flesh as it ing a hage purgatory is in direct opposition to were fire, he now sees before him a consecrated the whole book of God. It is not, however, new. man of God, gathering the wandering sheep and lambs into the fold of Christ. And his interest structing Æneas in the process of purgation, as

ers and class leaders who did not belong to the want and neglect in the early part of his career. ordained ministry.

This lay agency is well directed to the free constitution of the Baptist churches. Curtis, who made the progress of Baptist principles for the last half century a special study, testifies, "Here lies the great strength of all true churches, not in the labors of the ministry alone, but of all the provision?" Dr. Warland, while insisting as this carrier. But these cases are becoming more rare. The church is awaking to her responsibility. Large provision is now made among Baptists in every part of the world to aid indigent young ministers during their preparatory stries. That column in our benevolent scheme entitled "ministerial education," shows that we have not entirely forgotten

sonal influence scores of young men were induced to give themselves to the work of the Lord. By

stances have greatly changed. From every part of the world, from perishing heathens and toiling missionaries as well, the Macedonian cry is heard, "Come over and help us." A great increase of laborers is needed, and to this end a great enlargement of our hearts. Let each church recognize its true character as a missionary society, each member his call to labor as God requires, and each minister his awful responsibility to feed and guide the flock of God. While we cultivate spirituality of mind, let us not neglect our visible organizations for extending the knowledge of God. Let Acadia College be at once generously endowed, so as to meet the rising emergency of the times, be attactive to our young men, and especially adapted to meet the wants of our rising ministry. Recognizing our individual responsi-bility in endeavouring to bring the world to Christ, let us avail ourselves of the increased efficiency of united effort. Let us remember the greatness of our work, and the greatness of its reward, and be encouraged by the promise that, "They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteodsness as the stars forever and ever."

> For the Christian Visitor. Horæ Biblicæ. ETERNAL PUNISHMENT OF SIN.

> > No. viii.

BY J. I. DUNLOP. ment of the sinner may continue for ages, it will by this hypothesis. The view it gives of the nature of punishment, and its design, is, to say the least of it, defective. The evil of sin, according to it, can only lie in its tendency to produce deperfections of the great and eternal God; a virtual Jenial of his moral excellence; a contempt of

his rights, and a defiance of his power. Its tendency and actual effect in disturbing the order of the universe, and in diminishing or destroying its power, are only fully known to Him in whose sight there is nothing that is not manifest; and all this, too, in addition to the injury done by it God has purposed that our labour shall not be in to the sinner himself. This evil, as also its devain in the Lord. Dooking at this subject in every possible point of view, we see that God's people are noder solemn obligations in securing an increase of able ministers of the New Testament.

infinite demorit. Such is moral evil, and such are condition of the sinner in the future state, as far work, and encourages him to make full prepara | pain, however, in this case, is merely incidental

in that servant of Christ will be reciprocated; and many a joytul prayer will be offered up for him, such as that offered by St. Paul, "The Lord give intercy unto the household of Onesiphorous; for he hath often refreshed me, and he was not ashamed of my chain."

All this has been realized in actual experience. and the state of t

Of these imaginary purgatories, that of the heathen is the most simple and natural; it is the product of a mind unenlightened by revelation. The Popish is the most artful; it is but a plausible perversion of the heathen, gotten-up by a designing priesthood, to serve their own ends; while the Restorationist notion of the subject is distinis alike contrary to the nature of things and to

Old Series, Vol. XXI., No. 41.

the word of God. The idea of punishment, in the future state, being for the amendment of the offender is, at any rate, new and original. It is unprecedented in heaven, on earth, or, indeed, in any other world, as far as it can be ascertained. No system of law, however rude and imperfect, was ever known that made the reformation of the offender its sole, or even its chief, end. Were such indeed the case, punishment would be unnecessary. The symptoms of reformation, together with the promises of amendment, would be all that could, under the circumstances, be required of the sinner. To make the offender suffer, for ages of ages, for what could be accomplished by other and gentler means, does not appear to accord very well with wisdom and justice: nor, indeed, with mercy either. No penal code, human or divine, was ever based on the principle; nor is there a text in all the Book of God, where punishment is referred to, that, in the least, sanctions such an opinion. According to it, the wrath and curse of God, as far as the sinner is concerned, would, in reality, be a blessing; the execution of the penalty of the law, the means of salvation; and, to complete the climax, the everlasting destruction denounced in the Bible against the impenitent, the means of eternal life. The theory is a moustrous absurdity, as well as a fatal error. The reformation of the sinner, as the sole end of punishment, makes his sufferings in the future state to be a blessing—the greatest blessing that could be conferred upon him, under the circumstances : because the only one that could secure his eternal happiness. This view of the matter is contrary to reason and to revelation. The power and grace of God could accomplish the same end by ess and lighter sufferings; but if the Spirit of God put forth no gracious influence, but leaves

of God abides. Suspensæ ad ventos; alus subgurgite vasto
Infectum eluitur scelus, ant eccuritur igni."

