

FOR GOOD OR ILL.

Only a word! Yet it bore on its holy breath A message that God had given To kindly warn from the ways of death— And a soul was led to heaven.

Visitor Pulpit.

THIRSTING AFTER LIFE.

SERMON BY REV. G. E. GOOD, A. M., SACKVILLE.

"In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying: If any man thirst, let him come unto me and drink.—John 7: 37.

It was at the feast of Tabernacles that Jesus uttered these words. The people had become uneasy because he had not made his appearance at the feast as they had expected.

When the feast was about half over Jesus enters into the Temple and begins to teach the people. His words were not very welcome to many of his hearers.

The feast had about come to a close when Jesus uttered the words we read to you as a basis of our remarks to-day.

The solemn convocation of the people had taken place. The assembled crowd were engaged in the final observances of the feast. Jesus embracing this opportunity of directing the mind of the people to himself and his heavenly teaching, stands up in some fit place and cries, "If any man thirst, let him come unto me and drink."

To those then, whose hearts long for life, and whose souls thirst for God, for the living God, these words must sound blessed.

As upon that great day of the feast Christ cried, so now these words waft the welcome news to us of one that can satisfy the longing of the soul. How many now say in their hearts, as the Greeks did to Phillip, "Sir we would see Jesus." There is in their hearts a desire to be near one that can soothe and comfort them.

There is in man then, a thirsting after life. Wherever we find man, we find him possessed of strong vital attachments. He loves to live; He loves to enjoy life; He loves to be happy.

Man shudders at the thought of a cessation of action, at nonentity. As strongly as he clings to life here, does he hope to live again.

Plato's search after truth, was the outcome of the promptings of his inner nature, longing after life. Aristotle's chief good or the highest end of all human endeavors, is but another form of the workings of man's nature, thirsting for life.

turbed life of contemplation," makes one think of the time when Christians hope to behold the glory of God and the Lamb forever. Platinus the chief representative of this school, represented the "soul as having fallen from its original condition, and in consequence, and as a penalty, having become united with a material body, the one true aim recognized for human action is, to rise above the debasing connection with matter, and again to lead the old spiritual life."

Be it remembered, that these men lived many years before our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. That they were heathen philosophers without any knowledge of God and Redemption; and that they were led into these channels of thought by the contemplations of their own natures.

The daily routine of their sacrifices was only a symbol of the great depth of their longings after life. The words of Simeon when he blessed the infant Jesus, are unmistakable evidence of their ideas of man's relation to happiness, heaven, and the salvation of the soul.

If we follow down the ages we shall find minds and hearts thirsting for life, not merely existence, but life, with all its accompanying joys, comforts, and pleasures; life, whose very centre and circumference is God, heaven, and the joys of the blessed.

The writings of such men as Abelard, Bernard, John of Salisbury, Alexander of Hales, Bonaventura, Albertus Magnus, and Aquinas are full of expressions, showing a soul satisfied only with a life which is eternal in its duration, and happy in all its relations.

We have only to enter the chamber of our own nature and there we shall see mankind in general and ourselves in particular. The great under-current of our natures, which gives color and direction to every thought and action, is what we ought to examine.

We cannot think, with any degree of pleasure, that this life is all of us. Stern, cold reason, may strive to drive us to such conclusions, but there is something in our nature that is unwilling to rest upon such a conclusion.

We feel, we know, yet know not how, that— "It is not all of life to live, Nor all of death to die."

II. Then, to man, having in his nature such aspirations after life in its higher and grander form, the words of Jesus would sound fit and proper. They would answer the voice in his own nature.

Water is to the thirsty soul, the words of Jesus would be to those seeking after life. The water would be the external element, answering the desires of their own nature, so Christ's words would be the outward signal answering the internal wishes of our hearts.

The deeper and more intense these wishes of the heart, the more timely and blessed will the words of Jesus be. The stronger our own consciousness of the need of divine help, the more opportune and fitting will the help seem to be.

To those who for so long a time had been trying to slake their thirst for life in the ordinance of the Jewish form of religion and had found them to fail, these words of our Saviour must have been the bearers of exceeding glad tidings. The soul that had tried to be

satisfied with the external rites of this religion and found that for each draught there was a greater thirst, that for each sup there was only an awakening of a keener desire for more, or for something that would forever give them that inward cooling, and the soothing their parched souls needed, these messages of life for the thirsty must have been like the cry of "water" to the tired, thirsty, worn out traveller. They must have caused new hopes and joys to have arisen in the soul.