— Lu. vi. 140.

† Vid. Bellarm. de Purgat. lib. i. c. i., lib ii. c. 6. Willet's

the matter to contingency, there is no certainty

that it ever will take place. The word of God

represents the sinner, in such a case, as utterly

abborred, rejected, accursed, cast into outer dark-

ness, that shall never see life, on whom the wrath

Synopsis Papism., vol. iv. p. 60. Cumming's Ed. 1 Pye Smith's first lines of Chris. Theology, book iv. c. 4

### The Drunkard

Look at the favages of intemperance on the individual. It impairs the bodily health, is the prolific parent of many terrible diseases, undernines the physical strength, and harries to a premature grave. It dethrones reason, and sinks man to a level with the brute. It permanently enfeebles the intellect, and fills the mind with a gloom which urges its victim to fresh excesses. It goads itself onward in the path of wretched-

Look in at the drunkard's door. What pover tv. what woe! See those ragged, half-fed, unaught children! See that wife, pale, heartbroken, pining with grief and want; and, perhaps, seeking to drown her sorrows in the same up which was the cause of them all !

Look into the drunkard's heart. What degralation of the moral nature; what selfishness what insensibility; what brutal hardness and deadness to all tender emotion; what a closed door against all goodness; what an open asylum

Look at the drunkard's influence on society. Whence, but from drunkenness, arise the great proportion of the crimes that disgrace it, the evils that scourge it? To what deeds of darkness has it driven; what wilful destruction of property, what robberies, what licentiousness, what personal violence, what horrid eruelties what revolting murders! Who can calculate the black amount of crime for which this single vice

Look at the drunkard's soul. He liveth as the heathen live, though his guilt is far greater. He is beyond the sound of the gospel. Drunkenness entails poverty, and poverty clothes a man with rags; and thus attired he shrinks from the decent assemblage of the sanctuary. He has no disposition to come. The effects of the last night's debauch have not yet passed off; or, if comparatively sober, his habits have rendered any spot more attractive than the house of God; or, if he wanders within its precincts, his mind is generally in such a state as to be unable to comprehend and profit by anything he hears. "What Bishop Burnet records of Lord Rochester is comparatively true of thousands. " He told me that for five years together he was continually drunk; not all the while under the visible effects of it but his blood was so inflamed that he was not in all that time cool enough to be perfect master of himself." Can such a man be in a fit state to

mark, learn, and inwardly digest the truth.

Look at the drunkard's end. How many die in their drunkenness! While the demon is still strong within them-while pouring forth oaths and blasphemics-with a mud already dead as far as regards the capacity for penitence and prayer-multitudes are hurried, nay hurry them-selves, before their Judge. And what are the future prospects of those who die as drunkards? What saith the Scripture? Neither fornicators, nor adulterers, por thieves, nor covetons, nor drunkards shall mherit the kingdom of God." No! the drunkard must have his place in "the lake that burneth with fire and brimstone." It is the second death. How terrible the doom ! but not more terrible than true.

Such is the drunkard! A wreck in body and in mind, and the cause of misery to all around in this world; a ruined, wailing, hell-tormented soul in the world that is to come. Can we exaggerate such an evil? Could we too much de-

THE OFFICE OF THE

# CHRISTIAN VISITOR

58 PRINCE WILLIAM STREET. SAINT JOHN, N. B.

REV. I. E. BILL.

Editor and Proprietor. Address all Communications and Business Letters to the Editor, Box 194, St. John, N. P.

Che Christian Bisitor

Is emphatically a Newspaper for the Family It furnishes its readers with the latest intelligence.

RELIGIOUS AND SECULAR.

he same cause." Justice Coloridge, at the Oxord assizes, said, "I never knew a case which was not, either directly or indirectly, connected with intoxicating liquors." Justice Patteson, at the Norwich assizes, said to the grand jury, "If it were not for the drinking, you and I should the Restorationist notion of the subject is distin-guished for nothing more than its stupidity. It expressed his opinion that drinking is almost inhas in its favour neither colouring nor pretext; it variably the cause of the crimes committed in the army calling f r the punishment of courts martial. The testimony of eminent admirals is similar respecting the navy. On the lowest computation seven out of every eight cases of offences against the laws originate in drunkenness. How great, then, must be the prevalence of this evil !-Newman Hall.

### The Power of a Smile.

It is related in the life of William Hutton, that countrywoman called upon him one day, anxous to speak with him. She told him with an air of secrecy, that her husband behaved unkindy to her, and sought other company, often passng his evenings from home, which made her feel very unhappy; and knowing Mr. Hutton to be a wise man, she thought he might be able to tell her how she should manage to cure her hasband. The case was a common one, and he thought he could prescribe for it.

"The remedy is a simple one," said be, "but I have never known it to fail. Always treat your usband with a smile."

The woman expressed her thanks, dropped a enriesy, and went away. A few months afterwards, she waited on Mr. Hutton will a comple of fine fowl, which she begged him to accept. She told him, while a tear of joy and gratitude glis-tened in her eye, that she had followed his advice, and her husband was cured. He no longer sought the company of others, but treated her with constant love and kindness.

### . Marriage Maxims.

A good wife is the greatest earthly blessing. Make marriage a matter of moral judgment. Marry in your own religion.

Marry into a different blood and temperament rom your own. Never talk at one another, either alone or in

ompany. Never both manifest anger at once.

Never speak loud to one another unless the ouse is on fire. Let each one strive to yield oftenest to the

wishes of the other. Let self-abnegation be the daily aim and effort of each other.

The very nearest approach to domestic felicity on earth is in the mutual cultivation of an absolute unselfishness.

that a fault has been committed; and even then prelude it with a kiss, and lovingly. Neglect the whole world beside, rather than

Never allow a request to be repeated. "I for ot" is never an acceptable excuse.

Never make a remark at the expense of the ther: it is meanness. Never part for a day without loving words to

think of during absence; besides, it may be that on will not meet again in life.

CARRYING ON BUSINESS FOR CHRIST .- "Many rears ago, happening to be in South Wales, I nade the acquaintance of a Welsh gentleman. He was then a landed proprietor, living in his own mansion, and in very comfortable circumstances. He had been before carrying on an extensive business in a large town. By the death of a rela-tive he had unexpectedly come into possession of this property. After considering whether he should retire from business, he made up his mind that he should still continue to carry it on, though no longer for himself, but for Christ. I could not nelp being struck with the gleesomeness of a holy mind which lighted up his countenance when he said I never knew befo e what real happines was. Formely I wrought as a master to earn a livelihood for myself; but now I am carrying on the same work as diligently as if for myself, and even more so, but it is now for Christ, and every halfpenny of profit is handed over to the treasury of the Lord, and I feel that the smile of my Saviour rests upon me.' 1 think that is an example worthy of being imitated."—Dr. Duff

MATRIMONIAL MOBALS IN NEW YORK - A fair relative of the Governor of New York has had a remarkable career. Louisa J. Fenton was her name eight years ago, when she was a maiden beanty of seventeen. She found her fate in the person of a young man of good family, whom she loved altogether too well, but who finally married her under legal advice. She had been a wife hardly a year, when the conduct of her husband in the way of infidelity, enabled her to get a divorce. When free she went to Boston—so the story goes, fascinated a gentleman of means in that city, and was married. Going to New York about a year after, she fell in with her former husband, the old love came back, and she soon gave her new husband ample cause for securing a divorce, which he did. As soon as the decree was entered, she was remarried to her first love. This time they held together until some six months ago, when the old trouble caused a new divorce, and now the handsome thrice-divorced woman is engaged to a rich and prominent New

WORK; strengthen your moral and mental faculties, as you would strengthen your muscles, by vigorous exercise. Learn to conquer circumstances: you are then independent of fortune. The men of athletic minds, who left their marks on the years in which they lived, were all trained in a rough school. They did not mount their high position by the help of leverage; they leaped in chasms, grappled with the opposing rocks, avoided avalanches, and, when the goal was reached, they felt that but for the toil that had strength ened them as they strove, it would never have

Poor Pay.-Thousands of the lowest class in