But better than all was it, when they came to Christ and drank of the fountain of life. The troubled conscience was eased of its sorrow, was pacified. The aching heart was relieved of its burden. The guilty conscience, purified from its guilt, and the whole man refreshed and replenished for the struggles of life and victory over death.

To drink at this fountain is to live forever. To come to Christ is to seek for this cooling draught of gospel grace. It is to believe upon him who is the centre, the marrow and the source of the gospel. It is to "admit His doctrine, submit to His discipline and believe in Him."

With this acceptance of Christ what comfort will follow. It will flow plentifully and constantly as a river, and strong as a stream to bear down the oppositions of doubts and fears. There is a fullness in Christ for every need of man. Does the heart ache? He can relieve it. Does conscience trouble? He can soothe it.

When it comes so easily, so quietly, so freely, we all ought to possess it, all to enjoy it. May the God that sent his son to cry "come unto Me and drink," enable us to come, drink, and be saved.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CENTRAL BOARD, W. M. A. S.

The following is a synopsis of the reports of local societies read at the annual meeting.

BRUSSEL STREET.—As the years roll around what have we gained in wisdom and knowledge, concerning the heathen world? Have we read, and interested ourselves in this work. Have we brought into the storehouse the talents that God has endowed us with, and used them for the advancement of his cause?

LOWER WICKHAM.—The monthly meetings have been held with very few exceptions. The attendance has not been large, but the feeling of interest in the cause of missions has not slackened.

HILLSBORO.—The meeting of Convention at this place in August, and the interest arising out of the woman's meeting, held under the auspices of the Central Board, together with the presence of a returned missionary family, has awakened a fresh zeal in the glorious work of missions.

DECLIATF WOMEN, Pale-faced, Sickly Children the Aged and Infirm, alike, are benefited by the strengthening and Blood Making Power of HARRINGTON'S QUININE WINE AND IRON.

we shall receive if we follow Bible doctrine! "In as much as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

LOUISE ALLWOOD, Secretary.

FREDERICTON.—Monthly meetings have been regularly observed and well attended. In response to an appeal from Miss Hammond, a Sabbath-school Mission Band was formed, with competent officers, who cheerfully undertook the responsibility of conducting such an organization.

HILLSBORO.—The meeting of Convention at this place in August, and the interest arising out of the woman's meeting, held under the auspices of the Central Board, together with the presence of a returned missionary family, has awakened a fresh zeal in the glorious work of missions.

LEINSTER STREET.—The interest during the year has chiefly centered around our missionary, Miss Hammond, upon whom increased burdens have been placed by her removal to Chicacole, and prayer that her strength might be equal to her work, has, it is believed, been answered, so that she has been most wonderfully helped and sustained.

PORTLAND.—This branch is reported to be in a prosperous condition, for, although the amount paid into the treasury, \$29.60, is not very large, the interest felt in mission work, awakened years ago, is unabated.

SACKVILLE.—The attendance at the monthly meetings has been very small, not averaging more than five or six, but these have experienced the presence of the Master, and held sweet communion with one another and with their God.

CUMBERLAND BAY.—Death has not made any inroads upon the membership of this branch during the year. The meetings have been few and the membership is small, although there are many sisters who ought to have a hearty interest in missionary work who now do nothing.

LOWER WICKHAM.—The monthly meetings have been held with very few exceptions. The attendance has not been large, but the feeling of interest in the cause of missions has not slackened.

HILLSBORO.—The monthly meetings have been sustained except when prevented by unfavorable weather. The annual meeting held on the 13th of January awakened a new interest in the hearts of many, for those in heathen lands who know not God, as well as in those who have left their homes to carry to them the blessed gospel.

GERMAIN STREET.—The membership of this Society has increased during the past year and the finances so improved as to permit of the transmission to the treasury of \$41.00. The monthly meetings, with one or two exceptions, have been maintained.

DECLIATF WOMEN, Pale-faced, Sickly Children the Aged and Infirm, alike, are benefited by the strengthening and Blood Making Power of HARRINGTON'S QUININE WINE AND IRON.

FAMILINE.

PROMPTLY RELIEVING PAIN AND INFLAMATION.

For External and Internal Use.

FOR its quick and sure healing properties it has no equal. For its relieving and allaying inflammation no medicine has ever been compounded equal to it. It is perfectly safe to use at any and all times, and a quick and thorough cure from such complaints as Pains in the Chest, Shoulders, Back and Side, Burns, and Scalds, Sprains, Strains, Bruises, Rheumatic and Neuralgia Pains, Swelling of the Joints, Stiff Joints, Stiff Neck, Contracted Muscles, Spinal Affections, White Swellings, Chafes, Calluses, Galls, Bunions, Chilblains, Corns, Frost Bites, Poisoning by Dogwood, Ivy, Bites, Stings of Insects, Chapped Hands, Lips, Ringworms, Salt Rheum, Tetter, Pimples, Itching, Dry Scaly Eruptions of the Skin, Old Sores, Scald Head, Outward Humors, of any kind, Hemorrhoids, Piles, Numbness, Worms, Ague in the Face, Earache, Hoarseness, Sore Throat, Coughs, Croup.

FAMILINE.

It Relieves Pain. Good for Swollen Limbs. Physicians Prescribe and Use it.

Boston, Mass., March 29, 1880. Mr. H. R. Stevens—Dear Sir: I have lately witnessed decidedly good and striking effects of your FAMILINE in a case of Erysipelas of nearly three years' standing. When I first saw my patient, a lady of some 50 years of age, she was complaining of a severe swollen condition of her feet; the skin was tense and angry-looking, painful on the slightest motion, and likely to burst at any moment.

I ought to state that I was led to try FAMILINE in this case, simply on the recommendation of my wife, who had been pleased with its effect in a severe case of burn, also in a painful backache, resulting from a settled cold. Notwithstanding that it professes to be a "proprietary" article, I cannot conscientiously deny its admirable composition and efficacy.

I am yours very truly, Geo. L. Austin, M. D.

FAMILINE

For Croup and Sore Throat.

Mr. H. R. Stevens—Dear Sir: I have had your FAMILINE in constant use in my family for more than a year, and find it an invaluable remedy for the many complaints for which it is recommended, the chief of which, in my family of four small children, seems to be Croup. Were it not for your Family Balsam, I should hardly dare close my eyes in sleep. It instantly relieves Croup; also is an excellent medicine for Coughs and Sore Throat. Too much cannot be said in praise of it. I have recommended it to many others, who have tried it with equally good results.

Very gratefully, Mrs. Wm. Whallan, 41 Newman St., South Boston, Mass.

Price 25c. and 50c. per Bottle,

PREPARED BY

H. R. STEVENS,

Proprietor of Vegetine, Boston, Mass., and Toronto, Ontario.

FAMILINE IS SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

PROVERBS.

"No one can be sick when the stomach, blood, liver and kidneys are healthy, and Hop Bitters keep them so." "The greatest nourishing tonic, appetizer, strengthener and curative on earth.—Hop Bitters." "It is impossible to remain long sick or out of health, where Hop Bitters are used."

Try Hop Cough Cure and Pain Relief. For sale by all Druggists. jan 19

THE CANADIAN

BAND OF HOPE!

Very finely illustrated, published monthly, at 25 CENTS PER ANNUM. 15 cents per copy in clubs of 20 or more. (Size and style of British Workman.)

We want active boys and girls to work for our BRIGHT AND PLEASANT PAPER, in every Public and Sunday School. Samples Free.

Sunday School Workers Will find this one of the best papers for distribution. Send for Sample Copies. nov 24/80

ERB & CAMERON.

PHOTOGRAPHERS,

Cor. Charlotte and King Streets.

SAINT JOHN, N. B.

Our Prices are the Lowest and our Pictures are Superior to any in the city. may 19/81

FARMER STOP!

Renters and who like cheap, unproductive, worn-out soil and BUY A FARM of your OWN from our 1,000,000 Acres of Finest Farming and Stock Raising Lands in the World. Very best Climate, Soil and Markets. Low prices. Long credit terms for cash. Address: J. M. DEAKE, Land Com'r., St. Paul, Minn.

\$777 A YEAR an expense to gent., outside free. Address, P. O. Vickers, Augusta, Me.